

City of Amarillo
Environmental Task Force

On the 10th day of May 2017, the Environmental Task Force met at 6:00 p.m. on the Second floor, Conference Room 203, Simms Municipal Building, 808 S. Buchanan, with the following members present:

MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD	NO. MEETINGS ATTENDED
Charlie Graham	N	6	2
Taylor Finley	N	6	4
Tom Johnson	Y	6	6
Chris Gulley	Y	6	4
Mindy Odom	Y	6	4
Sy Campbell – Resigned 2/8/17	N	-	0
Cole Camp	Y	6	6
John Kiehl	Y	6	4
EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS/STAFF			
Paul Harpole	N	6	4
David Lehfeldt	Y	6	6

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. and the following items of business were conducted:

Consider Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Chris Gulley, seconded by Tom Johnson, motion passed.

Update on Permit Modification for Composting at the Landfill

Dave notified the committee that a response from the TCEQ was received. He advised the committee the TCEQ had 9 issues that would need to be addressed. Dave has addressed the issues and will be mailing the updated permit modification request to the TCEQ Thursday, May 11th.

The following discussions were held:

- Ways to obtain organic materials for composting
- The maximum amount of waste that can be produced
- Equipment needed
 - Compost turner
 - Screen
- 15% rebate of landfill fees for composting facility at the landfill
 - Approximately \$40,000 in savings per year
 - Savings would purchase needed equipment
- Tub Grinder usage
- Possible reduction of methane gas due to organic materials being composted instead of deposited in the landfill

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Cost of Advertising

Dr. Gulley spoke about the cost of advertising on Social media. He estimates it would cost between \$300 and \$500 to reach the intended targeted age group. Discussion followed about “boosting”.

Discussion was held about when to begin advertising (social medial and stickers on dumpsters). It was determined the City of Amarillo’s website updates will need to be complete prior to advertising the City of Amarillo’s recycling page.

Tire Ordinance Revision Status update and Action

The City of Amarillo Legal department reviewed the suggested revised ordinance and provided a response. The committee reviewed the response and discussion followed. Input from Scott McDonald, Director of Community Safety and Regulations, is needed to assist with the process of the ordinance revision. It was suggested Dave Lehfeldt and Scott McDonald meet to discuss the revisions. The topic will be addressed at the next meeting, and the committee requested Scott McDonald attends. The committee would like their recommendations be submitted to the City Council after the next meeting.

Expense and Permit Requirements of a Glass Crusher

It was determined nothing prohibits the City of Amarillo from accepting donations in the form of equipment or cash to purchase specific equipment. The committee requested Dave provide specific glass crushers that would be beneficial to the City of Amarillo.

The following discussions followed:

- Glass crusher displaying information about who purchased it for the City of Amarillo
- How to market recycling of glass
- Transfer Station permit modification requirements
- Committee identifying list of organizations / companies that could donate a glass crusher
- How to get glass to recycling locations
 - Add an additional dumpster to commercial customers for glass
- Types of glass that can be recycled (Beverage containers only. No flat wear.)
- Benefits of providing a glass recycling option to the public

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Report to Give to Council of Accomplishments

Julie provided an example of a memo that was presented to the City Council from a prior committee to use as reference when writing the summary report. The committee discussed what information should be included in the report. It was suggested the report list the committee accomplishments, and goals they would like to accomplish next year as well as long term. Cole suggested each member provide 5 things they would like to accomplish with an extension time of the committee. Each committee member was asked to write a memo with these guidelines. The memos will be sent to Cole Camp (Chairperson) to combine into one memo. Chris Gulley stated his wife could assist with the wording of the memo. A final copy of the memo will be reviewed at the next meeting for consideration of presenting to the City Council.

Miscellaneous discussions about environmental impacts

- Water conservation
- Native prairie grass in the City of Amarillo
- Xeriscape instead of sod
- Sod farms around the area transition to xeriscape
- Decreasing city water usage
- Reward incentive to convert to drought tolerant landscaping

Public Comments - No comments

Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, June 7, 2017 – 6:00PM

Agenda for Next Meeting:

- Update on permit modification for composting at the landfill
- Update of City of Amarillo website
 - Invite Rich Gagnon to attend meeting for update
- Tire Ordinance revision status
 - Invite Scott McDonald to attend meeting for guidance.
- Glass crusher options
 - Dave Lehfeldt will provide glass crusher options that will benefit the City
- Finalize report to present to City council
- Set next meeting date

Adjourn

With no other business to be conducted the meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.