



## **SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS' EXCHANGE**

Cooperative marketing \* market development \* materials exchange

507-328-7022

### **SEMREX Technical Committee Meeting**

**Friday, January 22, 2016**





10:00 a.m.

Freeborn Room on Main Level

Freeborn County Government Center

Albert Lea, MN

### **AGENDA**

-  10:00 Call Meeting to Order & Approve Minutes
  
-  10:05 Director's Update – Schriever
  
-  10:20 SEMREX Direction Discussion – All  
- Aluminum Foil
  
-  10:40 MPCA Update
  
-  10:55 County Updates –All
  
-  12:00 Adjourn

If you cannot attend, please contact Sharon

SEMREX Technical Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Waseca County – County Hwy Shop

Members present: Jean Lundquist, Blue Earth County; Georgette Hanson, Waseca County; Jeff Weaver, Mower County, Terry Selthun, Dodge County; Jeff Schneider, City of Red Wing; Sharon Schriever, Olmsted County; Paul Pieper, Rice County; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn/Steele County.

Call Meeting to order & approve minutes: Chair Terry Selthun called meeting to order at 10:05am. Minutes from the October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting were approved as written. Motion by Jean Lundquist, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Weaver, motion carried.

Director's Update: Sharon distributed the November update and discussed the trends. Not much good news on the recycling front. Doesn't look good anytime soon, most likely no good news until maybe first quarter of 2016, we hope. Tonnage a bit better than last year. Massachusetts working on bringing the bottle bill into play, expected to save the beverage industry \$74 million but the cost will be around \$435 million, so, do the math! Working on agenda for JPB, speakers to be, Mark Gamm, Wayne Gjerde and Ben Conwell. Sharon then shared the budget, she had no good news there either. Just getting by as of now there will be further income and payment updated recorded for the Joint Powers Board meeting. Getting close to having to use reserves, but will have to see. Also did a 3 year Professional Services contract and 2-year Fiscal Agent Agreement, this is a good deal for both SEMREX and Olmsted County.

Updates:

Mark Goskeson Steele/Freeborn County. Freeborn County: Recycling in the City is up but down a bit in rural areas. So far no complaints on garbage in with the single sort. Working on organics in the area. They are starting in the Albert Lea area with the schools and restaurants. Waste Management will be doing that. Looking at a machine that will separate organics from trash. Steele County: Was hopeful that recycling would be up about 14% after going to single sort, but are not at that level yet.

Jeff Weaver, Mower County: Composting program with Freeborn County. The single sort idea died in Mower County. One issue was brought up, a dual sort. This would involve a container with a divider for recycling. Doing some research on this. Hormel wants more info on it, cost effective, no. The hazardous season has been crazy busy.

Terry Selthun, Dodge County: 5 weeks to retirement. New skid loader. Got a grant for a self-service trash system. Public will prepay and access trash disposal with a fob. This will save overtime cost to County especially on Saturdays. Now deciding where to put it. Putting in new software program at the scale house, Waste Works doing project. Putting in December and hope to be live by January. A new manager is starting in December. Paint care starting in January as well. December 31<sup>st</sup> will be Terry's last day, his retirement party will be December 30<sup>th</sup>, flyers will be coming out.

Georgette Hanson, Waseca County: Not much new, have been in communication with City of New Richland regarding the recycling program. City of New Richland is thinking about just having a container by the City Hall and having Thompson pick up the recycling and taking it to his single sort source. Just cautioned City to make sure the small hauler has an outlet for the materials and they are not being landfilled. Hazardous facility closed for the season and all is hauled to Rice County for transport.

Paul Pieper, Rice County: Starting mattress recycling on the 30<sup>th</sup>, materials going to 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance. Cardboard is down, household hazardous has been very busy. Got first payment for paint care. Still dealing with staffing problems.

Jean Lundquist, Blue Earth County: Jean brought a sample of a new water container, it is called water in a box. Holiday will soon have these available in their stations. At the RAM meeting, boat wrap and ag bags were discussed as full circle.

Jeff Schneider, City of Red Wing: City of Red Wing working with Lab USA to take metals out of ash. So far looks good, Excel, City of Red Wing and Lab USA will work together. 10 year program for equipment, deciding on location. Hoping for \$150,000 per year in revenue from this program. Pretty sure this will go thru. Single sort tweaking in process. Raising tip fee Jan 1<sup>st</sup>.

January meeting to be in Freeborn County, date coming later.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Georgette Hanson