

**ORANGE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
INPUT FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' ANNUAL PLANNING RETREAT**

The Board of Commissioners welcomes input from various advisory boards and commissions in preparation for its annual planning retreat. Please complete the following information, limited to the front and back of this form. Other background materials may be provided as a supplement to, but not as a substitute for, this form.

Board/Commission Name:

Solid Waste Advisory Board

Person to address the BOCC at Retreat (if requested by BOCC) and contact information:

**Dr. Jan F. Sassaman, Chair
(919) 933-6625
jan.sassaman@pleresgroup.com**

Primary County Staff Contact:

Gayle Wilson, Solid Waste Management Director

How many times per month does this board/commission meet, including any special meetings and sub-committee meetings?

The second Wednesday of each month except July.

Brief Statement of Board/Commission's Assigned Charge and Responsibilities.

"... to advise the County's Governing Board on matters related to the [solid waste] System and the Solid Waste Management Plan and Policies." (Section 7, page 10, Interlocal Agreement for Solid Waste Management, August 7, 1999)

What are your Board/Commission's most important accomplishments?

for 2011

- 1. Adopted a Code of Ethics for SWAB Members that is based on that for other Boards and Commissions that are organic to the County (i.e., not comprised of members appointed by multiple jurisdictions).**
- 2. Sponsored a presentation by Dr. Christopher Heaney (UNC) and both David Caldwell and Robert Campbell (RENA) titled "Relation between**

malodor, ambient hydrogen sulfide, and health in a community bordering a land fill.”

3. **Provided advice and feedback (from representative jurisdictions) to Solid Waste staff, and entertained public comments, on various issues, including:**

- **Reviewed the Three-year update (for 2009) to the Solid Waste Plan for submittal (in 2011) to the North Carolina DHENR.**
- **Planning and development of the new Walnut Grove convenience center in accord with the Solid Waste Plan**
- **Alternative technologies for handling solid waste**
- **Long-term strategies and options for handling solid waste in a land fill post-closure environment,**
- **Mitigation plans and efforts for the Rogers Road area, and**
- **Pros and cons of single stream recycling for both incorporated and some unincorporated portions of the county in accord with the Solid Waste Plan.**

List of Specific Tasks, Events, or Functions Performed or Sponsored Annually.

- **SWAB meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month (ad hoc sub-committees meet as needed) to consider matters/issues brought before it by BOCC; individual governments (Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Hillsborough), and Solid Waste Staff.**
- **There are no specific events or functions sponsored annually.**

Describe this board/commission’s activities/accomplishments in carrying out BOCC goal(s)/priorities, if applicable.

SWAB responds to matters brought to it from BOCC as noted above.

If your board/commission played the role of an Element Lead Advisory Board involved in the 2030 Comprehensive Plan preparation process, please indicate your board’s activities/accomplishments as they may relate to the Comprehensive Plan’s goals or objectives.

(The Element Lead Advisory Boards include: Planning Board, EDC, OUTBoard, Commission for the Environment, Historic Preservation Commission, Agriculture Preservation Board, Affordable Housing Board, Recreation and Parks Advisory Council)

Not Applicable

Identify any activities this board/commission expects to carry out in 2012 as they relate to established BOCC goals and priorities.

If applicable, is there a fiscal impact (i.e., funding, staff time, other resources)

associated with these proposed activities (please list).

As requested by BOCC complete evaluation and recommendations to BOCC regarding:

- **Any issues associated with finalization of the Solid Waste Plan that was submittal in 2012 as well as initiating work on the successor to that plan.**
- **Advising elected boards on Interlocal Agreement as revisions to that Agreement are being considered.**
- **Evaluation of alternative means to handle solid waste disposal issues for Orange County.**
- **Intergovernmental issues associated with initial planning for close-out of existing solid waste landfill and issues associated with post-landfill closure and solid waste management.**
- **Any other issues brought by BOCC and town governments.**

These activities may have fiscal impacts in terms of:

- **Funding – minimal unless additional technical resources are needed to evaluate alternative means for solid waste disposal per BOCC vote December 2009. Development of any new interlocal agreement by BOCC and municipalities may require legal assistance.**
- **Staff Time – will be required to provide SWAB with technical input and analyses.**
- **Other Resources – none identified at this time.**

What are the concerns or emerging issues your board has identified for the upcoming year that it plans to address, or wishes to bring to the Commissioners' attention?

As was noted in the 2011 planning document to the BOCC, SWAB has repeatedly encouraged a close review and possible revision of the current Interlocal Agreement for Solid Waste Management on the part of county and municipal elected officials and staff to assure the continued viability of the County's Solid Waste Enterprise.

We understand that such a review is currently underway, and trust that it will be completed expeditiously. Until such completion, the SWAB's mandate is tenuous at best and it's direction unclear. Furthermore, likely in response to the uncertainties associated with SWAB's mandate and direction, several positions on the SWAB remain unfilled, including both BOCC appointed slots.