

Recycling Development Center Advisory Board Meeting April 14, 2021



The Washington Recycling Development Center (Center) Advisory Board met online on April 14, 2021; interested parties attended and offered comments. The meeting was hosted by Department of Ecology (Ecology) staff.

Advisory Board members:

Corinne Drennan, Pacific NW National Laboratory

Karl Englund, Washington State University

Kyla Fisher, AMERIPEN

Margo Gillaspay, Skagit County Public Works

Nina Goodrich, Sustainable Packaging Coalition

Sego Jackson, Seattle Public Utilities

Unable to attend: Tim Shestek, American Chemistry Council; Deb Geiger, Spokane County Solid Waste

Allen Langdon, Return-it

Scott Morgan, Evergreen State College

Mike Range, Waste Management

Derek Ruckman, Recology

Jay Simmons, North Pacific Paper Company

Heather Trim, Zero Waste Washington

Agenda

- Center updates: Board, Ecology, and Department of Commerce (Commerce).
- Presentations:
 - Rodney Wendt, Washington Economic Development Finance Authority
 - Tina Schaefer, Ecology – Center one-time grants
 - Kara Steward, Ecology – Senate Bills 5022 and 5345
- Discussion of the paper markets summary.

The agenda and other materials for this meeting are available on the [Advisory Board website](#)¹.

Updates: Board, Ecology, Commerce

Board members shared a few links during the update discussion:

- Kyla Fisher, AMERIPEN, recycled content [report](#)²(by RRS).
- Nina Goodrich, [Sustainable Packaging Coalition](#)³ (SPC)
 - Upcoming SPC [Impact Sessions](#)⁴ on April 20-21
 - BALL [Report](#)⁵ on recycling in all 50 states (by Eunomia)
 - SPC Food Waste Repackaged [event](#)⁶ in May

Ecology: Kara Steward

- Center efforts have focused on legislative work.
- There are some resources available until end of June we are looking into filling a few data gaps, please share ideas [with us](#).
- We hope to soon post a recruitment for another Center staff person.
- After July (start of the state fiscal year) we will be looking to contract for market analysis.

Commerce update: Brian Young, on vacation.

Data and Outreach Subcommittee: no update for this meeting.

Presentations

- **Rodney Wendt, Washington Economic Development Finance Authority (WEDFA)** ([Slides](#)⁷ 11 through 20). Discussion:
 - Are there criteria for WEDFA financing? *Rodney: Nothing specific, but certain criteria are used when there is direct competition between projects for bond resources. WEDFA does check with Ecology, Commerce and local governments before financing.*
 - Is it possible to pool smaller proposals into one that could request financing? *Rodney: that has been unworkable in the past, due to differing timing of bond funds. The door is open to discussing the possibility.*
 - What is the payback and interest rate? *Rodney: negotiated with the lender. WEDFA can take 10 to 35 percent off conventional lending, depending on the circumstances.*
 - Are there metrics you need, like life cycle analysis, greenhouse gas emission reductions, or tons diverted from landfill? *Rodney: there are no set criteria like that. WEDFA does prioritize job creation and retention.*
 - Do you do any outreach or recruitment - for example to bottling plants that will do bottle reuse rather than single use? *Rodney: Presentations like this represent the type of outreach we most commonly do.*
- **Tina Schaefer, Ecology, Center One-Time Grants** ([Slides](#) 21 to 23)
- **Kara Steward, Ecology, Senate Bills 5022 and 5345** ([Slides](#) 24 to 26)
- Attendee comment: I highly recommend the USDA Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) and 9003 Programs (and others), and Impact Washington could be a good organization to pull into the meetings.

Paper discussion

The April update of the paper summary document was pulled up on the web for the board to discuss and share thoughts ([slides](#) 29-31). Board member comments were added to the April update and posted on the Advisory Board website. Board members will provide specific comments and edits to Ecology by April 30, 2021.

Interested parties are welcome to review the [paper document](#)⁸ and send comments or suggestions to [Ecology](#) by April 30. The version reviewed on April 14 is posted on the Advisory Board website.

Board Administration

The following administrative issues ([slide](#) 32) will be brought to the board members for discussion in a future meeting:

- Board member renewal: how are current board member representatives renewed or replaced.
- Chair/cochair: the duration of the board member in these seats needs to be decided.

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- Charter update: as the renewal process and duration for chair/cochair are determined and added to the charter, the board will need to review and approve.

Meeting to-do items

- Next board meeting is on June 9, 2021 – registration [link](#)⁹.
- Ecology will work on presentations on Glass as our next deep dive topic. We will draft up data and information in a Glass paper for review.
- The paper summary will be shared as draft/final.
- Post notes from this meeting on the [Advisory Board website](#)¹⁰.

For more information:

- Contact Center staff by [email](#)¹¹.
- Visit the Center [Advisory Board website](#)¹².

List of Attendees (excluding board members)

Interested Parties

Henry Allen, Spokane Valley
Domenic Calabro, Environmental Protection Agency
Natalie Caulkins, Republic Services
Lisa Crosby, Port Townsend
Jeff Epstein, Carton Council
Lisa Graham, Regenerated Textiles
Catherine Holm, Washington Food Industry
Ruby Irving-Hewey, Klickitat County
Suzanne Noble
Eli Owens, Clallam County
Michelle Ross, SUM Recycling
Bruce Stein, Anchor Packaging
Emily Terrill, Cascadia
Michael Waggoner, Corumat Inc
Rodney Wendt, Washington Economic Development
Finance Authority
Rod Whittaker, Washington Refuse and Recycling Assn

Ecology/Commerce/Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)

Laurie Davies, Ecology
Steven Gimpel, Ecology
Peter Guttchen, Ecology
Shannon Jones, Ecology
Alli Kingfisher, Ecology
Lacy Kooiman, Ecology
Ann LaRue, UTC
Peter Moulton, Commerce
Blake Nelson, Ecology
Julie Robertson, Ecology
Tina Schaefer, Ecology
Kara Steward, Ecology
Dan Weston, Ecology

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¹ www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37596/recycling_development_center_advisory_board.aspx

² <https://www.ameripen.org/page/recycled-content>

³ <https://sustainablepackaging.org/>

⁴ <https://dashboard.sustainablepackaging.org/events/5f7c8b90e2f5a21b51d092b5>

⁵ <https://www.ball.com/realcircularity>

⁶ <https://dashboard.sustainablepackaging.org/events/6033be9577eea2773f942b57>

⁷ https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/_1962/Documents/rdcab/2021-04-Slides.pdf

⁸ https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/_1962/Documents/rdcab/Paper-Summary-April-Update-with-04-14-Notes.docx

⁹ <https://watech.webex.com/watech/onstage/g.php?MTID=ef01fcda1efc6126a80ac6b3fc1abb3>

¹⁰ www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37596/recycling_development_center_advisory_board.aspx

¹¹ <mailto:recdevcenter@ecy.wa.gov>

¹² www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37596/recycling_development_center_advisory_board.aspx