



## **SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS' EXCHANGE**

Cooperative marketing \* market development \* materials exchange

507-328-7022

### **SEMREX Technical Committee Meeting**

**Friday, February 24, 2017**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Freeborn County**

**411 Broadway S - Albert Lea, MN**

### AGENDA

-  10:00 Call Meeting to Order & Approve Minutes
-  10:05 Director's Update – Sharon Schriever
-  10:15 Not in the Bin Advertising - Sharon Schriever
-  10:20 Regional Planning Next Steps Discussion - All
-  10:45 MPCA Update – Ben Crowell
-  11:00 Member Updates – All
-  12:00 Adjourn

If you cannot attend, please contact Sharon

*Minutes of the SEMREX Technical Committee Meeting*

*Waseca County*

*November 18, 2016*

Present: Ben Cowell-MPCA, Mark Goskeson-Freeborn County, Georgette Hanson-Waseca County, Rita Cole-Dodge County, Jean Lundquist-Blue Earth County, Scott Martin-Olmsted County, Sharon Schriever-SEMREX, Paul Pieper-Rice County.

Meeting called to order at 9:57am. With no additions/corrections, Jean made motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rita, meeting minutes of October meeting approved and passed.

Director's Update: Sharon presented the preliminary SEMREX budget. Discussion ensued regarding making a change in auditors, looking at a private auditor vs. the State Auditor. Also discussion regarding the 2017 proposed amount for the contact 2 lobbyist. Currently have \$15,000 budgeted for 2017, at the end of the discussion, it was decided to put \$20,000 in this line item regarding the lobbyist. There was much discussion regarding resources for the funding of the lobbyist such as, sharing this individual with another county, seeing if AMC would be of assistance, look into MPCA dollars, maybe getting SWAA on board, as well as the opinions of all participating counties in the region. Ben with MPCA commented the applications are many but the dollars are limited at this time for any type of assistance. He would check into it. Regarding the bottom lines with the budget, will be adjusted as there is a deposit in process that just didn't show up at the time of print, so it will be \$24,000 to the good. Reserves are still in the \$100,000 range.

Regional Planning process, it was suggested that we have resolutions in place to get all the counties involved and partake in the whole region for SEMREX, so we could have 100% participation. Scott suggested, list counties that are on board and have a base plan. Ben says, look at the benefits of doing a Regional Solid Waste Plan, need to consider the benefits for all. At the next JPB meeting discuss who's on the team to start with. Sharon handed out reimagined proposal as an information piece. Ben says there is a plan in place with MPCA from Southwest area that would be a good template and be closely related to our issue. So, bottom line and at this time, it was decided to recommend up to \$20,000 in the budget for the lobbyist and start with SEMREX JPB to see what we can do. Sharon will be starting the preliminary steps for this process. Jake saw the agenda and approved it for JPB.

MPCA update: Ben says not much new, grants still available. No changes to the 2016 SCORE reporting. Getting reports directly from haulers and us & hope for the best! Goal for 2017 is to rely on haulers solely and the have the counties reporting on self-haulers. But for 2016 they want to compare for a couple years to arrive at some accurate figures as to MSW and final destinations. Ben will email out any legislative issues/ideas.

Mark-Freeborn County: Hazardous waste collection is done for the season, collected 18,735 lbs. Next year events will be the same, still dreaming of his permanent building! E-Waste 77,228 lbs. collected for 2016 more collections coming in 2017. Solid Waste 90,000 tons, recycling up 3 tons. Still doing public recycling and planning on more events in the future.

Georgette-Waseca County: Hazardous cleanup is almost done. Still having staffing issues. Getting into FEMA reporting paperwork from flood disaster. Doing updates on building, stuff just wearing out. Ordered 2 new skid loaders. Busy as usual not seeing a slowdown, people still cleaning up from flood and redoing the damaged areas. Recycling still at a good pace and waiting for prices to climb.

Rita-Dodge County: Open 3<sup>rd</sup> cell, covering cell 2. But the weather could be a factor there. All else going smooth, and self-haulers still going strong.

Jean –Blue Earth County: Juno is back!!!! Now Jean is limping! There was explosion near Willmarth, causing power outage today. Jobs Plus has bottle bins for sale at \$25.00 each. Jobs Plus still doing Christmas lights. Shredding event went great, 2,120 lbs. shredded.

Scott-Olmsted County: Winding down the season. Good side, revenue is good. 1.3 million dollar year. E-Waste saw a 60% increase in materials. 600,000 lbs. of E-Waste a year expected in 2017 as all is going now. Hazardous waste is busy. Recycling Center person is back to hourly and now Scott has to request overtime (OT), and will be projecting OT for 2017 also looking at adding FTE. Got new signs and has been painting.

Paul-Rice County: New Landfill supervisor was hired, Paul likes him. He seems to be getting things done. New heavy equipment operator coming on board. E-Waste collection done this fall saw the number of cars doubled, big success. 110,000 + lbs. collected to the cost of \$55,000 to \$60,000. Planning on building remodel and expansion on the recycling floor, estimated cost to be around \$1.8 to \$2 million. Hazardous waste volumes seem to be down while weight seems to be up. Still collection holiday lights. Recycling department lost a guy and not replacing him, so he is one guy short. Mattress recycling going good. Illegal dumping seems to be down.

RAM Update – Jean L: They will be doing a fund raising project. Maybe raising dues to bring dues in line for businesses and personal, this is still in the talking stage. Ag plastic still a big issue.

JPB Meeting to be in Dodge County on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016.

Set next meeting: Jan 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Rice County

Motion to adjourn made by Paul, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rita.

Meeting adjourned at 12:08pm.

Submitted by Georgette Hanson-Waseca County