



Agenda

Southeast Minnesota Recyclers' Exchange

Technical Committee Meeting

Date: August 30, 2019

Time: 10:00 a.m.

**Location: Freeborn County Courthouse – Albert Lea Room
411 Broadway South. Albert Lea, MN**

Chairperson: Scott Martin

Note Keeper: Mark Goskeson

Time	Information Items	Presenter
10:00	1. Call to Order & Approve Minutes	Sharon Schriever
10:05	2. Director's Update	Sharon Schriever
10:15	3. Budget Report	Sharon Schriever
10:25	4. Waste Wizard Logo Discussion	All
10:30	5. Statewide Recycling Campaign Calendar	Sharon Schriever
10:35	6. MPCA Update	Ben Crowell
10:45	7. Member Updates	All Staff
11:45	8. Regional Planning	All Staff
11:55	9. Next Meeting	
12:00	10. Adjourn	

Notes:

If you cannot attend, please contact Sharon.

SEMREX Meeting Minutes- Steele County Technical Committee Meeting

7/26/2019

Present: Georgette Hanson, Waseca County; Rita Cole, Dodge County; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn County; Ben Crowell, MPCA; Scott Martin, Olmsted County; Anthony Wittmer; Olmsted County, Molly Kjellesvig; Blue Earth, Paul Pieper; Rice County, Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Katie Barden, Steele County.

Scott Martin called the meeting to order at 10:02am.

Motion by Mark Goskeson, seconded by Paul Pieper to approve the minutes. Ayes all.

Directors Updates:

Pricing rumors: we may be at or near the bottom. There seems to be lots of investment in mills in the U.S. – May be rough for another year or so until that capacity comes on line.

SEMREX tons shipped the first six months of 2019 are down 840 tons or 24 percent compared to 2018. Tons shipped in June totaled 489. This is down 207 tons compared to last June. This should increase once the Waseca County and the City of Red Wing facilities are rebuilt. Total revenue was \$228,534.76 through June. This is down 42% percent compared to the same period last year.

Recycling Market Development Sub-group – Working on Mixed Paper options –

- New capacity coming on line: Waseca Brown Printing facility to process Mixed Paper – Expected to be operational 1st Quarter 2020.
- Verso in Duluth testing grease resistant compostable service-ware products made from recycled materials.
- Nine Dragons
- Utah (in 2022)
- LEI Packaging in Chisago City making egg flats from uncirculated newspaper/want to make non-PFAS compostable service-ware.
- **REC** – Meeting Next Week to – Finalize outreach materials
 - **Tool kit** – Finalizing Messaging in July/Materials available in August/ developing calendar for unified message.

MPCA Updates:

\$800,000 in grant money coming available soon. Tax Forfeited property issues. MPCA looking into solutions and seeing help from counties for assistance.

County Updates:

- **Blue Earth; Organics Facility Updates**-compost has matured, Mike Higgins stepped down, PFAS in water, no longer accepting corn syrup, facility may need a new permit, currently working though some enforcement issues, changing the acceptability listing and treating contact water.
- **Blue Earth:** Gearing up for a contamination campaign via social media for this fall. The recycling Education committee are running adds for the new Waste Wizard. Two enforcement property clean-ups are needed. Free paper shredding program, residents bring up to two banker boxes per trip for free. The program so far has had great success.
- **Waseca:** Has a new general contractor lined-up to carry out the new building project. Adding a dry storage building with loading docks. Construction should be done by snowfall this year. New equipment is coming in September. New staff member, Tammy Brammer, is a real go getter and an excellent addition to the team.
- **Dodge:** Dealing with flooding and hail damage. City is picking up flood debris. Lots and lots of demo. County staff going out and assessing flood damage including septic, wells, house and solid waste.
- **Rice:** Started cell construction, receiving a new pallet jack for the HHW site. Still working on the construction of the transfer station, should be done soon. County fair Dick's Sanitation was there with the Education Truck, that went over well. Dealing with lots of rain water at the landfill and finished the Waste Wizard listing.
- **Freeborn:** Intern working on the Waste Wizard listing. Fair next week, no HHW trailer. Looking for a new location for HHW, city has a lot of building requirements for the new site including a fire system/sprinklers. Hosted an E-Waste Drive with two volunteers and 106 cars came though.
- **Steele:** Steele County teamed up with Community Education to take a coach bus to the cities to tour Dem-Con and the SMSC facilities on Thursday,

October 3, 2019. This will be open for the public to sign-up, the cost is \$29 per person for transportation. For those who are interested, please let me know. We are seeking 28 people to run the program. Steele county is also working with Recollect to set up an online calendar for residential curbside recycling pickups.

- **Olmsted:** Two things. City of Rochester is going to organized collection pickups. Which could hurt business for the recycling center/landfill. Survey going out to all residents. Mayo Clinic seeking waste reduction and or waste recovery.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm, motioned by Paul and seconded by Georgette.

Next meeting to be determined.