



Solid Waste Management Plan Advisory Committee

MINUTES

November 7, 2019

RDMW Office – 2044 McNeill Road, Port McNeill, BC

CALL TO ORDER 10:00 am

Attendance: Bonnie Danyk-Village of Port Alice, Diana Dick-Dzawada'enuxw First Nations, Janice Evans-VIHA, Greg Fox- Fox's Disposal, Len Tobin-Fox's Disposal, Michelle Hunt-Kwakiutl First Nation, Rod Inglis-Port Hardy Return It Centre, Derek Koel-Town of Port McNeill, Kane Gordon-Village of Alert Bay, Richard Opala-MOWI, John Tidbury-District of Port Hardy, Maura Walker-MWA Environmental Consultants Ltd., Carey McIver-MWA Environmental Consultants Ltd., Pete Nelson-Smith, CAO-Town of Port McNeill.

Staff: Greg Fletcher, Administrator, Patrick Donaghy, Operations Manager, Nadine Weldon, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Ruby Mannila – Da'naxda'xw First Nations

Agenda:

19-01 It was moved and seconded, that the agenda dated November 7, 2019, be adopted.

CARRIED

Welcome & Introductions

19-02 Nominations for Chair: Patrick Donaghy Moved: Rod/Kane Seconded **CARRIED**

Planning Process:

1. Review of planning process and key drivers

a. What is municipal solid waste

- I. Garbage, recyclable materials, compostable materials, but does not include heavy industrial, medical, liquid
- II. Plan must be comprehensive for 10 years, with a 20-30 year vision and must cover all aspects
- III. Planning is a three-stage process with concurrent and consultation plans for committees and public.
- IV. Establish advisory committee
- V. Step 2: Identify issues and drivers
- VI. Step 3: plan is reviewed with committee and public review and then to the Ministry of Environment for filing

b. Timeline-expected to be completed by end of July.

Terms of Reference:

1. Review of Terms of Reference
 - a. The committee will be dissolved once the assignment is completed, but a standing committee may be required. Up to the advisory committee to determine if a standing committee is required.
 - b. Purpose is to help update and develop the Solid Waste Management Plan. Initial Plan was done in 1985.
 - c. Looking for members to review, identify gaps, input on public consultation and represent their organization and what the needs of the organization are along with the needs of the North Island.
 - d. Committee will make recommendations, but the RDMW Board has final say.
 - e. Where recommendations have a financial impact, only those who are directors and have a solid waste contract may vote. For all other matters, all may vote.
 - f. Quorum is 50% plus one
 - g. Members must declare possible conflict of interest and remove themselves accordingly.
 - h. ***See Maura's power point – over 6 meetings (list of meeting guidelines and how they will happen- webinar/in person***

2. Timing of future meetings:

3. Guiding Principles:
 - a. Per Ministry of Environment – there are 8
 - b. **Included in Draft report**
 - i. **Promote zero waste approaches and support circular economy**
 1. Minimize materials in the system
 2. Promote the first three Rs'-reduce, reuse, recycle, in the 5R's
 3. Maximize beneficial use of waste materials and manage results
 4. Support polluter and user-pay approaches and manage incentives to maximize behavior outcomes
 5. Prevent organics and recyclables from going to the garbage wherever practical
 6. Collaborate with other regional districts whatever practical
 7. Develop collaborative partnerships with interested parties
 8. Level the playing field within regions for private and public solid waste for solid waste management facilities

Issues around private – wood waste landfill application in that is not following the principles, the wood waste landfill was approved by the provincial government but did not review with the RDMW.

GUIDING PRINCIPALS APPROVED.

Existing Solid Waste Management System:

- Includes all areas of RD
- Types of Housing review, primary is single family but there is 11% of multi family
- Plan was approved in 1996
- Key action was to close small landfills and create a central landfill and recycling centre
- Move towards pay disposal system
- Outcome was to have a 50% diversion of waste disposal

- When it started, roughly started at 60%, but currently are at 98%, with a few small mainland communities and Holberg still with their own.
- Return it Centre has been a major force in getting recycling ongoing by being a central area for everyone.
- Assisted with regulating what was going into the transfer station.

System Overview:

- Waste Prevention
- Waste Generators
- Collection
- Diversion Systems
- Disposal System
- Review of 7 Mile Data – see power point presentation
- Waste total is 598kg/per capita (municipal solid waste)
- Total landfilled is 7032 tonnes

May be higher due to the influx of tourism during the summer, especially boats in Port McNeill. Unable to correct this, as you must be a Resort Municipality, like Whistler or Tofino.

Demo waste loads do not include roofing. Demo has been increasing over the last five years.

RDMW is on the higher side of the provincial comparison. Small regional districts get highly influenced by one major project.

BC's average disposal rate is one of the lowest in Canada.

Provincial targets – disposal – 350kg per capita

Organics – 75% of BC to be covered organic waste disposal restrictions (already achieved). (organics create methane gas)

Largest waste disposal – Port Hardy/Port McNeill

Currently 35% of the waste is compostable organics, followed by plastic, and recycling.

Comparing the largest populations and the largest amounts of waste

Review of garbage collection, including curbside, staffed transfer bin and unstaffed transfer bin. (Government funded). Fox's Disposal does both.

Reduction & Reuse:

- What are the activities that are happening to reduce and reuse?
 - o At 7MLRC
 - o Low cost backyard composters
 - o Paint share
 - o Thrift/secondhand stores
 - o Informal /peer to peer activity
 - o Repair and rental business

Private Funded – Tri Port Recycling

7 Mile Recycling Review of Collections – commercial, product stewardship and materials used on site.

EPR Programs:

- Very substantive part of solid waste program
- Shift cost of managing end of life products and packing from local governments to manufacturers
- 14 different collection programs in BC
- RDMW is reasonably well serviced to take back services
- Many of these programs are focused on residential and not commercial

RECYCLING PROCESSING:

Recycle BC: contracts for the collection of residential recyclables with private companies and government funded depot.

The recycling is 41kg per capita, provincial average is 40kg per capita

They pay for processing and transportation

RDMW is the only local government to provide the service for recycle processing.

Telegraph Cove – they have formed a committee to organize a single payer, one bin.

BC is the one jurisdiction that can handle its own recycling. Except for commercial materials, this is an ongoing challenge.

Organic Waste Management:

- Food waste
- Garden/yard waste
- Tissue, paper towels, takeout containers

When it degrades, it creates methane gas that is a greenhouse gas, which has significant impact especially in the initial decomposition. The CO₂ is very high concentration

There is the ability to organic waste collection for yard waste in Port Hardy, Port McNeill, and Port Alice.

Alert Bay and Sointula chip

Woss: burns yard waste

RDMW is looking at leasing a chipper and it will be mobile and can be sent to other communities.

Organic Waste Processing also includes sea soil wood waste and fish waste.

Dirty wood waste gets chipped and sent to 7 Mile to be mixed with the biosolids

Residual Waste Management:

- 7 transfers stations
- 1 Regional Landfill
- 1 Private WFP landfill near Holberg
- Kwakawaka'wakw FN have an onsite incinerator

Review of leachate and SBR's.

Leachate is when water goes through the garbage and picks up contaminants and gets diverted to equalization pond where it is aerated to break them down. SBR pond where the oxygen level is higher and breaks down better.

Once broken down, goes to the settling pond which allows the unbroken down organics and metals to metal sprinklers to distribute through the landfill.

Also, 7 Mile has monitor ponds throughout to ensure that there is no impact on the freshwater system and the fish streams.

RDMW uses the biosolid and liquid waste that is composted on site to cover the garbage, which generates bacteria that live on methane gas. With these bacteria, the landfill is able to reduce the methane production by 70%. This provides the RD with additional carbon credits.

Public Education: very forthcoming from the RD, including on the website. Possible apps may be something to look at for the RD.

Illegal Dumping: noted on the website that people are to observe, record and report. People who advise in advance, the landfill will waive tipping fees for people who clean up public lands.

Review of Human Wildlife conflict:

- 7 mile has electric fencing
- PH has bylaws about when garbage can be put out. *Check for PM*

Financing:

- Costs of garbage system
- Broken down into landfill, recycling & salvage, composting
- Total budget is \$1,657,578,
- Cost recovery – funding is property taxes = 33%, 35% tipping fees, EPR 18%, revenues 7%.
- As we work through and create new areas for disposal, will need to look at additional funding to ensure no gaps and no shortfall.

External Influences:

- Regulations:
 - BC Environmental Act
 - Recycling Regulation
 - Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation
 - Organic Matter Recycling Regulation
 - Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste
 - Landfill Gas Management Regulation
- Recycling Markets – globalized and there has been a change in the Asian market

- Impact on BC's commercial sector
- Future: rebuild North American recycling market
- Consumer trends: movement toward sustainable lifestyles
- Supporting local farmers
- Convenience (i.e.: single serve and meals in a box)

Email will be sent out for feedback on strengths and weaknesses of the system.

Strengths:

- Broad range of diversion tactics
- Local government proactive
- Low contamination rate
- Curbside collection
- Financial system that balances taxation and user fees for funding

Challenges:

- Reduce per capita
- More composting
- Restrictions on reusing items collected on behalf of EPR
- Recycling ICI paper and packaging
- End of life management
- Current approach to collecting and tracking disposal and diversion
- Limited outreach and education
- Obtaining permission to use bioremediation at 7MLRC (current pilot project)
- RDMW has license of occupation for 7MLRC

Opportunities:

- Food waste diversion
- Reuse materials at RDMW
- Domestic market development, how can plan support a circular economy

Next Meeting – To be announced

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm

Moved-

19-03

CERTIFIED CORRECT

CHAIR

ADMINISTRATOR