



	<b>Committee Members:</b>				
✓	Neil Baunsgard The Environmental Center		Brent Bybee City of La Pine	*	Jackson Dumanch Paul Bertagna, Alternate City of Sisters
	Luke Dynes Citizen at Large		John Nielsen City of Redmond	*	Keith Kessarais Citizen at Large
*	Cassie Lacy Chris Ogreen, Alternate City of Bend	✓	Erica Haitsma (Lindberg) Courtney Voss, Alternate Republic Services	✓	Timm Schimke Citizen at Large
✓	Erwin Swetnam Michael Grove, Alternate Cascade Disposal		Robin Vora Citizen at Large		
	<b>Consultant(s):</b>				
✓C	Dwight Miller Parametrix, Inc.	✓C	Ryan Rudnick Parametrix, Inc.	C	Sabrina Robinson Parametrix, Inc.
	<b>Staff:</b>				
S	Susan Baker Solid Waste Manager	*S	Tim Brownell Solid Waste Director	*S	Chad Centola SW Senior Advisor
*S	Angie Heffner Solid Waste Accounting	✓S	Jeff Merwin Solid Waste Manager	*S	Sue Monette SW Management Analyst
S	Kristie Bollinger County Property Manager	S	Shad Campbell IT Applications Manager	S	Peter Gutowsky CDD Director
S	Nick Lelack County Administrator	✓S	Stephanie Marshall Legal Counsel Assistant	S	Lee Randall Facilities Director
*S	Kimberly Riley Legal Counsel Assistant				
	<b>Elected Official(s):</b>				
E					
	<b>Guest(s):</b>	✓G	<b>20</b>	*G	<b>11</b>
✓	<i>Present at meeting</i>	*	<i>Videoconference</i>	C	<i>Consultant</i>
E	<i>Elected Official</i>	G	<i>Guest</i>	S	<i>Staff</i>

Decisions/Actions Taken by the Committee in Blue

Items Requiring Follow-up in Red

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Tim Brownell, Deschutes County Solid Waste Director.

**1. Welcome:** Tim Brownell, Jeff Merwin

Tim Brownell welcomed the group, and Jeff Merwin reviewed the list of Committee members in attendance.

**2. Public Comment:** Tim Brownell

Public comments are available in the meeting recording. Following is a list of individuals that provided verbal comments.

- Steve Payer
- Karen Kelley
- Abby Kellner
- Brian White
- Allison White
- Marty Kimberling
- Mark Salvo (Oregon Natural Desert Association)
- Rory Isbell (Central Oregon LandWatch)
- Leroy Cabana
- Chris Olsen
- Ty Kelly
- Suzanne Ritter
- Gary Dodds
- Steve Wursta
- Devon Larson

(Keith Kessarar joined the meeting at 9:17 a.m. Cassie Lacy joined the meeting at 9:26 a.m.)

**3. Review/Approve Minutes:** Tim Brownell

Tim Brownell asked for comments on the minutes from the May 6, 2025 meeting.

Action: Neil Baunsgard made the motion and Erwin Swetnam seconded to approve the minutes from the prior meeting. The committee unanimously approved the minutes as written.

**4. Property Acquisition Updates:** Tim Brownell

Tim Brownell summarized updates regarding property acquisition.

Horse Ridge Site:

- Met with two out of the three owners who have expressed interest (Horse Ridge Pit, LLC and Hap Taylor & Sons, LLC).
- Still need to meet with ODOT – hopefully that will occur in the next couple of weeks.

Dodds Road Site:

- Initial discussions with Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID) have occurred. COID will further discuss the possibility of acquisition at their July board meeting. At this time, COID has not made a commitment to moving forward.

Roth Sites:

- Site has been fully studied to the same level as Moon Pit.
- Motivated sellers and interested in selling the property.

Golden Basin West Site:

- Owners have been unresponsive and site has been removed from further consideration.

## **5. Public Outreach Updates: Dwight Miller**

Dwight Miller provided information on public outreach updates.

- Tribal Engagement
  - Engagement with Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Site maps and site information have been shared with them to gather input on cultural and historical considerations.
- Recreation Stakeholder Coordination
  - Central Oregon Trail Alliance (COTA) has been contacted to discuss potential concerns regarding mountain biking and hiking trails near Horse Ridge Site.
- Environmental Advocacy Notification
  - Letter sent to update Central Oregon Conservation Network with new site selection screening developments and to invite their feedback
- Roadmap to Landfill Opening in 2031 shared.

## **6. Supplemental Site Screening – Preliminary Results: Dwight Miller, Ryan Rudnick**

- Dwight Miller discussed the questions that were presented to the SWAC when considering the sites:
  1. Do the analyses appear to be accurate and fair, for the purposes of comparing candidate sites?
  2. At this point, what site(s) do you think would best serve the County long-term, based on the presented analyses?
  3. Are there any sites you would recommend removing from further consideration?
  4. Are there any additional data or considerations to incorporate?
  5. Other thoughts/questions?
- Ryan Rudnick discussed the Supplemental Site Screening Preliminary Results. Findings were discussed using three different competing objectives with the goal of trying to find a balance between the three, which include:
  - Cost effectiveness
  - Minimizing impacts to people
  - Minimizing impacts to wildlife

Ryan provided a summary of the Alternate site selection including sites that had been previously eliminated due to sites or sites positively affected by sage grouse habitat map changes and changes to property owner willingness to sell.

- Roth East
  - Summarized scoring includes:
    - Site Characteristics/Engineering – 3.79
    - Natural Environments -3.40
    - Land Use - 3.63
    - Weighted score - 3.60 (out of a possible 5)
  - Finalist site evaluated at same level as Moon Pit site, but not selected for further study.
  - Over 100-year capacity
  - Within low density sage grouse habitat area
  - Nearest residence is approximately 0.7 miles distant
  - Cost effective to excavate and operate
  - Several recreational opportunities nearby including paragliding

- Ultimate goal would be to have water rights via water rights transfers and well on site
  - Currently trucking in water would provide water to site
  - Detailed costing in last round included hauling in water
- Keith Kessarlis mentioned that one positive attribute to this site is the need for less rock blasting.
- Roth Northeast
  - Summarized scoring includes:
    - Site Characteristics/Engineering – 3.52
    - Natural Environments – 3.40
    - Land Use – 3.55
    - Weighted Score: 3.49
  - Same taxlot, but different location to avoid mapped sage grouse migration route.
  - Site provides 80-year capacity
  - Visible from Highway 20 to the north
  - Farther from existing well on property
  - Further from existing sage grouse core zone
  - Transmission lines run through NE corner of site
  - Capacity and visibility had the largest impacts to the score
  - Has anything changed to consider this site over the Roth East site?
    - The change to the Sage Grouse migration mapping is largest issue. Roth East could have a bigger impact on sage grouse migration (disrupting migration routes)
    - Another reason the Northeast site is being considered is reducing the capacity to 80 years
  - Is there higher risk for height restrictions being closer to Highway 20?
    - Discussions with Deschutes County Planning are in the works to examine these issues
    - Height limits are site specific
- Horse Ridge
  - Summarized scoring includes:
    - Site Characteristics/Engineering – 3.70
    - Natural Environments – 3.50
    - Land Use – 3.60
    - Weighted Score: 3.49
  - Eagle nest data indicated a nesting site nearby which was a fatal flaw. New data has shown that nesting site is a ridgeline away (about 1.5 - 2 miles from the potential landfill site)
  - Wildlife impacts are manageable and can be mitigated
  - Property owners include Knife River, Horse Ridge Pit, LLC, and ODOT
  - Hillside landfill, but would only be visible from some portions of Highway 20
  - Mountain biking trails that skirt the landfill site
  - Over 100-year capacity
  - Soils rated excellent for landfill use, with a variety of useful materials
  - Existing permitted surface mines have already partially excavated portions of the site
  - Deep groundwater
  - Two existing wells onsite. No existing water rights.
  - Would this site be possible without all three property owners?
    - That would make it much more complicated and would reduce capacity to around 70-80 years
  - What does water hauling look like in number of trucks per day.
    - 5-6 water trucks round trip may be required per day during summer months to provide supplemental water, in the interim, until water rights could be secured.
  - Waste hauling trucks
    - 30 round trips per day

- Within North Paulina Deer winter range and ODFW Category 2 winter habitat. Impacts can be mitigated.
- The nearest home is about 0.36 miles northwest of the site.
- Low potential for buried sites
- Electrical upgrade would be needed (No existing power onsite)
- Electric vehicles stored either on site or stored back at the main housing site has been included in analysis
- Electric costs usually remain more stable over time vs fluctuating diesel costs, however modeling showed that they are relatively similar costs over time
- Consideration for natural land disruptions should be accounted for
- Dodds Road
  - Summarized scoring includes:
    - Site Characteristics/Engineering – 3.35
    - Natural Environments – 4.70
    - Land Use – 3.33
    - Weighted Score: 3.81
  - Owned by Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID)
  - About an 80-year capacity
  - A lot of rock crushing would be required for this site. Poor soil depth limit onsite.
  - Deep groundwater with no nearby wellhead protection zones
  - Greater than 21 homes impacted along the haul route
  - Three residences within 0.5 miles, and about 60 homes within 2 miles
  - No wetlands or ESA species are present. Not within sage grouse habitat zones, but within ODFW Category 2 mule deer and elk habitat (may not require mitigation)
  - One historic abandoned canal crosses the site
  - Vacant site
  - Low archaeological potential

A side-by-side comparison chart was shared showing the four potential alternative sites and their scores compared to the Moon pit site's scoring. For the Site Characteristics/Engineering category Moon Pit had a score of 3.90 while Horse Ridge has the next highest score of 3.70 and Dodds has the lowest score of 3.35. For Natural Environments Moon Pit had a score of 3.60 while Dodds has a higher score of 4.70 and the Roth sites have the lowest scores of 3.40. The Land Use category shows Moon Pit with a score of 3.40. Horse Ridge has a higher score of 3.60 and Roth East with the highest score of 3.63. Dodds has the lowest score with 3.33.

Comparative Cost Factor Analysis identified five major cost factors including excavation, waste hauling, road infrastructure, power infrastructure, and water infrastructure. Scores were assigned to each site. Horse Ridge has the lowest weighted average cost while Dodds has the highest weighted average cost. Horse Ridge has the lowest excavation costs.

Purchase costs have not been factored into the site costs since those amounts are not available at this point in the process. Purchase costs would probably be around 10% of the overall cost factors.

#### Residential Proximity Analysis

- Horse Ridge
  - 3 dwellings within 1 mile
  - 3 dwellings within 2 miles
- Dodds
  - 18 dwellings within 1 mile

- 86 dwellings within 2 miles
- Roth Northeast
  - 2 dwellings within 1 mile
  - 4 dwellings within 2 miles
- Roth East
  - 2 dwellings within 1 mile
  - 8 dwellings within 2 miles

Horse Ridge has the lowest number of residences nearby while Dodds has the highest number of residences.

## 7. SWAC Discussion:

- Can category weighting be re-evaluated?
  - Yes, the process done before the BOCC approved the category weighting. We could modify the scoring criteria if we want to but would need to recommend it to the BOCC and they would need to approve the changes.
- Dodds was removed from the prior round due to capacity constraints.
- Moon Pit and Roth East are the only sites that have had the more in-depth analysis. Horse Ridge has more available information because it was looked at during the last landfill siting process. With Dodds, if a height restriction is applicable to the site that could reduce the site to smaller year capacity and might become a fatal flaw.
- What are the potential “wild cards” that may impact each site and could become a fatal flaw for each site? For example, if ODOT wasn’t willing to sell their property.
- Keith Kessarar says that his order of Roth East (1), Horse Ridge (2), Northeast (3). Based on public comment and excavation costs for Dodds, it should be thrown out. Another member seconded removing Dodds from further consideration.
- Timm Schimke recommends that we make sure that the SWAC’s decisions are sound and defensible.
- Additional information regarding acquisition potential and grading estimates can help provide more details to make an informed decision.
- A member noted that the environmental considerations are causing Dodds to score higher than it should.
- Cassie Lacy agrees with removing Dodds, but considering Timm’s comment, the site list dwindled greatly last time very quickly, which limits options. More due diligence should be done and used to consider removing sites.
- Should we consider including trucking to a third party in costs analysis over time?
  - This was brought up to Commissioners last year. Due to economics and control here in County, it was determined to continue going on this process of selecting a site within the County. The BOCC wanted to explore a path within the County per the County’s Solid Waste Management Plan until all options have been exhausted.
- Ultimately, the SWAC decided to table the motion and keep Dodds on the list until we have more information.
- Robin Vora submitted comments to the SWAC and were read to the members. He supports having more acquisition information available to the SWAC. He also brought up a question that a Bend resident had whether eminent domain was an option. Stephanie Marshall spoke to this question and said yes, that is an option, but is a fairly complex, expensive process. At this time, Stephanie has not been asked to explore this option. The BOCC has stated their opposition to using eminent domain for this process.
- Blasting and rock cost concerns for Dodds site
- Dive deeper into the airport proximities and see if that would open up more site options.

- Cassie Lacy wants to know if a landfill would have a greater impact to an already impacted area like Horse Ridge when located in a sage grouse habitat (or other wildlife zone).

Action: Dwight Miller will have the Natural Resources staff look into further information regarding wildlife impacts for each site.

**8. Next Steps:** Dwight Miller

- Next meeting is July 15, 2025 from 9-11 a.m. and will include updated and additional site screening information for SWAC deliberation.
- August 19, 2025 meeting from 9-11 a.m. will include a recommendation for final site evaluation selection.
- Public comment reviews and responses
- Correspondence and meetings with interested parties

**9. Adjourn:** Tim Brownell

**Next Committee Meeting:** The next SWAC Advisory Group meeting is scheduled virtually or at the Deschutes County Road Department (61150 SE 27<sup>th</sup> St., Bend, OR 97702) on **July 15, 2025 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

**Meeting Adjourned:** 11:23 a.m.