

Oregon WIC Vendor Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2015

Portland State Office Building, Room 1D

10:00 am - noon

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Attendee(s)</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Attendee(s)</i>
Albertsons Inc.	Mark Vela John McNeil	Providence Services	Carla Patterson
Bungalow Market	Carolyn Larson	Ray's Food Place	Cathy Broadfoot
Fred Meyer Inc.	Valarie LaRoque	Roths Market	Bill Walters Elaine Winterstein
Growers Outlet	Jan Brendler*	Safeway	Dan Braun Jen Rogers Jody McGinley Russell Peggy Haggman Craig Watson
Haggen Inc.	Ken Banyan Joan Rice	Sherms	Shelly Harris
IT Retail	Terry Ficklin	Su Casa Imports	Isabell Mendez* Danalyza Rodriguez* Jose Gonzalez
Kroger Co.	Chaz Veite Brad Erickson	Walgreens Co.	Cama Buel* Brian Delfin Michelle Vandiver
Logan's Market	Denise Palmer	Wal-Mart Inc.	Gene Wallace
Lone Pine Farms	Denise Garner	Western Family Foods	Lindsey Campbell*
New Seasons Market	Annie Valentino	Williams General Store	Kathy Williams
NW Grower's Assoc.	Sandra Wilken*	Oregon WIC Program	Sarah Rosenberg*, Jazette Johnson*, Diana Garcia*, Susannah Lowe*, Pi Winslow*, Maria Menor*, Michelle Aarhus*, Colette LaDue*

* Attended meeting in person

<i>Agenda Item and Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion Points</i>	<i>Decisions/Action Items</i>
Welcome and Introductions Michelle Aarhus, Vendor Training Coordinator	Attendance taken (see list above) and introductions made.	
Review minutes and agenda Michelle Aarhus	No suggestions for change.	Minutes approved.
eWIC update Sarah Rosenberg,	In January of 2014, JP Morgan withdrew from the EBT business nationwide. FIS is currently the SNAP processor	If vendors have not heard from Jim Chilcoat or

<p>WIC Operations Manager</p>	<p>for the state of Oregon. Talks began between FIS and WIC about EBT in July 2014, and contract negotiations are still continuing. FIS is the main contractor who is responsible for banking functions, stand beside terminals and customer service. CDP is a subcontractor for FIS which handles WIC specific functions such as transaction processing and screens. CDP is beginning to reach out to Oregon WIC vendors, and it is OK for stores to speak with CDP representatives at this point about getting ready for EBT. The names of these representatives are Jim Chilcoat, Retail Relationship Manager for CDP and Steven Jeantet, Deputy Project Manager for CDP. You may also hear from Craig Wallachy at Oregon WIC who will be collecting UPC and APLs over the next few months.</p>	<p>Steven Jeantet with CDP about actions needed for the eWIC transition, please reach out to them. Their contact information can be found on our website here under the “eWIC Processor Information” header.</p> <p>Sarah Rosenberg will ask Jim Chilcoat if FIS/CDP is connected with FirstData.</p>
<p>Meat & Potatoes Maria Menor, Vendor Team Coordinator</p>	<p>Potatoes: Every year the WIC program goes through an appropriation process at the federal level since WIC is not an entitlement program. In this year’s appropriation act Congress took away the ability to restrict any fruit or vegetable in the WIC program. Therefore participants will be allowed to buy all types of potatoes on the program. Oregon will implement this change March 1st.</p> <p>The first page of the current Food List is being updated for this change. Oregon WIC will send notification to all stores about the change a month prior to the implementation date to allow time to cross out necessary language on food lists and make changes to POS systems.</p> <p>Craig Watson from Safeway suggested using clear language to avoid confusion, clarifying that this is not a removal of restriction on just “white” potatoes, but all non-sweet potato/yam variations such as russet and red potatoes.</p> <p>Albertsons plans to make a 5”x7” picture that includes each variation of potato that is allowed for cashier-facing check stand use, and will run the design past Oregon WIC.</p> <p>Meat: State WIC programs are moving toward authorizing full line grocery stores. Because of this, Oregon WIC is adding a requirement for stores that they need to carry at least 3 types of raw meat or meat substitute (tempeh, tofu, or seitan) with 6 pounds of total weight. This will be a “selection criterion” for when a store is authorized or reauthorized. No Oregon WIC participant will be receiving meat as part of their food package, but this is a</p>	<p>At the recommendation of vendors, the notification to stores from Oregon WIC about changes in the Food List will go out February 2, 2015 to allow a month for preparation.</p> <p>OR WIC will be sure to use clear language around which types of potatoes are now allowed to avoid confusion between regular potatoes and the specific type of potato that is a “white potato.”</p>

	<p>requirement which is added to ensure that appropriate vendors are available to participants.</p>	
<p>WIC formulary Michelle Aarhus</p>	<p>Oregon WIC program contracts with in-store pharmacies and stand-alone pharmacies in order to provide access to special order formula for infants and mothers with special medical needs. The program has had issues crop up over the past several months where participants go to an in-store pharmacy and attempt to get a special order medical formula for their baby. Some pharmacies have not been able to place orders for the needed formula, and others have not been familiar with the WIC program. In store and stand-alone pharmacies must be able to obtain this formula for high risk participants within 72 hours of placing an order.</p> <p>Vendors suggested adding separate training for in-store pharmacies as oftentimes in larger stores they have separate training staff and training needs.</p>	<p>Oregon WIC can create an Excel document of the current formulary, and will add UPCs for each formula. Craig Watson from Safeway will see if their corporate pharmacy can help provide/look up NDCs.</p> <p>Stores thought this list with NDCs would help solve these issues.</p> <p>Oregon WIC will send a reminder to pharmacies that these special formulas need to be able to be ordered in 72 hours.</p>
<p>USDA Management Evaluation Sarah Rosenberg</p>	<p>The USDA provides funding, framework and guidance to operate state WIC programs. The USDA audits every portion of state WIC programs every 3 years and tell WIC state staff what they require to be changed and what they recommend be changed. This fall 3 USDA staff from the USDA Western Region Headquarters in San Francisco came to audit the Oregon WIC Vendor Team which included taking USDA staff on routine vendor monitoring in stores, signage, shelf talkers, contracting, training, compliance, etc. They suggested changing the way we authorize chains. Our ordinary protocol is to look at the pricing for all stores in a chain at once, make sure the pricing in different zones works, and then authorize all stores in the chain. USDA does not want us to authorize all stores in a chain together. For example, if one store did not meet pricing criteria, they would want us to not authorize that singular store.</p> <p>They also wanted change in how price assessments are conducted. They would like this to happen at least every 18 months instead of at the current 3 year contract renewal mark, and to terminate stores whose prices were too high. Pricing and cost containment is a focus at the federal level. Stores should look at prices if vouchers are frequently rejected for amount too high.</p> <p>After eWIC is implemented, USDA has granted Oregon WIC an exemption from collecting paper shelf price surveys</p>	<p>Gene Wallace from Wal-Mart volunteered to gather feedback and send to Oregon WIC staff (i.e. have stores in other states seen this, any suggestions for implementation in a practical way)</p> <p>Vendors suggested that there is a built in mechanism that vendors are notified when a voucher is rejected for amount too high. OR WIC thought this was a great suggestion and will look into including this in response to audit.</p>

	because that information will be obtained from eWIC systems and analyzed in the same way.	
New Oregon WIC logo Maria Menor	Unveiled the new WIC logo as a heads-up that this will be changing. It now includes the state fruit, the pear, and will be easier to replicate in a smaller size. The WIC shelf price tags may be changing at some point to correlate with the rebranding effort.	Several vendors gave feedback that they liked the logo.
Q & A All	<p>Q: Cama Buel from Walgreens asked if stores were allowed to create their own shelf tags.</p> <p>A: Oregon WIC answered that yes, stores may create their own designs, but if any materials include the WIC acronym or logo in them, they need to be emailed to Oregon WIC for approval. Therefore, if the national headquarters of a corporation is sending out WIC materials to be used nationwide, these designs need to be run by Oregon WIC before being hung in Oregon stores. One design can be approved for all stores in a chain.</p> <p>Q: Tom McNeil at Albertsons asked if the shelf tags that he got approved prior the re-branding (new logo) were still OK to use.</p> <p>A: Yes, this is fine. May want to check back with Oregon WIC if used the old Oregon WIC logo itself (diamond with baby, woman, toddler, holding hands).</p> <p>Q: Craig Watson with Safeway asked if we anticipated any new rebranding other than the new logo in the next couple of years (i.e. when eWIC rolls out).</p> <p>A: No, we hope to use this logo as we transition to eWIC and for at least a few years beyond that.</p>	