



Agenda

Southeast Minnesota Recyclers' Exchange

Technical Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, November 19, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Via Teams

Chairperson: Scott Martin

Note Keeper: To be determined

Time	Information Items	Presenter
10:00	1. Call to Order & Approve Minutes	Scott Martin
10:05	2. Marketing Update	Terri Heim
10:15	3. Director's Update	Sharon Schriever
10:30	4. Recycling Market Development	Sharon Schriever
10:40	5. Joint Powers Board Update	Sharon Schriever
10:45	6. MPCA Updates	Ben Crowell
11:00	7. Member Updates	All
11:55	8. Next Meeting	
12:00	9. Adjourn	

Notes:

If you cannot attend, please contact Sharon.

SEMREX Technical Committee Meeting
Friday, October 30th, 2020
Online Via Teams

Members Present: On-line: Rita Cole, Dodge; Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn; Katie Barden, Steele; Ben Crowell, MPCA. In person at Olmsted County: Scott Martin, Olmsted; Jeff Weaver, Mower; Anthony Wittmer, Olmsted.

Call Meeting to Order & Approval of Minutes: Scott Martin called the meeting to order at 10:03 am via Teams. Minutes from September 2020 meeting were approved as written. Motion made by Jeff Weaver, 2nd by Rita Cole. Motion carried.

Re-Collect Presentation by Terri Quist Via Teams: Terri Quist from Re-Collect spoke about how to optimize the use of the Waste Wizard. Highlights included: Imbed, promote and train. Terri will send the presentation to Sharon and she will distribute to Tech Committee members.

SEMREX Update: Terri Heim reported SEMREX shipped 3,749 tons of materials through the end of September. This is down 576 tons from 2019 or 13%, but up 12% from last month! Total Marketing Fee revenue through September was \$2,503 or 11% below what it was through September 2019. Sharon reported that it appears that revenues are still in the black. We are doing better with Waseca and Red Wing back up and shipping again

Planning for JPB meeting

The group set the agenda for the Joint Powers Board agenda. The main items will include:

1. Directors Report
2. Budget Report
3. Review/Approval 2021 Budget
4. Regional Planning Update
5. MPCA/Legislative Update

Member reports should be sent to Sharon by the end of the day on November 16. Sharon will check with Red Wing to see if it is possible to do a tour of their new facility.

Regional Planning update. Sharon reported that all resolutions are signed and turned in and she has been working with Jeff Schneider and Tina Folch from Red Wing to prepare information for when the grant announcement is published.

Member Updates

Steele County—Hazardous Waste is done for the year. Waiting for MPCA approval on the landfill expansion of 2 cells. The expansion should last 10 years. Have noticed illegally dumped hazardous waste. In 2022 they won't accept out of county waste at the landfill.

Mower County—Hazardous Waste is very busy. It's believed that with COVID-19 there are more people at home cleaning. Recycling tons are down approximately 800 tons. He feels this is largely because of newspaper. With 5 months left before retirement, Mower County will be working to have a replacement hired in time to shadow Jeff for a month or so.

Freeborn County—County workers are still not back in the office yet. Mark said he goes into the office once a week to do paperwork, etc. Recycling tons are down. The numbers resemble 2015 numbers. There seems to be a lot of demo right now. They are working on an assessment for a new hazardous waste building.

Dodge County—They are working on a shelter for the scale house. Beginning to work out the specifics of mattress recycling with Olmsted County. Working on specifics of the Waste Management consolidation.

Olmsted County—The Recycling Center moved back indoors with the use of mobile financial carts. The carts have plexiglass shields. They can now use the credit card machine, which is on the opposite side of the plastic from the workers. They have a money drawer now and can make change at a distance. The Reuse Room has been moved back to its original location. Thankfully, there have been no cases of COVID reported in the department. Revenue will be down for 2020.

In order to comply with permit-by-rule laws for the Olmsted County Recycling Center staff is looking for ways to reduce tonnage of garbage going through the recycling center to the landfill. They are considering mattress recycling. Removing mattress tonnage extends would allow the facility to meet the permit-by-rule requirements. Staff toured a plant in LaCrosse. Olmsted County would need to increase fees for mattresses to recover costs. Currently a large mattress fee is \$16 and would need to be more like \$22. Box springs will continue to be crushed and burned.

MPCA Update: Because of COVID, many of the programs at the MPCA are running behind. Minnesota, as a state, has done well with recycling and now needs to increase programs of re-use and reduction. There will be a change to the SCORE report to collect more info on reuse and reduction. The key for Minnesota is to increase the use of regional planning because many counties are too small to work alone.

Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 13th.

The Joint Powers Board Meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 4th.

Meeting adjourned at 11:22 am. Motion by Rita Cole, 2nd by Katie Barden, motion carried.