



THE SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS' EXCHANGE

cooperative marketing * market development * materials exchange

SEMREX JOINT POWERS BOARD (JPB) MEETING

Friday, December 7, 2018

Conference Room B

Government Services Building (not the courthouse)

721 Main Street North (on the west side of Highway 57)

Mantorville, MN

9:30 A.M.

AGENDA

- 9:00 Coffee and Rolls
- 9:30 Call Meeting to Order – Roll Call and Introductions
- 9:35 Approve June 2018 Minutes
- 9:40 Director's Update – Sharon Schriever, SEMREX
 - Marketing Report
- 9:50 2018 Budget Review & 2019 Budget Approval
- 10:00 Approval Requested for Professional Services Agreement
- 10:05 Approval Requested for Fiscal Agent Agreement
- 10:10 SEMREX Regional Planning Update
 - Next Steps
- 10:30 MPCA and Legislative Update
- 10:45 Member Update Report Questions/Discussion-All
- 11:00 Set Next Meeting
- 11:05 Adjourn

**SEMREX Joint Powers Board Meeting
Dodge County Government Services Building
June 1, 2018 - 9:30 a.m.**

Present: Jake Gillan, Rice County Commissioner; Ben Crowell, MPCA; Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Jeff Weaver, Mower County; Mike Ankeny, Mower County Commissioner; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn County; Mike Lee, Freeborn County Commissioner; Rita Cole, Dodge County; Mark Thein, Olmsted County Commissioner; Jeff Schneider, City of Red Wing; Jean Lundquist, Blue Earth County; Paul Pieper, Rice County; Katie Barden, Steele County; Katie Revels; Steele County and Robert Craggs, Burns/McDonnell (observing).

Call Meeting to Order & Approve Minutes: Jake Gillan, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. Introductions were made. Motion to approve minutes by Mike Ankeny and 2nd by Mike Lee. Motion passed.

Director's Update:

Tons are down 15% (approx. 500 tons) from last year, mostly due to Red Wing's Fire and the China Sword. Things are now just starting to pick up with Red Wing getting back online. Fibers are moving slower. Magazines are not moving much at all. Jeff Weaver asked Sharon to mention Envirolastic as a bright side to the commodities. Other markets are opening in Vietnam, India and expanding in the US.

Budget Discussion: Statement of accounts shows \$3,370 to the negative. Still had 1.2 million total revenue in 2017. Reserves are around \$100,000.

In the past have done a yearly audit, Sharon was asked if we would prefer every other year. This would be a savings of \$5,000. Mike Lee made a motion for every other year audits and Mark Thein 2nd. Motion carried.

Regional Planning Update: Discussion

- There are currently 6 participants.
- Moving forward with looking for funding – sources would be grants, SEMREX reserves, county contribution and State funds.
 - o Ben Crowell, MPCA, gave brief update from a meeting that was held with PCA management about funding. For state funding, management would like to see more specifics with focus on plans and projects to move items up the hierarchy.

Sharon stated there will be work done on an RFP by end of the year. A subcommittee met with 4 consultants to get ideas. Feedback was received and reviewed. It will be less costly if we have a good goal and focus areas. Sharon proposed a meeting later this summer to discuss. Rice County and Blue Earth County do not believe regional planning is a good fit for them at this time. Cost estimates came in between \$175,000 and \$200,000.

1-3 Goals state by each County/City:

Freeborn – Management of Problem Materials (Electronics, Tires, Mattresses)

Steele – Agrees with Freeborn

City of Red Wing – Need cost effective waste services, Problem Materials, Long Term

Available waste capacity and future capacity, local control. Also making sure there is a level of Resource Recovery – keep waste out of the landfill.

Dodge – Better ways to recycle and reuse C & D debris and find end markets for the materials instead of the landfill.

Olmsted – organic processing options, Control costs thru economy of scale, explore landfill alternatives.

Rice – onsite treatment of leachate changes, demo landfill rule changes, problem materials and organics

Blue Earth – organics, market development, Reduce/Reuse

Mower – Composting and good education

There was discussion on:

- dumping in ditches and needing reasonable prices. Government subsidies would be needed to keep costs down and items out of the ditches.
- Ben stated that organics would need to combine efforts because 1 county would not be able to sustain a facility with volume.
- Everything has to be easy/convenient or people will not do it.
- More product stewardship is needed.

Joint Powers Board involvement –

Jeff Schneider said we need to utilize the JPB to do more in legislation.

Commissioners stated that they would like to have staff report back to the board.

SEMREX would like to see more involvement by elected officials – if they are able to attend more meetings. Mike Lee and Mark Thein said they would be willing to come to more meetings.

Ben, MPCA, stated that we need to have the focus areas set so that it is ready to go when they are setting up future grants.

MPCA Update: Ben Crowell

Greater MN Grants have been reviewed and the recipients will be revealed sometime this month.

County Updates:

Mower County – Had an E-waste collection and filled 6-7 semis. They used Retrofit.

Steele – Katie looking for direction as a new person to this position.

City of Red Wing – turmoil with elected officials resigning. They have a 4 member council with special elections coming in August. Had a facility fire on June 7, 2017 so going out for bid on the building. They also want to get designation passed.

Olmsted – John Helmers is retiring and he will be running for county board.

Dodge- Self Serve Waste Depot will be ready soon.

Rice – 1 staff member to replace. Will be building a new Transfer Station and Recycling Center. They will easily be able to add onto the new building when needed.

Next Meeting is set for Friday December 7, 2018 at the Dodge County Government Services Building.

Mike Ankeny motioned and Mike Lee 2nd.

Adjourned meeting at 11:16 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Rita Cole

Dodge County Environmental Services

Member Updates: December 2018

Blue Earth County

With the retirement of Jean Lundquist in June, after 24 years of serving as recycling coordinator, we have been in a transition. We took some time to evaluate the job duties on staff. In late August, Molly Kjellesvig joined our staff as our new recycling specialist. Molly has been doing a great job, bringing a lot of energy and ideas to the department, and is working hard at learning her new role.

In addition to staff changes, the department has been working on a few ideas for expanding program availability, including expanding HHW availability in the off-season, assisting VSQG participants with disposal costs, expanding e-waste collection, and options for making the document destruction/shredding/recycling program more permanently available.

At the Ponderosa Landfill, we completed a three-month Demonstration Research Project to evaluate evaporation as a possibility for leachate management. We are also working at adding spray-on cover systems to our Alternative Daily Cover options and continue to work with the MPCA to work toward approval of a leachate recirculation system.

Our household hazardous waste season concluded at the end of October. We do not have final numbers yet, but it is possible overall participation may be slightly down this year due to the cold snowy weather during the first part of the season this past spring, but material quantities do not appear to be affected.

The recycling center continues to operate through a contract with Waste Management. Staff are working with Waste Management to increase public awareness of contamination in recycling problems and working jointly on education efforts. With the retirement of Jean Lundquist in June, after 24 years of serving as recycling coordinator, we have been in a transition, and took some time to evaluate the job duties on staff. In late August, Molly Kjellesvig joined our staff as our new recycling specialist. Molly has been doing a great job, bringing a lot of energy and ideas to the department, and is working hard at learning her new role.

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Dave Kronlokken
Blue Earth County

Dodge County

Self-Serve Waste Depot is up and running. Customers subscribed = 50 and growing.

Our cost to process single-stream recyclables at Allied Materials Recovery Facility is increasing. They are also paying closer attention to quality of materials delivered.

MPCA is reviewing relative environmental risks of each unlined landfill in the state including Dodge County Demolition Debris Landfill.

Rita Cole
Dodge County

Freeborn County

Freeborn County held 15 mobile HHW collections in 2018. Five in the City of Albert Lea and 10 within rural cities. HHW Items are collected at no charge to Freeborn County residents. Still have storage issues with no home (we need a small building to keep lab pack barrel of base and extra carts)

Freeborn County held 2 E-Waste collection events in 2018. May 18th and Sep 21st. Events are held at the Freeborn County Fairgrounds. Items are collected with dollars collected going to TRC (The Retrofit Company)

An average of 228 tons/month in 2018 thus far down from 230 tons/month of recyclables in 2017. Commodity average price down to \$75.01 from \$92.69 in 2017.

Mark Goskeson
Freeborn County

Mower County

We continue to run our Recycling Center in Austin. Next year will mark our 30th year in operation. We still contract for the collection of recycling and the processing of material at the facility. Our contractors pick up recycling each week for residents in Austin and 5 of the other larger communities in the County. We also contract for the collection of the rural drop off containers located in most of the small communities. We also have a business collection route in Austin where we have about 115 businesses that we serve on a weekly collection basis. Our recent addition to our facility has been a huge success and the public has responded by using the new area for drop-off nearly constantly.

We started taking all 1-7 plastic containers in 2016. This has increased the amount of plastics sent to market by more than 25%. We are not receiving as much money per ton but this has

made the processing of plastics much more efficient at the facility and is saving us hundreds of hours per year in processing. Glass still remains a difficult material to market. Now that Envirolastech has closed due to bankruptcy we have had to ship the colored glass up to the twin cities area to a market. The increased shipping costs and loss of marketing revenue makes it a negative revenue material.

Mower County has recently adopted the new Solid Waste Ordinance and we are still trying to get all of the changes to our operating procedures to meet the new rules set forth in the ordinance. One of the biggest changes will be our new procedures for the garbage hauling licenses. The haulers will now need to provide information to us regarding collection tonnages as well as vehicle information and will report all previous years' amounts to us when renewing their permits. We are also trying to bring all privately-run facilities into compliance with the new rules and regulations.

Our Household Hazardous Waste Facility is starting to slow down for the winter. We are open all year long but during the winter the number of customers has always been lower. This year the number of customers is down about 10% but the amount of HHW brought in is about 10% higher, looks to be about 22 tons of HHW. We will once again have HHW collections in two of the smaller communities for 2019; they will be in Grand Meadow and Adams. These collections will be open from 11-2 PM. Freeborn County brings their HHW trailer over to these collections for us and their staff helps with the collections

Jeff Weaver
Mower County.

Olmsted County

The Waste-to-Energy facility will burn about 118,000 tons in 2018. This includes 3,700 tons of MSW delivered from mining our landfill, 2,000 tons of burnable bulky wastes (non-processibles and clean demo) that we also grind up at our landfill site and 5,000 tons of Industrial Solid Waste. This is the first year that the OWEF is at capacity since the 3rd Unit was added in 2010.

The Recycling Center Plus facility will recycle about 2,200 tons material in 2018. Financially, the recycling market prices started ok this year, but have been lower in the second half. We budgeted for this and will realize about \$380,000 in recycling revenue, which is \$20,000 above budget this year. This facility also will manage about 5,600 tons/year of self-hauled garbage and a variety of special wastes, all on a fee-for-service. Revenues from these services will total about \$1,350,000, which is about \$160,000 above budget for the year.

In 2019, we may again see Product Stewardship (PS) legislation proposals for certain materials, most likely pharmaceutical's. There may not be support from Solid Waste Administrators on new PS efforts because of the long-standing problems still being experienced in the Electronics PS program.

The Hazardous Waste program in our region (Goodhue, Wabasha, Dodge and Goodhue) is expected to have HHW participation of about 11,750 households dropping off waste in 2018. Another 7,000 customers will drop off special wastes only. Total waste managed will be about 263 tons for the year. Our HHW mobile system completed 21 one-day collections this year in small towns throughout our region. Our VSQG program continues to serve 60-100 businesses per year.

The Paint Product Stewardship program revenues are expected to realize about \$100,000 in revenue for 2017. Lithium Polymer (LiPo) battery management continues to be a waste management concern, although increased education and special shipping containers have been implemented for these batteries. The problem is that they can catch on fire easily and burn very hot (2,000+ degrees) and so are of great concern for solid waste systems. There have been a couple of fires associated with transportation vehicles and recycling facilities. These batteries are also suspected to be a problem with landfill fires.

We continue to extract ferrous metals out of our Waste-to-Energy ash through our mining process and will realize revenues of \$400,000 for 2018, which is an amazing \$215,000 above our budgeted amount of \$185,000. Ferrous market prices have significantly increased with the import tariffs that were implemented this year. We continue to explore the mining of non-ferrous metals out of the ash. We are planning on issuing a RFP to determine feasibility late in 2018. The bulky waste shredding/landfill MSW mining project is provided about 5,700 tons/year of fuel to utilize excess capacity at the Waste-to-Energy Facility, along with saving landfill space. The MSW mining project has now ended as we have mined all the useful MSW out of the landfill.

Our Compost facility expanded the facility footprint upgrade has provided some improvement for our customers. We have a separate entrance and exit, which provides for much better traffic flow and an area off the main street for customers waiting their turn to drop off leaves and grass. The expected revenue from donations however is going to be less than half of what was expected.

Scott Martin
Olmsted County

City of Red Wing

The City of Red Wing is currently accepting bids for its building replacement and equipment upgrades. These bids will be opened on November 27 for submittal to the City Council on December 10, 2018. If approved the City will be starting construction at the earliest possible time in order to meet a completion date of October of 2019. The modifications to the City's existing operations will significantly increase the City's waste processing capacity and enhance the City's operations efficiency and effectiveness at recovering commodities from the waste stream. The total cost of this project will be in excess of \$10,000,000 and will be funded

through a combination of grant money from Xcel Energy, State appropriations and revenue bonding.

As of January 1, 2019, the City will be accepting waste from the City of Hastings from their contracted waste hauler Tennis Sanitation. The City estimates an additional 450-500 tons per month will be delivered to the City's Waste Campus.

The City of Red Wing also received over \$300,000 in grant funding from the MPCA and Recycling Partnership for the implementation of single sort recycling. The City will be implementing single sort recycling collection in July of 2019 and the grant funding will go towards the purchase of new recycling cans, a new autoloading truck and chip readers.

Jeff Schneider
City of Red Wing

Rice County

The Rice County Landfill, Recycling Center, and Household Hazardous Waste Facilities have been busy since the last time we met.

We have been busy this second half of the year at the Landfill. Luckily this year we do not have any construction projects going on at the landfill side. In September Rice County was hit by a major storm, which caused significant damage throughout the County. Since then we have been dealing with an increase in storm damage material and a large increase in down trees and brush. We are expecting that this brush and tree debris will continue into next year and throughout 2019 summer and fall. The damage from the storm caused major tree damage and blowdown and what we are seeing is just beginning of what will be coming in.

Construction of the new "Recycling Transfer Building" continues. We hope to see it operational in the near future. In the meantime, we continue to utilize the old tipping floor for load-out of the mixed single sort recycling.

This fall we replaced the Recycling Center's loader. We now have a CAT 926M frontend loader and it is working out wonderfully. This loader is bigger than our old one, which was a Volvo L45.

Mixed Recycling volumes have remained about the same as last year's volumes. We expect to see an increase in volume now that Thanksgiving is past, and it should continue until around January 15th or so. This is a trend we have seen for the last few years and is what the Recycling industry call "The Amazon Effect." Special recycling items (tires, electronics, mattresses, and appliances) are all coming in at very good rates.

Household Hazardous Waste continues with participation numbers down slightly from last year. The PaintCare program continues along with no big issues on our end. Reuse program

continues to be a very popular program. The amount of waste placed for reuse is about the same as past years, but it does not stay on the shelves for too long any more.

Paul Pieper
Rice County

Steele County

Renewing solid waste hauler licenses. Learning the process and gathering haulers information and awarding their licenses. This year we are looking at renewing 11 licenses and adding an additional hauler for 2019. Updating the annual residential recycling brochure and enjoyed attending my first SWAA Conference this year!

Katie Barden
Steele County

Waseca County

The board approved the change in the debris removal services for our County. The agreement between Waste Management & Waseca County for refuse removal expires in December 2018. In September a local solid waste hauler approached my office with a proposal for hauling our materials. I did a comparison and presented the results to my board of commissioners for the final decision. Because of multiple issues with Waste Management and both being very competitive in pricing, Waseca County approved entering into a one (1) year agreement with Thompson Sanitation to haul our materials.

Ordered our next new skid loader for our tipping floor area, this model will have a grapple attachment in addition to the bucket and forks.

Performing maintenance on/in our brush area due to the September storms, and actually increased the capacity of this area for growth and safety.

Hazardous waste portion of the facility is closed for the season. Ivagene reports numbers were slightly down from 2017. Still the season seemed very busy and the amount of materials brought in seemed great.

Our County is exploring the solar power project presented to us by Nokomis Partners. Currently in the stage of going over the agreement and having the County Attorney and Nokomis representatives agree on the language and conditions of such an agreement.

Georgette Hanson
Waseca County