

## Solid Waste Working Group

October 27, 2016

### Notes

Statewide solid waste work, what they're doing, what the regional people what they're doing. Update folks SWAT (statewide). Statewide backhaul – a lot of you heard adopt a backhaul, stakeholders met, and we got information. EPA funded the written version of backhaul, transporters, and agencies. April 1<sup>st</sup> week, stakeholders meeting to move forward of process.

- How different do you think a statewide backhaul training will be? Lynn (from Zender Environmental) - its more comprehensive, include DOT HMR training required. This kind of training will make shippers feel more comfortable that everything has been packaged and loaded correctly and safely. Workers will fill out a checklist that everything was done correctly.
- Anahma (from Kawerak): Another component – you can get a credit at UAA with Occupational Endorsement. This training we're putting together is 1 or 2 credits.
- Lynn – In addition to backhaul trainings, Zender Environmental is holding a few other trainings in 2017 – Waste Utility Trainings, ISWMP training, SSWM Trainings with emphasis on Backhaul and Composting, Qualified Sampler (water quality and soil) Trainings, and our Job Training RACEJT Program. All info and dates are on our website.
- Trisha Brower (ADEC) – I work with communities of interior doing Technical Assistance. We're statewide – we recently received a grant at USDA, criteria- 13 communities training for low moderate income, level of need. 1 or 2 communities qualified, but will narrow it down with USDA.
- Becca – Greenstar – we're trying to jump on board with interior for e-waste, batteries, - grant pending with Mernock Trust for backhaul effort. November we will find out.
- Anahma – Regional recycling program – 20 tribes, we have a pretty strong backhaul going on out there.
- Tyler – Kodiak – Run project for a year doing scrap metal out of 6 villages on the island. 2500 scrap metals removed, and significant amount of cars. Costing tools to budget the villages so they can do it by themselves, but that's more responsibility.
- Alma - Tununak – Program 2010 started, and restarted 2014. It's been a challenge in my community, and hoping I get encouraged by Zender and EPA Project Officer to make improvements in landfill. WE finally got landfill permitted, and bugging Evelyn and Lynn to do backhaul. We did a backhaul project at 2011 and 2013, from NIC. It was a learning process, and our landfill operator does it, and things are done manually. I have questions from other projects to do in-kind work such as moving a Connex to such areas. I'm still learning, it's very overwhelming, and I'm doing my best because I care about my community for my children and others. I been to presentations where I hear about people having challenges, and it's helpful to hear how they do theirs. Ever since the City of Tununak, it's only IGAP dealing with solid waste in our community. I know its possible, it's not impossible.
- Kathleen – Tanana – IGAP we did a big backhaul last year. 80 junk cars, and I had hired a crew to take the fluids out and crush. Accumulation of 10 years of cars, and I thought it was going to be the last year to do backhaul, thankfully we have 4 more years. A boat load and sent those to

Fairbanks. We ship out batteries and e-waste, and have a lot of e-waste, need to work with Becca Braudo, because she's closer. Have accumulation of ink jets, but it's too costly to send those out. This year we didn't do backhaul, and have 50 drums and debris from community, and that was fairly successful.

- Naomi – Evansville – Class III landfill since 1996, and remained permit with help of Trisha. We've been trying to do backhaul since 2006 since Yukon Watershed, and we've been doing the inventory. Will move that forward with new coordinator
- Evansville - 1<sup>st</sup> year ending – we have a lot of plastic, and I've done a lot of investigation you can call me. One summer I was picking up stuff at spring outside of landfill, inside of landfill was a pool. I saw something, in this pool was hundreds of tadpoles. I didn't see anything, I see all those tadpoles. Then I see a lot of frogs, I see frogs jumping around. They absorb the stuff in the landfill.
- Ellia – Kwethluk – looking to develop a new landfill. WE had a dump fire that ignited, and this wasn't from actual match to start the fire. It was radiant heat from nearby, aluminum cans reheated and unburned stuff underneath, and spread underneath from aluminum cans. Outdoor air quality health went from decent to piss poor. They want to get rid of it, they want to move it far away. They want me to look into different landfill types, and overall size of new landfill, and the best landfill practices. That's my primary focus, I'd like to do other things but have to wait.
- Jennifer Williams, ITEP –mentorship 1 or 2 in Alaska to learn about what others did. Hard time finding mentorship.
- David Alexie – Mt. Village – I'm the assistant (IGAP), I'm fairly new, a learning process for me right now.
- Ben Balivet AVCP – reducing impact of local landfill, and to the AVCP Tribes across the region of e-waste. Recently started lead acid batteries, was following Kawerak, and sending them to Central Recycling. Household batteries, florescent lights, work closely with Total Reclaim. Been working for 3 years now, and working with ONC to recycle cans and other things.
- Marvin – I just started 6 months ago, and getting landfill up to code, and creating cells. What I gather is, how it is supposed to be used. Hopefully get a new incinerator, to get it working how it is suppose to.
- Crooked Creek – heavy equipment operator been working for 10 years, and main concern of landfill. Elders concern there's too much stuff and piled too high. Shouldn't need to close it, and is manageable. Do-able, and hopefully we'll get something rolling with me on the job.
- Lisa- Sandpoint – now and 2020 to get solid waste out of community as we can. Current fiscal year, we're planning to move vehicle tires, if anyone know, we are looking for a place. Easiest place for us to send it somewhere to Washington – ask for Nate, at Central Recycling.
- Anna Michael – new to this, recently hired at Chauthabluk. We recycle cans and plastic bags, and other stuff.
- Billy Manes – Tribal Coordinator – Dillingham. I've been here for 14 years now, 1 -3 years was policies and procedures, books right on task, visitors from DEC. Inspector General came and looked at our files and said we're doing a good job. GAP Guidelines changed in 2013. In my role as Envi Coord and Tribesmen – National Tribal Caucus to address policies, and oversee EPA. Its up to them to listen or not. In one case I work for my tribe, national 567 tribes, all of you, I speak on behalf on all of us. I take it, honor it, make the decision right. I hope you all have what

to do with it, our friends at DEC American Indian – 2013 was sending road blocks. We need to do more with the little money we get to finish what we've done. We put outside the door, the old 3wheelers, 4 wheelers, snowmachines, and etc. stockpile. They sat there, and did their thing. Pulling them out of the grass and weeds. The work you guys have done, whether you're new or old, you're making a difference in your communities' lives. Don't give up on that, keep doing that. It's not cheap, shake some hands, and pat some people's back. Neighbors across the river, in the interior, don't be afraid to ask questions and voice to be heard. I take it serious. Someone told me 1 time about climate change, Navajo said his life is adaptation, as the season change, I change. We've had to do that since we've had people come in, we had to adapt. The folks who were survivors, flu epidemic, my grandma. She went thru things, and cannot speak the language, because what grandma went through. The land is borrowed, it needs to be clean as we were brought to it. It's up to us to make right choices, I appreciate the job you do. Procuring things, and that goes into air and land is not good even though it improves our lives. When we talk about solid waste, the lives that we live, I was able to get the first extension. The admin gave us the second waiver, and congress made the other one. Allow us to continue working on our communities, and ring their ears. Hopefully, each of every one of you had to do with that. Senator Murkowski – we sat in a circle where they talked to leaders, and rung their congress ears. 2020 was thrown out there, and whoever goes in there after January 20<sup>th</sup>, makes appt with those positions, and throw out the GAP guidance or amend it, to get our hands dirty, water and land clean. If we did not have those programs, and supplement their programs. The tribes turn down their air down, the workers full time to part time, flexibility is what we need with money.