



To Protect and Promote the Health and the Environment of the People of Kittitas County

KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Special Meeting/Public Hearing Minutes

Monday January 5, 2009
Commissioners' Auditorium
Recorded meeting started at 11:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Board Members: Mark McClain, Paul Jewell, Alan Crankovich and Rich Elliott.

ABSENT: Don Solberg MD

Kittitas County Public Health Department Staff (KCPHD): Cathy Bambrick, Candi Blackford, James Rivard

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Catherine Clerf, 60 Moe Rd, Ellensburg, WA 98926

Darin Boone, 17405 Rd 13 SW, Royal City, WA 99352

Patty Johnson, Kittitas County Solid Waste Department

This special Board of Health (BOH) meeting is being held to hear public testimony and to consider the Application of the Kittitas County Solid Waste Facility Permit. Legal notice of the meeting was published.

Commissioner McClain called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. in regards to continuance of BOH public hearing to Consider the Application of the Kittitas County Compost Facility Permit.

Cathy Bambrick, Administrator of the Health Department, stepped to microphone and stated the continuance of this meeting from 12/18/2008 was due to the posting was not done correctly. Since the last meeting we have posted correctly and there have been no additional comments. Cathy then reviewed the permit and was open to comments.

James Rivard, Environmental Health Lead, introduced himself and reviewed the backgrounds in which he noted the Kittitas County Solid Waste Department had applied for a solid waste composting facility permit on 09/16/2008 and the Kittitas county Public Health Department (KCPHD) determined their application to be complete on that date. The location of the proposed facility is to be located at 1001 Industrial Way, Ellensburg WA 98926. Parcel number 17-18-11020-0005. The facility shall compost yard waste and manure from agricultural origins. This permit conforms to the City of Ellensburg's Municipal code and zoning. James noted that during the SEPA period KCPHD received comments from three different government agencies; the Department of Ecology, the City of Ellensburg, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

December 12, 2008 the Health Department followed the SEPA process and mailed information to agencies involved and ran SEPA in the local papers. James reviewed some of the comments from these agencies:

- Construction activities from land clearing, grading, and the potential for storm water generation must be monitored. It is the applicant's responsibility to contact the Department of Ecology if there is a potential for discharge from a construction site larger than one acre.
- Final design issues shall address keeping monthly water balance for the volume of leachate generated and re-used.

- A variance is needed from the local health jurisdiction in order to use the two leachate storage tanks left over from the sewage treatment plant if the facility can demonstrate that the two leachate storage tanks will perform at least as effectively as a 30-millimeter thick geo membrane.
- Erosion control measures and storm water management shall be in place prior to any clearing, grading or construction.
- Identification and protection of a critical area in the floodplain for Wilson creek. A 50-foot riparian buffer shall be delineated eastward from the ordinary high water mark.

Mark McClain questioned if critical area ordinances were adopted and James at this point was not sure but noted that there is a 50 foot setback.

Mark McClain also inquired about the storage tanks and the process for variance. Patty Johnson from the Kittitas County Solid Waste Department approached the microphone and answered that they prefer to reuse existing tanks as long as they meet permeability and coating is on inside of tank.

Public Hearing was opened up for public comment:

Catherine Clerf representing herself approached the microphone and commented on the idea of putting in a Solid Waste Compost facility inside the city limits, near a creek and near medical facilities. She stated that alternatives were given and have been not been utilized and that the county is not equipped to deal with a compost facility. Catherine expressed the concern of having the tax payers dollars used for this facility and felt it was not appropriate.

Darrin Boone, Royal Organic Products out of Royal City, WA approached the microphone and introduced himself. He stated that he was in contact with the Department of Ecology in regards to the grant and is currently contesting this because of the conflict with private enterprise and government. He is strongly against the use of tax payers dollars to support this project and wanted it to be known that even the best ran compost facilities produce odors. Darrin also added that they had offered a proposal for transferring compost to another site and had heard nothing back from the County. He ended his statement by saying that he was neither in approval or disapproval for the permit.

Commissioner Mark McClain asked Darrin Boone about winds in the County and how it would affect the City. Darrin responded again by saying decomposition produces odors as a byproduct of decomposition. There was continued discussion in regards to the Department of Ecology contacting private enterprises and individual counties pursuing funding to set up compost facilities.

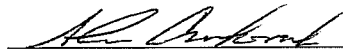
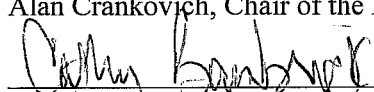
Close Public Hearing testimony at 11:55a.m

After close of public hearing there was discussion noting that from the BOH perspective the project meets requirements and the land use decision meets the statutory requirements as well. There was also discussion in regards to odors and how this would be handled if it becomes a nuisance.

Motion 01-01: Commissioner Alan Crankovich moved to approve Resolution 2009-01 - Kittitas County's Solid Waste Compost Facility Permit Approval. Commissioner Paul Jewell second. All agreed. Motion 01-01 carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:58am.


Candi Blackford, Clerk of the Board of Health


Alan Crankovich, Chair of the Board of Health

Cathy Bambrick, Administrator
Kittitas County Public Health Department