

ALASKA CHAPTER

Meeting Minutes (rev. 6/11/2004) Anchorage Solid Waste Services April 23, 2004 1:30 PM

- I. Call to Order by Richard Bonwell at 1:36PM
- II. Meeting agenda approved.
- III. January 2004 minutes were approved.
- IV. Board and general membership issues
 - 1. Committee Reports
 - A. Treasurer's Report
 - Profit from September 2003 MOLO course → \$11,388.01
 - Year to date dividends from certificate of deposits (CD) \rightarrow \$158.87
 - Balance from all accounts \rightarrow \$38,091.61 (see attached report)
 - SWANA FY04 insurance dues paid in full (see attached worksheet)
 - Motion to reinvest mature CD back to CD passed
 - B. Program Committee -
 - <u>July 16th</u>, 11:00AM at the Fairbanks North Star Borough Solid Waste Division (landfill). Topic: Tour of facilities including new 16-acre landfill cell (Cell 2).
 - <u>October 15th</u>, 12:00PM at Mat-Su Borough Solid Waste Division (landfill). Topic: Health and Safety presentation by George Keeney of Valdez Public Works.
 - C. **Membership Committee** Mike Blair stated there are 82 current members, but that national SWANA recently reported 87 for our chapter.
 - D. Scholarship Committee Sole applicant Kendra Huffine accepted. Dollar amount confirmed at \$1000.00. Motion passed to submit applicant for national SWANA consideration and to send payment upon proof of enrollment at institution of higher learning. Research into placing additional conditions on the award and use of scholarship money is being considered, i.e. reviewing the Lion's Club scholarship agreement documents.
 - E. Legislative Liaison Leslie Simmons stated that the change in Alaska statutes presented previously is still moving through the system and is not yet resolved. There may be more information next quarter, and additional information submitted to the members email list.

Greg Goodale gave a situation report concerning Clean Water loans. The State may



ALASKA CHAPTER

lower interest rates from 2.25% to 1.50%. The available money for the program has grown to \$50 million. Loans from this program are relatively easy to acquire. SWANA should monitor this program and be wary of any politicians attempting to redirect the money.

For example, Village Safe Water is a different program altogether but there may be a temptation to blur the distinctions in order to tap into the Clean Water money.

- 2. Director's Corner Greg Goodale stated that he would attend a national SWANA meeting on June 14th and 15th in Silver Spring, Maryland (national headquarters). Issues to be discussed include lowering the insurance premiums for smaller branches, and minor rule changes. Greg continues to promote Anchorage as the location for a summer 2005 SWANA symposium themed on cold weather issues. The chances of this occurring are favorable.
- V. Technical Meeting: The members of SWANA were treated to a tour of the old Elmendorf Air Force Base landfill that is undergoing closure. The landfill was developed by excavating and selling aggregate, which then created airspace for solid waste. The practice resulted in a net loss of volume (i.e. gravel quarries with solid waste at the bottom). This presented a special challenge because under the current regulations, a landfill must control runoff. Surface water should not be directed into a solid waste cell. EAFB eventually filled much of the man-made low areas with inert construction debris, such as concrete, a process that took years, but is largely complete. Only the design and construction of a cap remains.

More recently, a large housing development on EAFB had a problem of its own. The project encroached on a significant amount of known moose habitat. EAFB needed to create as much additional moose habitat as was consumed by the construction.

The solution to both concerns is an evapotranspiration (ET) cap. A traditional landfill cap is designed to prevent the absorption of surface water. An ET cap is designed to absorb *and hold* (like a sponge) surface water, thus preventing it's further infiltration into the waste. In addition to its sponge-like properties, the ET cap is purposefully planted with vegetation that is known to consume large quantities of water in the topsoil.

Fortuitously, the ideal vegetative layer for the ET cap creates an ideal moose habitat. Buy one. Get one free.

- VI. Member Comments:
 - Leslie Simmons mentioned that the ADEC is bringing a University of Wisconsin landfill design class to UAA on June 21st through June 24th. The cost is reduced. Housing is available through UAA residence halls.
 - Leslie Simmons also mentioned that the National Environmental Health Association



ALASKA CHAPTER

(NEHA) was having a 4 or 5 day conference in Anchorage during May. On May 9th, Doug Buteyn and Leslie Simmons were scheduled to give a presentation on solid waste.

- Richard Bonwell stated that his main goals as president of this chapter are to promote the scholarship and Rural Alaska Landfill Operations (RALO) classes. A lengthy discussion on RALO ensued.
- The RALO discussion included discourse on funding (or lack thereof) past and present, potential venues and frequency of occurrence, the possibility of adapting the content to a correspondence or electronic course of study and marketing. Ultimately, the decision was made to hold a RALO WORKSHOP in Fairbanks on Thursday, July 15th, 2004, at MacTec, Inc., coordinated by Richard Bonwell (the day before the next SWANA quarterly meeting, also in Fairbanks, see the last page). The following individuals are slated to participate in the workshop:

Doug Buteyn, Kent Monroe, Richard Bonwell, Leslie Simmons, Lanie Hughes, Greg Goodale, Sharon Daniel, Mike Blair

- Other members are welcome to participate. Please RSVP with Richard Bonwell by July 5th, 2004. rjbonwell@mactec.com or (907) 451-7774
- VII. Next Meeting Date & Agenda

RALO Workshop: <u>Thursday, July 15th</u>, 1:00PM at MacTec, Inc., 1255 Airport Way, Ste. 201, (2nd Floor, Shoppers Forum Mall) Fairbanks

SWANA Meeting: <u>Friday, July 16th</u>, Landfill Tour, 11:00AM at the Fairbanks North Star Borough Solid Waste Division (landfill), 455 Sanduri Street. Lunch: 12:30PM at Gold Dredge #8 (cost is \$32.50 and includes tour, gold panning and lunch). Meeting: 2:30PM – 4:00PM.

VIII. Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 3:00PM



ALASKA GHAPTER



ATTENDEE LIST FOR QUARTERLY MEETING April 23rd, 2004

I, Patrick M. Cox II, Secretary of the Alaska Chapter of SWANA, hereby certify the attendance of the following members at the quarterly chapter meeting held on April 23rd, 2004, at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska:

Name	Organization
Patrick Cox	Fairbanks North Star Borough
Julie Makela	Shannon & Wilson
Bill Lee	University of Alaska, Anchorage
Jason Weigle	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Leslie Simmons	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Bill Schnobel	University of Alaska, Anchorage
Richard Bonwell	Mactec Engineering & Consulting
Mike Blair	Municipality of Anchorage
Greg Goodale	Mat-Su Borough
Kent Monroe	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Lanie Hughes	Kenai Peninsula Borough
Cory Hinds	CH2M Hill
Douglas W. (Sy) Neley	Copper Basin Sanitation - Glennallen
Sharon Daniel	Copper Basin Sanitation - Glennallen
Bob Blankenburg	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation