



Agenda

Southeast Minnesota Recyclers' Exchange Technical Committee Meeting

Date: Friday, April 30, 2021

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: TEAMS: [Click here to join the meeting](#) | Or call in (audio only) | +1 507-328-7930,,507237514# United States, Mankato | Phone Conference ID: 507 237 514#

Chairperson: Molly Kjellesvig

Note Keeper: To be determined

Time	Information Items	Presenter
10:00	1. Call Technical Committee Meeting to Order & Approve Minutes	Molly Kjellsevig
10:05	2. Marketing Update	Sharon Schriever
10:10	3. Director's Update	Sharon Schriever
10:15	4. SEMREX Website Improvement Discussion	All
10:25	5. Your Outreach/Education Efforts (Waste Wizard etc.)	All
10:45	6. Regional Planning Grant Update	Sharon Schriever
10:55	7. MPCA Updates	Ben Crowell
11:05	8. Member Updates	All
11:45	9. Set Next Meeting	All
11:50	10. Adjourn	

Notes:

If you cannot attend, please contact Sharon.

SEMREX Technical Committee Meeting

Friday, March 26, 2021

Freeborn County

Present Members: Tammie Bramer, Waseca County; Rita Cole, Dodge County; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn County; Scott Martin, Olmsted County; Jeff Weaver, Mower County; Marcus Thompson, Mower County; Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Teri Heim, Olmsted County; Molly Kjellesvig, Blue Earth County; Paul Pieper, Rice County; Ben Crowell, MPCA; Katie Barden, Steele County.

Molly Kjellesvig called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. Jeff made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 26th, 2021 meeting as written. There was no discussion or corrections. Katie, seconded. Motion carried,

Directors Updates: This month's update is dedicated to Jeff Weaver the last of the founding SEMREX members – Congratulations Jeff! Happy Retirement! OCC prices continue to slowly climb, hitting the \$100/ton mark. The last time OCC was at consistent \$100 was in 2017. Overall prices are doing well. Comparing February 2020 to this year's numbers, revenues are up by 60% for approximately the same number of tons.

There is some positive news about the shuttered Duluth Verso paper mill being purchased by ST Paper. This would open another market for recycled paper. SWANA has a new report out on how to decrease contamination in recycling.

MPCA: Working on the 2019 SCORE report to roll-out publicly in the upcoming weeks. SCORE report for 2022 will have some additional questions regarding information based on source reductions and reuse sourcing in order to measure greenhouse gasses.

Member Updates:

Mower: Both Jeff and Marcus are working on the SCORE report. Jeff has five weeks left to work and transition Marcus into his new role before Jeff retires.

Steele: Finished the SCORE report last week. Updated the survey mailing list this year. The landfill has started the mattress collecting services with Seven Rivers. HHW is gearing up to open in May.

Freeborn: Purchased a new building for the County Environmental Services, Recycling & Household Hazardous Waste. Preparations are coming along; the office space will hold six county environmental services employees. The shop space has some revamping to do to accommodate the new recycling and HHW needs. Mark finished the HHW Waste report and is currently working on the SCORE report.

Blue Earth: HHW site opening April 6th, hiring some more help at the regional facility. Molly updated the mailing list for the SCORE survey. Mailed 300 surveys and received about 40 back. Still in negotiations with Waste Management. Molly is doing "Trash Tip Tuesdays" on social media platforms. Educational material provided by the Recycling Education Committee and The Recycling Partnership.

Dodge: County landfill closing 2022. New garbage bags were ordered, they are smaller in size, the fee per page will remain the same with a new logo printed on the bags for easy identification. Rita completed the SCORE report. Working on a new air exchange unit. Looking for seasonal help at the

scale house and one additional for garbage management. Seasonal help would make \$15 per hour. Dodge County raised the mattress fee to \$30.

Waseca: HHW opening in May. Three employees took the HHW training. Still figuring out the new bailer. This is the first time the HHW will be open since the fire.

Rice: Still limiting the amount of people at the facility due to COVID-19. People need to prepay & make appointments prior to coming to the landfill. Looking at purchasing a new John Deer loader in August this year. Increased mattress and box spring fee to \$25.

Olmsted: Recycling is doing well. In the process of hiring seasonal help. The position was offered to four candidates, all declined the position. The City of Rochester is still looking into organized collection.

Meeting adjourned at 11:57pm, motioned by Rita and seconded by Tammie. Motion carried.

Next Meeting on April 30, 2021.

Respectfully submitted by

Katie Barden
Steele County