ADA COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 23, 2017

LOCATION:
1ST Floor, East Wing (Room 2 – DL conference Room), Ada County Courthouse
200 West Front Street
Boise, Idaho 83702

SWAC Subcommittee Members Present:
Steve Cory, Steve Sedlacek, Catherine Chertudi, Karen Danley, Lynn Moser, Kevin Wallis, Dave Dean

SWAC Subcommittee Members Absent:
Dave Fisher

I. **Call to Order**

II. **Roll Call**

III. **Agenda Approval**
SWAC subcommittee members approved today's (October 23, 2017) agenda.

IV. **Recyclable Material Marketing Update – *Dave Dean***
Dave provided the SWAC subcommittee an excellent overview in regards to China's upcoming restrictive policy regarding the importation of recyclables. This policy (National Sword) will, if implemented without modification, significantly impact local and national recycling efforts.

China is the largest consumer of recyclable materials exported from the United States. A huge portion of recyclable material collected in western US states is exported to China. The remainder of US states are not as dependent on China as the final destination for collected recyclable materials.

Under National Sword, China has stated that it will ban, effective January 1, 2018, 24 materials from being imported including mixed plastic and mixed paper. Additionally, China announced that the quantity of contaminants or "prohibitives" that will be accepted in any imported recyclable material cannot exceed 0.3% of the recyclable material total weight (less than 5 ounces in 100 pounds).

These limitations have created serious commodity price reductions. Until and unless China modifies National Sword's stated limitations and prohibitions, commodity prices will probably remain depressed.

Recycling firms and public entities are actively looking for other outlets for collected recyclables. To date, long term and financially attractive "other" markets for high volume mixed recyclables have not been located.

V. Communitywide curbside Recycling Update – *Rachele Klein*

*Topic **IV** was discussed until meeting adjournment. Topic **V** was neither presented nor discussed.*

VI. Other Business

The SWAC subcommittee voted to have Chairman Cory present an overview of the China National Sword Initiative to the Board of Ada County Commissioners. ***(This presentation was made to the BOCC on 11/07/2017).***

VII. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting date: November 15, 2017

VIII. Adjournment