

TSWAN Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2008
Hosted by the Makah Tribe
Neah Bay, WA

ATTENDANCE: Bill Denton, *Coeur d'Alene Tribe*; Danny Joe Stensgar, Pete Palmer, Don Hurst, Kelsee Palmer, *Colville Confederated Tribes*; Hans Apokedak, *Levelock Village*; Steve Pendleton, Marge Sawyer *Makah Tribe*; Eddy Chu, *Muckleshoot Tribe*; Dave Zwerneman, *Nez Perce Tribe*; Ron Wassillie, *Newhalen Tribal Council*; Cindy Spiry, *Snoqualmie Tribe*; David Ernst, *Spokane Tribe*; Al Jones, Mike Comenote, *Tulalip Tribe*; Bonnie Burke, *Umatilla Tribe*; Derald Ortloff, Loretta Zammarchi, *Yakama Nation*; Kami Snowden, Anne Bailey, *TSWAN*.

Absent Tribes: *AVCP; Cheesh-Na; Chignik; Kalispel; Kootenai; Larson Bay; Port Lions; Nunakauyarmiut; Old Harbor Village; Shoshone-Bannock; Tulalip; Warm Springs.*

Guests in Attendance: Al LaTourette, David Carcia, *USEPA*; Mike Willis and Steven Hecker of the *University of Washington*.

Steve Pendleton opened the meeting with a traditional opening prayer and presentation of flags by the Makah Color Guard. Vince Cooke provided a welcoming message, and Makah councilman Blanchard Matte addressed the group with a welcome and background of the Makah Nation and future prospective.

Loretta Zammarchi had a brief presentation on the WasteCon convention held last October in Reno, NV. She provided the group with information on electronic waste and disposal options, updates of the television turnover expected with the national systematic changeover to digital signals in February 2009, and battery recycling. Zammarchi had handouts and press packages available to members. If you did not receive a copy please contact Snowden.

Snowden and Bailey gave updated information regarding the IWMP template. Snowden reported that a report from EPA Region 9 that to date 19 tribes in Region have developed their plans using the template. Bailey has added chapters and sections on Brownfields and medical waste/special waste handling to the template. The Brownfields chapter includes an analysis tool to help determine if a site is eligible for potential funding as a brownfield.

Snowden discussed with the group about conversations had with Alaskan villages during a recent trip to the Alaska Forum on the Environment in Anchorage. The most discussed topic was the desire to have planning issues in Alaska addressed and that perhaps TSWAN could be a vehicle to aid villages. Inasmuch as the IWMP template is completely appropriate in the lower 48 states, much of it has little or no bearing in Alaska. Given TSWAN's recent experience in developing planning tools, Steve Pendleton moved to seek support for Alaskan villages in developing planning tools akin to that of the IWMP. Derald Ortloff seconded the motion. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously. Snowden will seek alternatives and potential financial aid in moving forward with this project and process.

Snowden reminded members of the upcoming Meth Lab Identification Training June 16-18, 2008 in Seattle. The attendance is limited to 35 people. According to the terms of the grant, 25 places are reserved for TSWAN members, and an additional 10 spots will be made available to additional tribal members or other tribes, regardless of TSWAN affiliation. Snowden asked that TSWAN members notify her as soon as possible regarding attendance at the training. The regular TSWAN meeting will take place immediately following the training, June 19 and 20 in Seattle.

David Carcia, USEPA Region 10, made presentation regarding the EPEAT program. EPEAT (Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool) is a tool for purchasers to identify environmentally preferable desktop and laptop computer and monitors. Four primary product categories have been identified for purchasing, reuse, recycling, collection, etc, to wit: Imaging (copiers, printers, faxes); televisions; servers; phones, pda's, etc. The program is voluntary in nature and functions similarly to the WasteWise program. EPEAT however, distinguishes these electronic products by having developed standards of measurements according to how environmentally 'friendly' the product might be. Compared to traditional computer equipment, EPEAT registered computer wares contain reduced levels of cadmium, lead and mercury, for example. For more information consult the EPEAT website (www.epeat.net) or contact David Carcia, EPA at 206-553-0890 or email carcia.david@epamail.epa.gov.

Lunch break

Bridget Ray of SparrowHawk Consulting addressed the group with a presentation of her company's services. SparrowHawk has a strong and proven track record with fundraising, and Ray provided some insight into private and public foundation grant seeking and writing, and establishing working relationships.

TRIBAL UPDATES

Tulalip Tribe ~ Al Jones

- Their legislative committee is reviewing rules and regulations presiding over waste disposal.
- The tribe is in need of removal and disposal of approximately 300 tires that have been illegally dumped.
- The department of solid waste will be moving under the purviews of the water and sewer department.

Colville Confederated Tribes ~ Danny Joe Stensgar

- The tribe is currently negotiating with the City of Wenatchee, WA for disposal of waste.
- They are working with the schools to promote and increase the amount and types of recyclables. Snowden will participate in the education and outreach.

Coeur d'Alene Tribe ~ Bill Denton

- Denton is currently on sabbatical but will return part time in April.
- The tribe was awarded a grant from the Coca-Cola Company for recycling bins.
- They will be putting together their first HHW collection event this summer. TSWAN was a partner to that grant and as such Snowden will help provide workshops for education and outreach.

Spokane Tribe ~ David Ernst

- They are currently looking to purchase scales and hope to install the same as soon as the weather breaks. Anyone with information on scale vendors, please call Ernst.
- The tribe submitted an application under the Open Dump Cleanup Grant for the scales. Now the USDA is stating they are providing the funding. After further checking, the tribe needs to reapply for the grant.
- There is need for communication and outreach to the community so residents are made aware that there will be costs associated with this new system, when the community is used to not paying at all.

Newhalen Tribe ~ Ronald Wassillie

- Site monitoring has indicated they have apparent contamination from diesel residue. The testing results have been sent to the state laboratory for further review and advice.
- The city wants to resume operations of the landfill as they erroneously believe it is making a profit. If the city does take over the operations the tribe would maintain caring for the monitoring wells.

Levelock Village ~ Hans Apokedak

- Working with neighboring villages to collect metals for recycling and will backhaul by barge. The goal is to collect a million pounds.

Yakama Nation ~ Loretta Zammarchi, Derald Ortloff

- Zammarchi reported on the cleanup of approximately 200,000 tires at a cost of \$400,000. Funding for the cleanup came from the State of Washington Department of Ecology tire clean up funds. The land the tires consumed has been reclaimed. They've also cleaned other illegal tire dumping areas and estimate that they have cleaned nearly 300,000 tires overall. Using a state grant as they did, they were able to pay tribal members prevailing wage.
- They continue to work and revise codes.
- Will be issuing an RFP for a waste characterization study, looking specifically for fuels and if the quantity could support supply of energy.
- Approximately 60 of 300 illegal dumpsites remain in and around the reservation. Of those remaining it will take composition characterization and cataloguing.
- The tribe is preparing for spring cleanups and recycling of electronics.
- As a point of interest to the group, the Coca Cola grant is now open for entities wishing to apply for recycling bins. The grant closes April 1. Also, on a separate issue, Zammarchi encouraged Washington members of this organization to contact their Department of Ecology and the Governor's office to see that a tribal representative be made a part of the State Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

Umatilla Tribe ~ Bonnie Burke

- Working on revising codes and ordinances to blend with their IWMP.
- Due to injuries, accidents and illnesses they recently lost 3 employees which has then cause a dramatic and immediate restructuring of operations.

Colville Tribe ~ Pete Palmer, Don Hurst

- Last year the tribe removed over 600 junk vehicles. This cleanup encompassed only 1.5 of the 4 districts covering the reservation, and they're hopeful of cleaning the rest this year.
- They are training attendants to sort wastes and be more aware of items coming into transfer stations.
- There are approximately 10,000 tires needing removed from the reservation.
- Have begun a recycling trial project with paper.
- Have hired a consultant to write their IWMP using the TSWAN template. The project is underway.

Snoqualmie Tribe ~ Cindy Spiry

- Conducting GPS surveys and mapping of dump sites in preparation of developing an IWMP.

Nez Perce Tribe ~ David Zwerneman

- Conducting a waste characterization report for the Nez Perce and surrounding municipalities.
- The Solid Waste Master Plan is nearing completion.

Makah Tribe ~ Steve Pendleton

- They have made application to USDA RDA for construction funds for the transfer station in the amount of \$2.38 million. No response yet from USDA.

SPECIAL EVENING CAUCUS

Due to the travel distance and in the interest of members having safe and ample travel time, the group made the decision to meet in a special evening caucus rather than re-adjourn Friday morning.

At the end of the caucus meeting, and being the time and place for election of TSWAN officers, there was discussion regarding nominations. It was the overwhelming agreement that the officers currently holding positions be re-elected to their respective positions for the next term.

Al Jones moved to re-elect Danny Joe Stensgar as President, Steve Pendleton as Vice President, Bonnie Burke as Secretary, and Ronald Wassillie as Treasurer. Mike Comenote seconded the motion. Upon vote motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting of TSWAN will take place June 19-20, 2008 in Seattle, WA in conjunction with the Meth Lab Training.

Having no further business to come before the organization, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.