



SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS' EXCHANGE

Cooperative marketing * market development * materials exchange

507-328-7022

SEMREX Technical Committee Meeting

Friday, October 28, 2016


10:00 a.m.

Olmsted County Environmental Resources

Public Works Conference Room

2122 Campus Drive SE, Rochester, MN

AGENDA

-  10:00 Call Meeting to Order & Approve Minutes
-  10:05 Director's Update – Sharon Schriever
-  10:15 RAM Conference Review – Those that attended
-  10:30 SEMREX Re-imagined Update/Review
-  10:45 MPCA Update
-  11:00 Member Updates – All
-  12:00 Adjourn

If you cannot attend, please contact Sharon

SEMREX Tech Committee Meeting
Olmsted County
October 28, 2016

Present: Jeff Weaver, Mower County; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn County; Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Rita Cole, Dodge County; Georgette Hanson, Waseca County; Jean Lundquist, Blue Earth County; Terri Heim, SEMREX.

Via Teleconference at 10:20 a.m.: Jeff Schneider, City of Red Wing

Not Present: Paul Pieper, Rice County; Georgette Hanson, Waseca County;

Call Meeting to Order & Approve Minutes:

Scott Martin called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Motion to approve minutes by Jeff Weaver and 2nd by Mark. Motion passed.

Director's Update:

Sharon distributed the newsletter. Revenue is up. Currently at \$92/ton average. Tons are about the same as last year. The State Auditor is conducting the audit of 2015.

SEMREX Reimagined:

By round table discussion, approval noted from the counties of Freeborn, Dodge, Blue Earth, Olmsted, and the City of Red Wing. There was discussion on other potential partners. Continuing with the SE MN trend seemed unanimous. The Counties of Winona, Fillmore, and Houston will be contacted to see if they would be interested in working together to see if they would be interested exploring opportunities to work together potentially with joint planning, electronics collection or other avenues. Jean added that there is a big push towards organics recycling. Jean will contact Ann from Winona County, Jeff Schneider will contact the counties of Houston and Steele, and Mark will call John at Fillmore County. Jeff Schneider thought there should be a plan before speaking with the counties. He also stated that he would like the director to have the power to spend money without gaining legal approval.

The subcommittee will work on a plan. Sharon will set up a meeting.

RAM Conference:

Sharon spoke on the DEMCON tour. DEMCON is big on education; MRFs each have their own set of recycling rules, which complicates the message. Sharon also reported on the Communicate in Plain Language session.

Mark spoke about Walmart's stated success in limiting their waste production by unloading pallets and sending the packaging back on the truck. Discussion was had that this may be misconstrued as wasted reduction because we don't have a report of where the returned packaging really ends up.

Rita spoke about Ag Bag and plastic film recycling and the challenges of organics. Mankato, MN has had some success with an organics plan. Jeff Schneider ended teleconference.

MPCA Update:

MPCA did not have a member at this meeting, and no written update was received.

Joint Powers Board Agenda

Dodge County will host on December 2, 2016

Call to Order

Approve Minutes

Member Updates

Set Budget

SEMREX Reimagined Update/Discussion

MPCA Legislative Update

Agenda Approved by Jeff Weaver, Second by Jean. Motion carried.

Reminder: Member Updates are due by November 15th, 2016

County Updates:

Blue Earth County- Jean reported that they will be having a shredding event on November 5th. The event will be free to persons from Blue Earth County. Residents of other counties can participate with a \$10 fee. Riverview Sanitation is providing services for \$80 per hour.

Freeborn County –

Mark reported that there were 272 homes damaged in the recent flooding. 86 persons brought items to the facility. The flood created an additional 83 tons of MSW. They processed 83 electronic devices.

Mower County –

Jeff reported that they are close to wrapping up a \$300,000 construction project. The project will increase heating efficiency because the 16 x 16 foot door will not have to be opening as much. It also makes private resident drop-off more convenient.

Dodge County –

Rita reported the Dodge County recently hosted the CCISRR meeting. There were 5 PCA representatives and 4 County representatives. They did a tour of the facility. They are planning to do a Top 10 in the Bin flier to go out to the public. Sandy is retiring in January. Rita's will assume her duties.

Olmsted County –

Scott reported that he is struggling with a tight revenue budget. The County is in need of a new skid loader and he hopes it will be able to stay in the budget. Scott also discussed that the City of Rochester is discussing going to organized hauling schedules. This would impact the recycling facility. Scott is also in the midst of planning the design of a new stand-alone recycling facility. Mark had some good ideas for the project.

Set Next Meeting: Technical Committee Meeting was tentatively set for November 18th, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 11:57am

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

Terri Heim

Scott Martin, Chair