

**Local Hazardous Waste Management Program
Final Approved Management Coordination Committee Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2015**

Attendees:

MCC:

Mayor David Baker, SCA, Chair
Stella Chao, PHSKC, Vice Chair
Tim Croll, SPU
Joan Lee, KCWLRD
Jeff Gaisford, KCSWD

Staff, Partners & Public:

Lynda Ransley, LHWMP
Liz Tennant, LHWMP
Maureen Weisser, LHWMP
Dave Galvin, KCWLRD
Lauren Cole, KCSWD
Charles Wu, PHSKC
Vicky Beaumont, SPU
Linda Knight, City of Renton
Taylor Watson, KCWLRD
Ellie Wilson-Jones, SCA
Alex Squalli, EcoMed USA/Canada

GENERAL BUSINESS

MCC Minutes: September 21, 2015

MCC reviewed and approved the September 21, 2015 minutes, with minor corrections on the attendee list.

Announcements and Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Secure Medicine Return Implementation

Dave introduced the topic as another major milestone, and Taylor provided an overview of the current status. Reviews have now been completed for the two revised stewardship plans that were received in the summer. The stewardship plan from ReturnMeds, LLC was approved, and will be designated as the standard plan according to the regulations. The plan from King County MED-Project, LLC was rejected because it did not fully respond to the regulation requirements. The rejected plan has 60 days to submit a final revised plan. If a second revised plan is submitted and approved as an independent plan, we will have two plans beginning implementation in early 2016. If a second revised plan is submitted but not approved, all drug companies registered with that plan will need to move over to the other approved, standard plan.

Taylor also provided a short summary of the recent Washington State Drug Take-Back Summit that was held on October 5th. It is hoped that some new initiatives at the local level will come out of that meeting.

DISCUSSION

- Tim asked why an opportunity for a third revision was offered to King County MED-Project. Taylor commented that we wanted to be as fair and equitable as possible, and that the Prosecuting

Attorney's Office recommended this approach given the way the regulations are written regarding standard and independent plans.

- Tim recommended that the Program be proactive with other jurisdictions, and look for opportunities to explain our program and the importance of convenience standards. Stella noted that we have no authority over these other jurisdictions but can certainly share our knowledge. Tim said that our program is best protected if other programs set up similar SMR regulations that are as strong as, or stronger than, King County's. Stella also noted strong interest by other health directors in the state.
- Mayor Baker asked about pharmacy participation. Taylor responded that local chain and independent pharmacies are the ones that have expressed interest. The larger, national chain pharmacies are hesitant so far to join in implementation of King County's regulations because they make their decisions from a national corporate perspective. Taylor noted that the Return Med plan had reached out to every retail pharmacy listed on our website and had received written notice of intent from interested pharmacies. With additional sites offered under the DEA rule, such as long-term care facilities and hospital or clinic pharmacies, there are more potential collection sites than the original estimate of 400.
- Mayor Baker asked about the 90-day extension for implementation of the approved standard plan. Taylor explained the rationale of not wanting to penalize the approved plan while another plan was still in-process. In this way, if the revised second plan is approved, both plans would start implementation at the same time.
- Jeff asked about guidance from Washington State. Taylor noted that the Washington State Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission has not yet issued any guidance or protocols for retail pharmacy collection that incorporate the DEA rule. Lack of clear guidance, and uncertainty about the state's approval process, could be a factor during this transition period. Now that we have at least one approved plan, these conversations can occur (and are underway) to allow for approvals from the state pharmacy commission.

Policy and Legislative Update

On behalf of Mendy, Lauren provided a legislative overview and presented an update on paint stewardship. Mendy is working with the American Coatings Association and lobbyist Mike Burgess about bill sponsorship for next year. The bill will likely go to a third reading in the House, with a House vote, and then move to the Senate.

Mendy is working on a scheduled tour of the Metro paint processing facility on October 30. Attendees include Senator Benton, Representative Harris, Clark County, Representative Peterson, bill sponsor in House, and they are attempting to get Senator Erickson. She is hopeful Mayor Baker can join as well, as an advocate of the program, and with his knowledge about the product Stewardship program in Canada.

All members of House Environment Committee, Senate Energy Environment and Telecommunications Committees are invited. Representative Peterson's office is extending invitations.

Mendy is also working on an op-ed piece for a Portland paper with Steve Dearborn, CEO of Miller Paint – which will focus on his experience as retailer, plans to open processing facility, and job creation. This may also be published in the Seattle Business Review.

The Department of Ecology does not plan to submit a supplemental budget request for increase funding for MTCA and CPG grants.

LHWMP Line of Business – Implementation Status

Lynda updated members on the status of LHWMP's strategic planning efforts. After a lot of developmental work, the Program is now at the challenging stage of transitioning from current to future structure and are focused on developing high level work plans for 2016. Core Team managers are having many discussions with staff, stakeholders and partners to support the changes, and transitioning projects. We are also working to convert the budget into new project structure.

DISCUSSION

- Stella asked about interactions with staff communications. Lynda provided an overview of the ongoing work and dialog with staff over the past 18 months, including retreats, quarterly meetings, informal Q&A sessions, FAQs, emails, written materials, agency staff meetings, team meetings and 1:1 conversations between managers and staff. Core team members and supervisors are also key conduits for sharing information and getting staff input.
- Dave commented there is an additional level of anxiety because of number of personnel changes taking place at the same time as structural changes. People are generally excited about shift into new bodies of work, but are experiencing expected reactions to change.

Hiring and Workforce Development

Lynda updated MCC on the hiring status of key positions and workforce development. The Operations Manager interviews have concluded and an offer is expected by month's end. Policy Liaison interviews are scheduled in next two weeks. Communications interviews will occur in November. Dave's position will be posted in next week or so. The two supervisor positions in WLRD are (or soon will be) managed via interim coverage, and hired after Dave's replacement is on board. Charles is working with Core Team and PH management to reclassify one of the PH vacancies into a policy position.

Many workforce development activities are underway – related to the Line of Business changes as well as succession of key positions. Current training includes evidence-based program planning, team development and chartering, and clarifying and supporting matrix-based operations.

Director's Report and Upcoming MCC Meetings

Lynda provided highlights from the Director's Report, including anticipated 4th Quarter LOB work, the 25th anniversary celebration held on October 7th, and the status of the voluntary audit. She also highlighted upcoming meeting topics, including 3rd Quarter Reports, the report from the voluntary audit, and election of MCC Chair and Vice Chair.

Executive Session

The regular meeting adjourned for an Executive Session to discuss the annual review of the Program Director.

Next Meeting: November 17th, 10:15 p.m. to 12:00 noon, 6th Floor King/Chinook Conference Rooms, King Street Center, Seattle, WA.