



THE SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS' EXCHANGE

*Cooperative marketing * market development * materials exchange*

SEMREX JOINT POWERS BOARD (JPB) MEETING

Friday, June 2, 2017

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 December Minutes
- 9:40 Director's Update – Sharon Schriever, SEMREX
- Marketing Report
 - 2017 Budget Update – Budget Change
- 10:00 SEMREX Future Update & Discussion
- 10:15 MPCA & Legislative Update
- 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
December 2, 2016 - 9:30 a.m.**

Present: Jake Gillen, Rice County Commissioner; Anna Kerr, MPCA; Ben Crowell, MPCA; Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Jeff Weaver, Mower County; Jerry Reinertz, Mower County Commissioner; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn County; Mike Lee, Freeborn County Commissioner; Rita Cole, Dodge County; Tim Tjosaas, Dodge County Commissioner; Ken Brown, Olmsted County Commissioner; Peggy Rehder, Red Wing City Council; Jean Lundquist, Blue Earth County; Paul Peiper, Rice County; Mark Gamm, Dodge County.

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

Motion to approve minutes by Ken Brown and 2nd by Tim Tjosaas. Motion passed.

Director's Update:

SEMREX is doing well. Biggest commodity continues to be cardboard. Mixed Paper is in high demand but quantities are down coming in. Prices are back on the upward trend again except for plastics. Tons are only down by 19 tons from same time last year. This is not even a truck load. Revenues are up 17% this year over last. Sharon stated the audit is almost done.

SEMREX Re-imagined: Update and Discussion

- A subcommittee was created after the June meeting – Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Jeff Schneider, City of Red Wing; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn County; and Rita Cole, Dodge County.
- Sharon shared ideas and information from the subcommittee discussions in regard to benefits and thoughts of regional planning.
- We will be looking to MPCA for planning and financial assistance to create a regional plan.
- It was agreed by the Joint Powers Board to move forward with getting input and interest from counties, explore the options and costs of creating a regional plan.
- There was discussion of anticipated benefits including higher volumes to get better prices and the ability to coordinate recycling of special wastes such as mattresses.
- Mark Gamm said that Dodge County would be very interested in options for construction and demolition material recycling.
- We will discuss again at the June meeting.

Budget Discussion: Budget shows a net income of \$34,000 so far in 2016. Cash Balance is \$148,874.88 as of 11/30/16.

Motion to approve budget by Ken Brown and 2nd by Peggy Rehder. Motion carried.

MPCA Update: Anna Kerr

January 2 – May will be the budget session for the Legislature. There is a possibility of a bonding session.

MPCA items included in the proposed budget were

- Groundwater protection for C & D landfills
- Organics (reduce wasted food, hierarchy, fund grants to start programs)
- Superfund
- Tempo

Greater MN Recycling Grants: Anna mentioned there were 9 applicants and will be finishing up so they can be disbursed soon as the deadline for completion of the projects is June 30, 2018. Anna also stated the grant for Ag Plastics is underway.

MPCA Update: Ben Crowell

Ben was asking about what counties are looking for in trainings for Solid Waste and Recycling facilities. (i.e. safety) He will be looking into what they can do to coordinate and offer. Ben will discuss with Scott Martin from Olmsted.

County Updates:

Paul Peiper – Rice County hired a new heavy equipment operator. They have been short staffed.

Ken Brown – Olmsted County Commissioner stated they will be celebrating 30 years of operation at the OWEF. There will be some type of celebration planned for April or May. He also mentioned that volume is up at the OWEF and they are within 18-20 % of full capacity.

Next Meeting is set for Friday June 2, 2017.

A location was not discussed.

Mike Lee motioned to adjourn the meeting and Tim Tjosaas 2nd.

Adjourned meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Rita Cole, Dodge County

MEMBER UPDATES

Blue Earth County

- Construction on two new cells at the Ponderosa Landfill began last fall, and should be completed this summer. We really need the airspace.
- As I write this, the County is looking at taking over running the Ponderosa. For the past 20 years, the County has contracted with a private company to operate the facility. As you read this, the County Board may have made the decision about how to proceed.
- In April, Blue Earth County hosted a free shredding event for both businesses and residential users. We had a limit of two bankers' boxes per each. Last November we had 53 participants at the first shredding event. In April, we had 130 participants.

Jean Lundquist
Blue Earth County

Dodge County

- Recycling Special Assessment increased from \$24 to \$26 per household per year
- Tipping Fee paid by Dodge County to Olmsted County for Waste-to-Energy Service increased from \$113 to \$118 per ton for 3-year period. Therefore, the Waste to Energy Service Fee, that Haulers must collect on all MSW related charges and remit to the county, increased from 20% to 22%.
- Transferring most incoming C&D now to lined SKB Lansing Landfill with less going in unlined Dodge C & D Landfill.
- Construction of Self-Serve Waste Depot scheduled for this fall/winter.

Mark Gamm
Dodge County

Freeborn County

- Freeborn County will hold 15 HHW mobile collections in 2017; 5 in the City of Albert Lea and 10 within rural cities. Items are collected at no charge to Freeborn County residence
- Dreams of a permanent facility
- Freeborn County will hold 2 E-Waste collection events in 2017 one on May 20th Saturday 10-2pm and the other on September 22nd Friday 10-2pm. Events are held at the Freeborn County Fairgrounds= TRC
- City would like a meeting to discuss a 20yr plan/future for MSW
- Recycling tons are up a bit to 230 from 226 tons/mo. Average. Commodity price up \$116.41/ton
Containers ordered for Public Recycling with help from MPCA EA grant. 2 Public (City Aquatic Center and City Arena) units to collect recycling, organics and trash
- County received a donation of 30 ClearStream Recycling containers from Wookiefoot.

Mark Goskeson
Freeborn County

Mower County

- Our recycling tonnage has been relatively stable the last couple years.
- We are finished with our new addition at the Recycling Center and have had a lot of positive feedback on how convenient and attractive the new drop off area is in comparison to the old system. With the completion of this addition, we are now in compliance with the no exposure exclusion for the Industrial Storm Water Rules.
- Mower County has just adopted the new Solid Waste Ordinance and we are in the process of making all the changes to our operating procedures to meet the new rules set forth in the ordinance.
- Our Household Hazardous Waste Facility has been quite busy so far this year. We have planned for two HHW collections in the smaller communities of Waltham and Lyle. Our facility in Austin is open year-round on Wednesdays. We generally have approximately 1,000 customers and generate about 25 tons of HHW.
- The City of Austin, along with the County, held a joint collection for waste electronics this past May. The collection was on Saturday May 13th and ran from 9 am until 2pm. Results of the collection were not available for this update.

Jeff Weaver
Mower County

Olmsted County

- The Waste-to-Energy Facility is budgeted to burn about 118,000 tons in 2017. This includes 17,000 tons of MSW delivered from mining our landfill and 3,000 tons of burnable bulky wastes (non-processibles and clean Demo) that we also grind up at our landfill site. This still leaves us at about 6,000 tons per year excess capacity.
- The Waste-to-Energy Facility celebrated its 30-year anniversary on April 22, 2017 with an Open House. Some noted metrics are: 2,000,000 ton of garbage processed, producing enough energy to power 6,000 homes each year and ensuring that over 50 years of landfill space remains (our landfill would have been full in 1997 had we not utilized waste-to-energy technology).
- The Recycling Center Plus facility is on track to recycle about 2,200 tons of material in 2017. Financially, the recycling markets have increased from last year. We have budgeted \$320,000 in recycling revenue and should be able to exceed this. This facility is also expected to manage about 5,200 tons/year of self-hauled garbage and a variety of special wastes including appliances and e-waste, all on a fee-for-service. Revenues from these services are budgeted to be \$1,050,000. On the recycling front, we continue to see large volumes of e-waste coming in since Best Buy stopped accepting them for free last year. Financially we are ok because we charge \$0.25/pound to accept them. We are also seeing large quantities of mattresses, which are sent to our landfill to be shredded, with the metal recycled and the fluff sent to our Waste-to-Energy Facility. We are also in the process of developing a floor plan for a new Recycling Center Plus building to replace our existing facility that was constructed in 1986, which was not designed for what it is doing today.
- The Hazardous Waste program in our region (Goodhue, Wabasha, Dodge and Goodhue) is expected to have participation with about 12,000 households dropping off waste generating a total of 200 tons of waste. Another 10,000 customers drop off special wastes only. Our HHW mobile system

has, once again, scheduled 23 one-day collections this year in small towns throughout our region. Our VSQG program continues to serve 60-100 businesses per year. The PaintCare program continues to offer financial reimbursement to Olmsted County for 2017 is budgeted for \$100,000. The Dodge County Transfer Station and Goodhue County Recycling Center also have approved PaintCare drop-off sites. This year, PaintCare received approval from the MPCA to increase the surcharge on paint purchased in MN to support this program. A gallon of paint now has a surcharge of \$0.99/gallon; up from \$0.75/gallon.

- We continue to extract ferrous metals out of our Waste-to-Energy ash and MSW through our mining process and have budgeted recycling revenue of \$165,000 for 2017. The bulky waste shredding/landfill MSW reclamation project is budgeted to provide 20,000 tons/year of fuel to utilize excess capacity at the Waste-to-Energy facility, along with saving landfill space. We continue to consider feasibility of mining non-ferrous metals out of the ash.

Scott Martin
Olmsted County

City of Red Wing

- The City of Red Wing is in the middle of refurbishing our existing buildings and infrastructure to accommodate future proposed modifications of the City's Waste Campus operations. The refurbishment includes the building of new tip floor capacity, creation of structural push walls and loadout areas and general upgrades to a 30-year-old building. Once complete the City will consider design proposals currently being developed that will enable the City to process waste under a Refuse Derived Fuel permit and generate RDF for Xcel Energy and processed waste for other resource recovery operations as well. It is the goal of the City to build enough processing capacity to manage all the waste generated in Goodhue County and the surrounding waste shed. The ultimate cost of this project if approved by the City Council is estimated to be nearing \$9,000,000 and will be funded through a combination of grant funds, state appropriations, general revenue bonds and tipping fees.
- At the same time the City is working with Goodhue County to implement a designation plan that will require waste haulers to deliver all waste generated from entities within Goodhue County to bring this waste to the City's Waste Campus for the purpose of reducing long term liability, conserve natural resources and abate the use of land disposal.

Jeff Schneider
City of Red Wing

Rice County Update

As Summer time approaches, the Rice County Landfill, Recycling Center, Hazardous Waste Facilities are getting busy. Again, this summer, we will be contracting with "Epic Enterprise" of Dundas to do trash picking, and other projects at the Landfill and Recycling sites. This will be a great help for us in dealing with blowing trash and other projects at the Solid Waste site.

- Landfill remains busy, with volumes of garbage being about the same as they were this time last year. In 2016, we received 42,424 tons of MSW (Municipal Solid Waste) a rise from 2015. Wind is

an issue, but with Epic Enterprise scheduled to work, we are looking forward to the extra assistance. We are also working on the final approval for the Landfill expansion from MPCA. This expansion, will be inside the existing landfill foot print, which will be filling up in between the active landfill and old closed landfill (filling in saddle).

- Recycling remains steady. Special recycling items (tires, electronics, and appliances) are all coming in at very good rates. In 2016 we recycling over 41 tons of mattresses, 180 tons of tires, 193 tons of electronics, and 223 tons of appliances. Warmer weather means more traffic form both public and commercial.
- Household Hazardous Waste numbers are up over 25% from this time last year. We are expecting that this trend will continue for the rest of the year. Reuse remains a very popular service with the shelves being empty all the time.

Paul Pieper
Rice County

Steele County

- Final phase of current landfill site is being constructed this summer – expected to last 15 years.
- Recycling contract with WM has been renewed for a 5-yr. period, 2017-2022
- 2018 landfill waste delivery contracts with haulers will be offered at the following rates: \$42/ton for Steele County waste, \$46/ton for out-of-county waste

Scott Golberg
Steele County

Waseca County

- Spring season is getting busier. Summer hours are 7am to 5pm Monday thru Friday.
- Hazardous season started May 3rd and got off to a busy start.
- Spring fever is apparent as MSW and Demo volumes are on the rise.
- Recycling volumes seem steady for now. We have a new staffer starting the 16th, so we will be up to a full crew.
- Still moving forward with plans for overdue maintenance on the facility such as, new concrete storage area for the tires, fixing the brush area to create run-off and hopefully less muddy area and, also, the compost area needs attention.

Georgette Hanson
Waseca County