



**Management Coordination Committee (MCC) Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2022**

ATTENDANCE

MCC Members:

- Susan Fife-Ferris, SPU, MCC Chair
- Ryan Kellogg, PH SKC, MCC Vice-Chair
- Josh Baldi, KC WLRD
- Lorraine Patterson-Harris, KC SWD
- Corina Pfeil, SCA, City of Kenmore Councilmember

Other Attendees:

Maythia Airhart, KC WLRD	Michell Mouton, KC SWD	Linda Van Hooser, PH SKC
Mohamed Ali, PH SKC	Kristin Pace, PH SKC	Dave Ward, KC WLRD
Joy Carpine-Cazzanti, PH SKC	Kristin Painter, KC WLRD	Steve Whittaker, PH SKC
Minty LongEarth, PH SKC	Drew Pounds KC PSB	Charles Wu, KC WLRD
Tracee Mayfield, PH SKC	Emmanuel Rivera, KC WLRD	Madelaine Yun, PH SKC
Kazia Mermel, SCA	Darrell Rodgers, PH SKC	

GENERAL BUSINESS

MCC Minutes

MCC reviewed and approved the May 17, 2022, meeting minutes without revisions.

Announcements

None

Recognition of Darrell Rodgers

Celebration and recognition of Darrell’s service on the MCC. He will be on extended leave and is stepping down from his position on the MCC. Ryan Kellogg, Environmental Health Assistant Division Director, Seattle-King County Public Health will be filling Darrell’s vacancy.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

MCC Vice-Chair Nomination

Because Darrell has stepped down from his position as Chair of MCC, Susan Fife-Ferris, current Vice-Chair, will serve as Chair for the remainder of 2022. Nominations to fill the vacant Vice-Chair position were held. Susan nominated Ryan Kellogg. He accepted the nomination, and all were in favor. Ryan will serve as Vice-Chair for the remainder of 2022.

Fiscal Policy Exception Request

As required by King County Board of Health code (Chapter 11.04.060) Recology, a solid waste hauler, collects local hazardous waste fees from residential and commercial customers and then pays the collected fees each quarter to the Haz Waste Program.

Recology has notified the Program of an overpayment error, in the amount of \$118,143.06, on its part, that occurred in Q4-2015 and Q1-2016. Recology reduced the amount of its Q1-2022 hazardous waste fees payment by that amount. Program staff then notified Recology that our fiscal policy does not allow for such an adjustment because it falls outside the policy's adjustment period of three years and that full payment is due. The fiscal policy states "Adjustment period is limited to maximum of three years. This period runs three years back from the date the error is discovered by the Program, or billing entities, or implementation partners."

Recology is requesting an exception to the fiscal policy for their overpayment error. Because the size of the payment error is greater than \$100,000, and because the fiscal policy was adopted by the MCC, such a request requires approval by the MCC.

Program staff recommend MCC **deny** the request because 1) the requested adjustment violates our fiscal policy, 2) the request exceeds Washington State's six-year statute of limitations for debt collection, and 3) as a matter of fiscal best practice, we cannot keep our books open indefinitely to retroactive settlement of accounts. Staff consulted with legal counsel in the matter and counsel supports this recommendation.

Lorraine Patterson-Harris noted that King County Solid Waste Division (SWD) leadership would like to see Recology receive an exception to the Program's fiscal policy and be made whole, but that they would honor whatever decision was made by the MCC.

DECISION: MCC unanimously agreed to deny Recology's request.

King County Proposed Operational and Structural Changes

Josh Baldi, Water and Land Resources Division Director, and Drew Pounds, King County Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget (PSB), led a discussion regarding the County's proposed changes to the Haz Waste Program structure and fund management location.

The King County proposal has three key elements that involve moving some staff, the program director, and management of the Hazardous Waste Fund to the King County Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD). Specifically, the proposed changes would:

- Move eight Program employees from SWD and Public Health to WLRD to join existing Hazardous Waste staff to form a new section.
- Move the program director from Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) into WLRD to manage the section.
- Move management of the Hazardous Waste fund from Public Health to WLRD. The fund will continue to function as a King County operating fund, with no changes in responsibility for the MCC, King County Council, or Board of Health (BOH). As a King County fund, the Hazardous Waste fund currently requires County Council approval for all appropriations and expenditures. Program rates are set by the BOH. That authority remains unchanged. Expenditures from the fund are defined by the MCC approved budget and annual work plans.

WLRD was proposed as the home base for Program staff at the County given that is where most staff are currently located. Additional staff providing Program services through other partners include:

- 5 SWD employees in Collections
- 12 SPU employees in Collections and management
- 12 Public Health employees in Residential Services and Research

The new structure would be developed in 2022. Employees will be engaged as part of the transition planning to provide input and perspective on the new structure. Since all lines of business and work efforts will continue as

defined in the comprehensive plan, the updated structure will keep engagement and work programs with partners as a high priority. King County PSB will be assisting with managing the process, along with support from managers, Human Resources professionals and Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging expertise.

This proposal is being brought to the MCC for consideration. To be completed, the proposal must be approved by the King County Council.

Kazia Mermel, Sound Cities Association staff rep, and Susan Fife-Ferris requested more formal write ups detailing the proposed structural and fund management changes for ease of discussion with others in their organizations. Susan also noted that SPU is concerned that consolidating most of the Program and moving management of the fund into WLRD could lead to deterioration of the regional, collaborative nature of the Program and decrease checks and balances and transparency in management of the fund.

UPDATES

Director's Report

Maythia Airhart presented the May Director's Report highlighting current areas of interest to MCC, including the Look-Ahead calendar for the next three months.

Next Meeting: August 16, 2022, 10 a.m.-noon, teleconference