

**SOLID WASTE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Meeting  
December 9, 2025  
3:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:**

**Aaron Lawhead – Chairman**  
**Eileen Macoll – Vice – Chairman**  
**Larry Cochran – Colfax Ag Producer**  
**Devon Felsted – Pullman Disposal**  
**Ron Redman – WSU Waste Management (ZOOM)**  
**DonEll Ellswort – Garfield (ZOOM)**  
**Nathan Weller, City of Pullman (ZOOM)**  
**David Hoffman, Republic Services (ZOOM)**

**Staff:** David Nails, WC Landfill; Mark Storey, WC Director; David Werner, Clerk; Amy McLain, Clerk.

**Zoom:** Addison Coffelt, Great West Engineering; Addy Hance, Great West Engineering; Brandon Johnson, Public Works.

**Audience:**

**Aaron Lawhead:** Called meeting to order, no agenda/no call to approve minutes. New business.

**Dave Nails:** Thanked Public Works employees

**Amy McLain:** Introduction

**Addison Coffelt:** Introduction. Assisting with final edits to get plan to ecology.

**Addy Hance:** Working closely on plan to get it to ecology/

**Addison Coffelt:** Shared comment matrix. Need verification on 4 or 4 items. Verification on green box sites. Blue bins purchased after 2017. Does Pullman Disposal or Empire Disposal have recycling sites? Generalize remedial action for WSU Pullman campus and WSU Research Extension offices.

**Dave Nails, Mark Storey, Aaron Lawhead:** All agreed there are no green box sites.

**Dave Nails:** 5 or 6 blue bins were purchased after 2017. Will get precises list.

**Aaron Lawhead:** Since 2019, there has not been a recycle in operation for Empire Disposal.

**Devon Felsted:** Pullman Disposal has a minimal level of recycling. 24/7 cardboard drop off. Does WA e-recycle, fee for other general recycling

**Ron Redman:** Requesting clarification on needing a complete list or a generalized list of WSU statewide sites. Found and uploaded the correct remedial action sites.

**Eileen Macoll:** Asked if there is defining criteria of a recycling center.

**Addison Coffelt/ Addy Hance:** No set criteria at this time.

**Addison Coffelt:** Should have a plan in the next week or two to submit back to the county for one more look before submitting it to Ecology.

**Dave Nails:** Would like to follow up with an online chat or phone call about the MRW total tonnage that was sent out. Thinks the numbers may be skewed.

**Addison Coffelt:** Agreed to look into it and get back to Dave.

**Eileen Macoll:** Inquired about Spring Cleanup and how that will work.

**Dave Nails:** Stated he will set the date, orchestrating with PDS city run clean up. Advertise a month in advance in the newspapers. Rates will go up as of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2026 due to inflation.

**Eileen Macoll:** Suggested advertising in the Community Update and would get contact info to Dave.

**Dave Nails:** Was at ORCA Waiver work group. ORCA has a template of waiver, Whitman County will be able to submit a 5-year waiver in February 2026. Needs clarification on the organics, recycling area and yard waste. Food waste is mandatory by 2030, needs clarification. Need to do rate studies for Albion, the fee could be detrimental to them. Program is based on counties with at least one city that has a population of 25,000 or more. The recycling reform act has passed. The product stewardship program will be coming out with a statewide list of what is accepted or not accepted. It will be uniform across the state. Curbside pickup will be required for recycling. The stewardship program is funded by the manufacturers to pay the cost of recycling. The first year is at 50%, the next year is at 75%, the following year is at 90%. The program also pays for consumer education about recycling.

**Aaron Lawhead:** Asked if the plans for the new facility have been submitted to the county, and if they would be submitted with the proposal to DOE for approval. If mandates fall in line this is what would be required in Whitman County.

**Dave Nails:** Dave and Mark wanted to stay ahead of the game and contracted with Great West to draw up a plan showing what the costs would look like, what that facility would look like. Also look at other options; hauling to Lewiston, not sure how that would work due to crossing state lines, or transporting to Bartek in Sprague, they are at capacity so not taking anything.

**Ron Redman:** Asked if the county is looking at 4% increase in 2027.

**Dave Nails:** Took the 4% increase in 2025, 4% increase in 2027. Take a 4% increase every other year.

**David Hoffman - Republic Services:** Was in Olympia for Committee days with the state legislature. Had several meetings with legislators and industry association people. More changes and great ideas on the way.

**Nathan Weller:** Mentioned when the legislators were in Pullman, told them unfunded mandates were killing us in the rural area, and, the good work that all of you are doing out there in the county.

**Larry Cochran:** Asked for explanation on what EPR for mattresses is?

**Dave Nails:** It's extended producer responsibility, if you make a mattress, you've got to pay to have somewhere for it to go or be recycled.

**Devon Felsted:** Back to the organics, currently do have yard waste, but it is by subscription and optional. Would that be required to be mandatory in 27 if we don't get the waiver?

**Dave Nails:** It would be mandatory curbside for the Orca area which is Pullman and Albion. Clarified in the ORCA meeting who should submit the applications. Whoever oversees solid waste management plan and those cities that are combined with that can submit. Almost guaranteed we will get a waiver, the state realizes rural Eastern Washington will have a hard time getting this material somewhere to compost. They have asked us to put together an organics procurement resolution for that, we have started that. Reporting is due every other March, telling them how much we brought into projects. There are also individual customer waivers for residents that are responsible for recycling their own organics. I.e; feeding food waste to chickens or composting themselves.

**Eileen Macoll:** Expressed concern that this opens doors for residents to informally opt out and pile their garbage in the backyard.

**Devon Felsted:** Expressed that residents don't care about the cart and will not want to pay \$7.00.

**Dave Nails:** Unsure who would police the usage of recycling. Every residential customer will have curbside bins and knows it will be an issue for them having to pay. If the waiver is issued that will be 5 years out.

Thanked everyone for their work. The Solid Waste Management Plan has gone well. Think we're right on track with the schedule and getting the plan to Ecology.

**Aaron Lawhead:** Goal is to ensure that the county is doing everything needed. Asked if any other comments.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**