



THE SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS' EXCHANGE

Cooperative marketing * market development * materials exchange

SEMREX JOINT POWERS BOARD (JPB) MEETING

Friday, December 2, 2016

Board Room/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 & Introductions
- 9:35 Approve June 3, 2016 Minutes
- 9:40 Director's Update – Sharon Schriever, SEMREX
- Marketing Report
- 9:50 SEMREX Reimagined Update
- Proposal and Discussion – All
- 10:15 2016 Budget Review & Approve 2017 Budget
- 10:30 MPCA/Legislative Update – MPCA Staff
- 10:45 Member Update Report Questions/Discussion – All
- 11:00 Set Next Meeting
- 11:05 Adjourn

If you cannot attend or cannot get an alternate, please notify Sharon Schriever at (507) 328-7022 or by e-mail at schriever.sharon@co.olmsted.mn.us.

**SEMREX Joint Powers Board Meeting
Dodge County Government Services Building
June 3, 2016 - 9:30 a.m.**

Present: Jake Gillen, Rice County Commissioner; Anna Kerr, MPCA; Ben Crull, MPCA; Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Jeff Weaver, Mower County; Jerry Reinartz, Mower County Commissioner; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn County; Mike Lee, Freeborn County Commissioner; Rita Cole, Dodge County; Tim Tjosaas, Dodge County; Georgette Hanson, Waseca County; Ken Brown, Olmsted County Commissioner; Scott Martin, Olmsted County; John Glynn, Steele County Commissioner; Jeff Schneider, City of Red Wing; Peggy Rehder Red Wing City Council; Jean Lundquist, Blue Earth County; Mark Piepho, Blue Earth County Commissioner .

Call Meeting to Order & Approve Minutes: Jake Gillen, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Sharon Schriever stated that we should add the listing of people in attendance at the December Joint Powers Board meeting to the minutes.

Motion to approve minutes, with the correction, by Ken Brown and 2nd by John Glynn. Motion passed.

Director's Update:

Upward trend for commodities, especially for cardboard.

Budget Discussion: Show a loss of over \$7,000 in 2015 but tracking on budget for 2016.

Future of SEMREX: Discussion

- Looking at creating a subcommittee to consider our options
- Changes in markets such as lighter plastics, less paper and facilities/counties going to single stream is part of the reasoning for discussion.
- Jeff Schneider stated that SEMREX still has potential. Whether it be collecting electronics, providing information to public on where to take items, maintaining an active inventory of recycling on hand for the marketing counties could help with getting a better prices. Going direct to the refineries, smelters etc.
- Mark Goskeson mentioned help with public recycling, away-from home recycling, and potentially looking at more permanent solutions for containers.
- Scott Martin explained we are looking for a blessing from the Joint Powers Board to create this subcommittee and explore the options and bring ideas back to the Board.

MPCA Update: Anna Kerr

Recycling Grants: Just finished reviewing the projects to be disbursed on June 30, 2016. Mentioned there will be another round of \$1 million with max per project of \$250,000. Looking at imposing a minimum amount for the grants on the next round that will hopefully be launched before the end of the year. These grants can be used to build or start a new program, expand a program, transition from source separation to

single stream recycling, equipment for a sustainable program and all will need an education piece with them.

SEMREX will need approval from the JPB to apply. Anna mentioned that recommendation letters from county board members is important and helpful for this process. There is a 25% match and it is critical that budgets are clear and accurate. Discussed Sharps collection, disposal, and education on where they can be taken. Legends Pharmaceutical Bill was also discussed for medications.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

- E-waste product stewardship bill moved through and the Governor has signed it. Anna will get us the factsheet on it.
- Organized collection legislation died.
- SCORE: Passed that there will be an additional \$500,000 funding for this year only.
- Jeff Schneider would like support from the PCA and legislators on Metal Recovery from landfill ash for beneficial use. Also mentioned Restriction on Disposal which they are the only ones that deal with that because of Metro trash.
- Freezer boxes are no longer feasible to go into composting – there is a plastic that does not decompose. Starbucks coffee cups are included in this.
- Bottle Bill – not being pursued.

Anna reminded everyone to get a list of haulers to Peter Sandhei for SCORE.

County Updates:

Scott Martin stated Olmsted had an OSHA consult and a big item was spark-proof tools for areas around flammables.

Blue Earth County – An open house is scheduled for June 14th for their new facility.

Dodge discussed their proposed Solid Waste Ordinance #1.

Mark Goskeson – mentioned the burn barrel education he is handing out when he goes to visit farms for septic compliance in Freeborn County.

The next meeting is set for Friday December 2, 2016 at the Dodge County Government Services Building.

John Glynn motioned to adjourn, and Mike Lee 2nd. Vote: Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Member Updates

December 2016

Blue Earth County

- Offered a free document shredding event for County residents recently. We encouraged people to bring documents and materials they had shredded at home.

In a recycling sorting facility, shredded paper flies and contaminates other materials, plus it clogs some equipment. Yet most documents that need shredding are high quality paper that mills want. We had a shredding truck park at the recycling center on a Saturday morning, where they did the shredding right on the spot. From there, the shreds were taken back to the company's facility, baled, and shipped directly to a mill, bypassing the sorting facility. We collected 2,120 pounds. We limited everyone to two banker's boxes each. Non-county residents could shred at the event for a flat fee of \$10. The few who came, left without shredding anything.

- New customer service building at the Ponderosa Landfill is being very well received. Haulers and individuals both appreciate not having to look out for each other on the working face.
- Construction on two new cells started this fall, and will be completed next year.

Jean Lundquist
Blue Earth County

Dodge County

- Installing Final Cover on 2-acres of Demolition Landfill and opening new cell.
- 2017 preliminary budget for Recycling Center calls for a Service Charge increase from \$24 to \$26 per household per year (last increase was in 2013).
- State Grant received for the construction of a Self-Serve Waste Depot with scheduled completion at the end of 2017.

Mark Gamm
Dodge County

Freeborn County

- Held 15 mobile HHW collections in 2016.
5 in the City of Albert Lea and 10 within rural cities from April 27th thru September 15th 5,935.50# 12,799.50# paint 18,735 total pounds. Items are collected at no charge to Freeborn County residents
- Receiving estimates for a permanent HHW facility to be presented to the Board
- Held 2 E-Waste collection events in 2016
May 27th (53,346#) and September 23rd (23,882# for a total of 77,228#).
Events are held at the Freeborn County Fairgrounds= TRC. Flooding of 270 homes caused an additional volume after the collections. 200+ units
- Will look into at least 1 weekend collection in 2017
- Will pilot small electronic collection at City offices from Nov. 15th thru Dec.
- Flooding in our area created an estimated 90 tons of additional waste
- Will be sending out solid waste permit renewals
- Recycling tons held from 2015, up just 3 tons/month. Average 226 tons/mo.
- Commodity price up from \$48 to \$93/ton
- Getting back to the basics in an effort to collect all plastic, cans and glass beverage containers through public recycling in our community with help from a MPCA grant.
 - Use of Standardized logos (RAM)
 - Convenience and commitment are required for maximum recycling collections
 - 2 Public (City Aquatic Center and City Arena) units to collect recyclable organics and trash
 - Large and Small event recycling

Mark Goskeson
Freeborn County

Mower County

- Our recycling tonnage has been relatively stable the last couple years.

- We have now accepted the plastic containers marked 1-7 for nearly 3 months and have seen an increase of about 15% in the amount of plastics shipped to the market.
- We have also been collecting recyclables weekly since September 1. We have been hearing a lot of compliments on how easy it is to remember to put the recyclables out on the curb with the weekly collection.
- We are finished with our new addition at the Recycling Center; it was scheduled to be complete by October 31, finished about one week late. The addition will be used by the contractors to more easily empty their vehicles. The construction also included a new drop off area for the public. Now all recyclable materials are enclosed/covered within the facility.
- Our Household Hazardous Waste Facility has been quite busy so far this year. Our facility is open year round on Wednesdays. We generally have approximately 1,000 customers and generate about 25 tons of HHW.

Jeff Weaver
Mower County

Olmsted County

- The Waste-to-Energy facility will burn about 106,000 tons in 2016. This includes 3,100 tons of MSW delivered from mining our landfill, 5,200 tons of burnable bulky wastes (non-processibles and clean Demo) that we also grind up at our landfill site and 1,500 tons of Industrial Solid Waste. This still leaves us at about 18,000 tons per year excess capacity. We are actively researching certain waste streams to fill this excess capacity.
- The Recycling Center Plus facility will recycle about 2,200 tons material in 2016. Financially, the recycling market prices have remained low this year. E-waste and appliances are also included in our recycling stream. We will realize about \$350,000 in recycling revenue, which is the same amount as budgeted this year. This facility also will manage about 5,200 tons/year of self-hauled garbage and a variety of special wastes, all on a fee-for-service. Revenues from these services will increase about 16% from last year and total about \$1,050,000 for the year.
- There was a big change in the amount of e-waste we have collected at our facility this year. In January of this year, Best Buy stopped accepting TV's for free and started charging \$25/TV. This caused a 60% increase in the number of TV's coming to our facility. Financially, we were ok because we charge \$0.25/lb to accept them. We hoped the 2016 e-waste legislation would help cover more

of our costs, but that has not been the case so far. In 2017, we may see Product Stewardship (PS) legislation proposals for certain materials, although PS efforts have been dampened by the problems being experienced in the Electronics and Paint PS programs.

- The Hazardous Waste program in our region (Goodhue, Wabasha, Dodge and Goodhue) is expected to have about the same participation with about 11,000 households dropping off waste generating a total of 200 tons of waste. Another 2,000 customers drop off special wastes only. Our HHW mobile system completed 23 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 law that was passed in 2013 is now in its' 2nd year of reimbursement through PaintCare. The reporting forms were updated this year and we are expected to realize about \$100,000 in revenue for 2016.
- We continue to extract ferrous metals out of our Waste-to-Energy ash through our mining process and although prices are down, will realize revenues of \$180,000 for 2016, which is about 14% below our budgeted amount of \$210,000. We explored the feasibility of mining non-ferrous metals out of the ash, but determined it is not economically feasible at this time due to low commodity prices. The bulky waste shredding/landfill MSW mining project is providing about 8,300 tons/year of fuel to utilize excess capacity at the Waste-to-Energy facility, along with saving landfill space.
- We have an approved MPCA Designation Plan and this year a Designation Ordinance was completed and became effective on September 1st, 2016.

Scott Martin
Olmsted County

City of Red Wing

The City of Red Wing

- The City of Red Wing Solid Waste Division has fully embarked on a 3 phased project to revamp the former Solid Waste Boiler Operations to a Refuse Derived Fuel production facility. The 3 phases of the project are summarized below:
 - On March 14, 2016, Council approved a motion for Rachel Contracting to decontaminate and deconstruct the City's existing Solid Waste Boiler Operations consistent with the City's Air Permit. This Phase, known as "Phase 0," entails the removal and decontamination of the former Solid Waste Boiler operations and pollution control equipment. At this time Phase 0 is over

90% completed and awaiting the removal of some of the contaminated materials accumulated from the cleaning activities.

- On November 14, 2016, Council approved a Contract with ECCO Construction, LLC Contracting for Red Wing Waste Campus Phase I Improvements Including a Base Bid and (6) Alternates for a Total Cost in the Amount of \$2,136,800. This work will include Building Improvements such as fillings in “Voids” Left by Removal of Boiler Equipment, Brings the Floor Level & Sets Stage for Process Improvements and Makes Necessary Changes to Building Infrastructure and Exterior. These Phase I Building Improvements also include identified items such as roof replacement, side panel replacement, internal infrastructure repair, leveling concrete floors and installing new building ventilation. These internal and external building repairs were to occur after the decontamination and decommissioning of the solid waste boiler infrastructure but prior to major processing upgrades.
- The final phase of the project will be known as “Phase 2” of this project and will entail the development of a permanent Refuse Derived Fuel production facility that would significantly enhance existing operations. Phase 2 of this project aligns with the notification from the Xcel Renewable Energy Development Fund that the City has been selected to receive a grant of \$2,000,000 to be used for the cost of these upgrades. Staff has been working with RRT Design & Construction in the development of a conceptual design to incorporate necessary upgrades to the MSW processing operations.
- In total the project cost is estimated at approximately \$8,000,000 and will significantly enhance the City’s ability to process waste into Refuse Derived Fuel and recover recyclable materials from the waste stream to reduce the need for and the reliance on landfilling waste generated in the region.
- The project will likely be completed by midway through 2018.
- The City is currently working in cooperation with Goodhue County to secure designation of waste generated within the County to the City’s Waste Campus and the placement of the County landfill into the State’s Closed Landfill Program by January 1, 2019.

Jeff Schneider
City of Red Wing

Rice County

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

- Has been a busy and wet second half of the year for the Landfill. Fortunately, we have been able to keep up on the water and leachate and seem to be in good shape for the winter.
- In September, Gaylen Wright, our Landfill Supervisor, retired with 30 plus years of county service. Fortunately for us, we have already hired a new Supervisor.
- Chuck (Glen) Morris is now our new Landfill Supervisor. He has worked for the department for almost 20 years and has been working in the Landfill as a Heavy Equipment Operator for 17 years. Having someone with a vast experience in Landfills and knowledge of how our Landfill operates is a great benefit. Chuck's replacement has been hired and will be starting soon.
- The department hired a new Environmental Technician. Shelby Emerson comes to us from 3M and started her position out at the Landfill, Recycling Center in late July.
- There is some sad news to report from the Recycling Center this year. One of the employees, Andy Westerback, passed away in June. Andy had worked for the Department for about 15 years and in the last few years had been in declining health. He had continued to work full time up to a week before his passing. Andy will be missed by all of us at the Department.
- Recycling volumes seem to be holding steady and appears to be about the same volumes as last year. Special recycling items (tires, electronics, and appliances) are all coming in at very good rates and we are looking at getting about the same as we collected last year.
- The County hosted three separate electronics and appliance collection events in Oct. We had a total of 1,418 cars that were handled during the 3 events. This count is almost double the volume of the 2015 collection events.
- Mattress recycling is continuing with no major issues experienced as of yet. We continue to collect and ship the mattresses to Momentum Enterprises in Minneapolis.
- Household Hazardous Waste continues with participation numbers down a little from last year.
- The PaintCare program has now been running for over a year and seems to be going along fine. This fall we have seen a slight increase in volumes most likely due to the flooding in September, but it has been manageable.

Paul Pieper
Rice County

Steele County

- Still interested in partnering/position-sharing with another county for solid waste support services (recycling, waste education, etc.)
- Will be working on 2018 waste delivery contracts with haulers over the next several months.

- Need to reduce waste tonnage to landfill, as there is currently too much out-of-county waste being delivered. All options will be discussed from the current market participant model to waste designation.
- Long-term landfill (expansion/new site) options will be discussed with Co. Board along with waste delivery contract discussion. Existing site capacity is 15-18 years.
- Recycling contract expires on 10/31/17; will be discussing all options with new Co. Board in early 2017 (i.e. RFP, renegotiation, etc.)

Scott Golberg
Steele County

Waseca County

Hazardous season is over and we are almost done cleaning out, just in time for the white stuff!

- Still having staffing issues
- FEMA process started from flood disaster. We are being told we are at the 100 % reimbursement level. Had preliminary assessment done and our Solid Waste numbers are in the \$200,000.00 range just for this department.
- Doing updates on building. Garage doors are wearing out.
- Ordered two new skid loaders, they were supposed to be here in July, but our rep forgot, so they should be here in December
- Busy as usual, not seeing a big slow down just yet.
- We are being told, by our metal recycling guy, that prices are predicted to be a lot better by spring.
- Recyclables still coming in at a good pace.

Georgette Hanson
Waseca County