THE SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS’ EXCHANGE
Cooperative marketing * market development * materials exchange

SEMREX JOINT POWERS BOARD (JPB) MEETING
Friday, December 5, 2014
Dodge County Courthouse - Conference Room B - Lower Level
Mantorville, MN

AGENDA

9:00  Coffee and Rolls
9:30  Call Meeting to Order – Roll Call & Introductions
9:35  Approve June 2013 Minutes
9:40  Conflict of Interest forms
9:45  Director’s Update – Schriever
10:00 Budget - Schriever
    • Report
    • 2014 Budget Approval
10:15 2015 Fiscal Management Agreement for Approval - Schriever
10:20 Collaborative Health and Safety Training Update
       – Recycling Association of Minnesota (RAM) Staff
10:30 Legislative Update
       – Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Staff
11:10 Member Update Report Questions/Discussion – All
11:20 Elect New Chairperson
11:25 Set Next Meeting
11:30 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 Meeting  
June 6, 2014  
Dodge County – Mantorville, Minnesota

Joint Powers Board Members Present: Tim Tjosaas, Dodge County; Mike Lee, Freeborn County; Peggy Rehder, City of Red Wing; Mike Ankeny, Mower County; Jake Gillen, Rice County; Doug Johnson, Steele County.

Tech Committee Members Present: Jean Lundquist, Blue Earth County; Jeff Schneider, City of Red Wing; Colin Wittmer, Freeborn/Steele County; Jeff Weaver, Mower County; Paul Piper, Rice County; Scott Martin, Olmsted County; and Georgette Hanson, Waseca County.

Others Present: Sharon Schriever, SEMREX Executive Director; Arlene Vee, MPCA; Rita Cole, Dodge County.

The Joint Powers Board meeting was called to order by Chairman, Doug Johnson at 9:28 a.m. A quorum was present. Introductions were made. Mr. Johnson asked if there were any corrections or additions to the December 6, 2013 JPB minutes. There being none, Jake Gillen, Rice County, made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. It was seconded by Mike Ankeny, Mower County.

Sharon Schriever passed out Conflict of Interest forms to all who were not in attendance at the December 2013 meeting.

Directors Report: Prices are at or below the 5 year average for most commodities. Volumes of material are up by 57% over 2013 so far. OCC prices are down $5/ton in May while plastic prices have increased. Total revenue through May 31, 2014 is up 35% over the same period last year and things look good for the end of the year. The group discussed the fiber pricing and Sharon Schriever stated that it is likely that fibers will be going down possibly another $5-$10/ton in June. Our normal markets are still accepting material, but there has been a lag time for scheduling fiber loads as LDI is at capacity. It is expected to get better. Sharon continues to look for new markets for mixed paper.

Budget: Sharon presented the SEMREX budget. Current cash is $129,349.61. Sharon informed the group that Olmsted County will be hiring a new position that will assist in the day-to-day activities of SEMREX as well as Olmsted County duties. This position will shift some of the activities to a lesser paid position to keep costs down and still maintain the current level of service. With the increase in recycling volumes, more funding may be needed as more time may be required to perform the duties. The SEMREX Fiscal Agent contract is up for renewal in December for 2015 and the Professional Services Contract will be up for renewal for 2016.

Sharon presented an abstract of bills paid from the SEMREX fund from 1/1/14 thru 4/30/14 for the Board to consider for a new format for approving bills. Currently, Sharon processes the payments, and sends the payment requests to the Chairperson prior to each meeting and Mr. Johnson reviews and signs all of the individual payment requests every 6 months. Mr. Johnson stated he thought the abstract of payments would work well, but proposed to increase the breakdown to monthly. The monthly abstracts would continue to be sent to the Chair for review and approval every six months. A motion was made by Peggy Rehder, City of Red Wing, to change from individual bill approval to a monthly abstract of payments. It was seconded by Mike Lee, Freeborn County.
**County and City Reports:** The member staff reports were included in the information that was sent out with the agenda and minutes.

**Collaborative Health and Safety Training:** Scott Martin, Olmsted County distributed a list he prepared that shows training requirements and the schedule for Recycling and Transfer Station employees. It was discussed that it would be beneficial for all to develop a collaborative training effort like what MPCA coordinates for HHW and Landfill operators. This could be regional or statewide. The tech committee would like to request approval to move forward and invite the Recycling Association of MN (RAM) to the next SEMREX Technical Committee meeting to discuss potential opportunities. Motion was made to approve by Mike Ankeny, Mower County and it was seconded by Jake Gillen, Rice County.

**MPCA Legislative Update** - Arlene Vee provided the following information:
- The Compost Rule is still with the law judge. There have been a number of challenges so it is looking like it will be toward the end of the year before possible approval.
- There has been an increase in burning and/or burying of farmstead abandoned buildings. MPCA is working on the enforcement of this. In Southwest MN they are doing training and educational efforts. There is a checklist that is provided by MPCA that should be gone through before demolition of buildings. Arlene will forward this to Sharon Schriever to be distributed to the group. The DNR is still the enforcer for backyard garbage burning. There was discussion on the reasoning for the permit by rule – it is agreed there is a necessity to keep hazardous waste from being buried or burned.
- Arlene has been working with public entities on what is required of them for waste reduction and recycling. Enforcement and education are essential. MPCA will do enforcement if brought to them by the county or city.
- Eco-Experience at the State Fair: This year’s focus is on repairs.
- Green Corps: Interviews are going on now for the applications they have received.
- SCORE: ReTrac is going forward for 2014 data. MPCA is working with haulers as they will be putting in the numbers themselves which will be verified through the Department of Revenue. The SCORE fund will be audited this year.
- MPCA has 480 pop bottle style containers for purchase.
- The RAM website has updated free downloadable recycling/composting signs for anyone to use.
- Waste to Energy: The Prairielakes Facility received funding to update their processing line and add a unit. There are now 4 counties aligned with the dirty MRF/mass burn facility in Perham.
- Becker County received a grant for their recycling center and transfer station.
- There has been a decrease in waste going out of the state due to high fuel costs.
- Burn Barrels – MPCA is still distributing information on them – Nursing services are also now distributing this information. There are 31 counties in MN now that have passed a no burn resolution.
- Solid Waste Legislative Report: SCORE funds will increase by 4 million for 1 year then will decrease by 1 million the following year. So for fiscal year 2015 it will be 18.25 million and for 2016 it will be 17.25 million. They are recalculating the base rate for each county. Currently it is $55,950 and then proportionate by population.
- Indian Reservations (northwest) are receiving $250,000 for recycling, demolition, waste reduction.
- Commercial properties are required to increase their recycling rate to 75% by 2030.
- All state agencies are now required to report to the state what they are recycling.
- Goodhue may be going into the closed landfill program if they meet all the requirements.
- The Sharps bill passed – regulating that sharps need to be in a puncture proof container. This is required for households also.

Member updates:

Red Wing looking at mining for metals from landfill. There was discussion on which counties take out of county waste and if landfill space is a concern.

Sharon will continue to put items on the Members website link – it worked well.

The next meeting was set for December 5, 2014 in Dodge County with the meeting starting at 9:30. There being no other business, a motion was made by Jake Gillen to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Mike Ankeny. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Rita Cole
Dodge County
Member Updates
December 2014

Blue Earth County

- The County Board gave the go-ahead to design a new building at the landfill to serve as a scale house and a drop-off for self-haulers. This will increase safety, as it will separate commercial haulers and self-haulers. Will also allow for some recycling at the landfill.
- Blue Earth County has again been chosen by the Recycling Association of MN as a rain barrel and compost bin distribution site next spring.
- The SEMREX Tech Committee met in Blue Earth County in November, and toured the Good Thunder Full Circle Organics source-separated composting facility.
- Pharmaceutical collections are on track to approach the 1,700 pound mark again this year, even though there are now two collection locations in Mankato, now.
- The City of Mankato awarded its contract to a company out of Willmar starting January 1. The new contractor is West Central Sanitation. Its trucks are fueled by compressed natural gas. Waste Management lost the contract.

Jean Lundquist
Recycling Coordinator

Dodge County

- New solar system providing ½ the electricity needed for Recycling Center operation.
- Renewed 1-year agreement with Full Circle Organics to transfer source-separated organics from Dodge County Transfer Station to FCO’s compost facility in Good Thunder.
- Have picked up two new accounts for organic collection, the Kahler system and the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester. Kerry products went back into production in November.
- Screened 1,000 – 1,200 yards of compost in late September from our grass and leaves that the public bring into us. We have already sold 250 – 300 yards of the finished compost.
- We will be doing some rearranging in the Recycling Center to move some of our Hazardous Waste from cold storage to a warmer building and for possible paint collection for Paint Care.
- Replaced radiant tube heaters in Recycling Center.
- Been busy with fall cleanup and getting ready for winter.

Terry Selthun and Mark Gamm
Dodge County

Freeborn County

- November 10th Mark Goskeson started as Freeborn County Solid Waste Officer. I will also have part time duties as the Recycling Coordinator for Steele County.
• 8,452.9 pounds of HHW was collected in 2014
• Looking ahead, Freeborn Counties mobile unit will need an update in the next few years. I would like to start looking at how other counties are handling these events and weighing the cost.

Mark Goskeson
Freeborn County

Mower County

• Our recycling tonnage has been relatively stable the last couple years. So far this year we have collected and processed about 1,400 tons of recyclables. We are on track to collect and recycle about 1,800 tons of material and bring in about $180,000 for the sale of materials. We have had quite a few tours of our facility this year, mostly from grade schools and scout groups in the county. We have given out our event recycling containers a lot this year and have been used by residents and organizations for graduations, parties and events (4th of July, Fair, Walkathon’s, etc.).
• 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.
• The City of Austin and Mower County once again offered a collection for waste electronics. One major change this year is that 5-R Processors charged $5.00 for all TV’s and monitors. The number of customers was down from the last couple years; however, we still filled 4 semi-trailers.
• We are contemplating changing the system for recycling and going to single sort recycling. We are planning on collecting curbside for all residents in the County, not just the city residents. We would close the current facility in Austin and have a contractor collect, ship and process the material.

Jeff Weaver
Mower County

Olmsted County

• Waste-to-Energy: The Waste-to-Energy facility will burn about 100,000 tons in 2014. This includes 4,000 tons of MSW delivered from mining our landfill and 7,000 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 24,000 tons per year excess capacity. We are actively researching certain waste streams to fill this excess capacity.
• Recycling: The Recycling Center Plus facility will recycle about 2,200 tons material in 2014. Financially, the recycling markets have maintained reasonable prices this year. This facility will realize about $375,000 in revenue, which is tracking what we budgeted and is 25% higher than last year. This facility also will manage about 4,700 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 will increase about 6% from last year and total about $850,000.

- On the recycling front, we may see beverage container recycling refund system proposals again this year that contain container deposits with redemption centers. The goal would be to attain higher recycling rates. There may also be Product Stewardship (PS) legislation proposals for certain materials, although these may be dimmed by the problems being experience in Electronics and Paint PS programs.

- **Hazardous Waste**: The Hazardous Waste program in our region (Olmsted, 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.

- We are in the process of trying to implement the Paint Product Stewardship program law that was passed last year. We are still looking for an approved state Paint Stewardship Plan and the development of a successful contract with the paint manufacturer’s representative, PaintCare, Inc. Implementation was scheduled for July 1st, 2014, but was moved back to November 1st, 2014. There is a lot of angst that PaintCare is not collaborating with HHW programs (to help defray the cost of managing Paint material), as the public is now being charged a fee (sent to PaintCare) for every ½ pint - quart ($0.35), gallon ($0.75) and 5 gallon ($1.60) container that is sold in MN. Negotiations continue to look for a resolution.

- **Landfill**: We continue to extract metals out of our Waste-to-Energy ash through our mining process and will realize revenues of $400,000 for 2014, which is about 12% below our budgeted amount of $450,000. The bulky waste shredding/landfill MSW mining project is providing about 11,000 tons/year of fuel to utilize excess capacity at the Waste-to-Energy facility, along with saving landfill space. In 2014, the landfill closed an existing ash cell and constructed a new one.

- **Designation Plan**: We have an approved MPCA Designation Plan. We are still working on a Designation Ordinance, which hopefully will be implemented in 2015.

Scott Martin
Olmsted County

**City of Red Wing**

- City of Red Wing waste and recycling operations are projecting a greater than 40% increase in the tons of recyclable materials processed and sold from 2013 to 2014. Waste Campus operations began processing single sort recyclable loads from Gibson Sanitation in 2014 and started receiving 2-3 new loads of cardboard each week from Waste Management.

- In August a new market was opened up for shredder steel residuals allowing the City to shift this material from disposal at a landfill to a recycled commodity.

- Additionally the City held 2 electronic collection events in 2014 serving over 1,300 vehicles yielding approximately 120 tons of electronic waste.
The City of Red Wing has begun the decontamination and decommissioning process of its solid waste boiler operations by contracting with Stantec consultants to develop a bid document to be submitted to the MPCA for review prior to the bid process. If approved the document will go out for bid shortly thereafter and the decontamination process to wash contaminated materials from equipment to be removed and disposed of will begin. Following the deconstruction process the existing area will be refurbished to allow for the placement of permanent processing equipment for the production of Refuse Derived Fuel to be used at Xcel Energy’s RDF burner located in Red Wing. The timeline for completion is expected to be sometime in 2016.

In the last legislative session the City of Red Wing worked closely with area representatives to pass legislation that would potentially allow the Bench Street Landfill enter into the State’s Closed Landfill Program. This opportunity is conditional upon the County’s ability to designate all waste generated within Goodhue County to the City of Red Wing’s Waste Campus for a period of 20 years. The City, County and State have been working together closely to meet the conditions set within the legislation but have thus far had only limited success. The deadline for meeting the conditions is December 31, 2018. If this timeline is not met the Bench Street Landfill will not be allowed into the Closed Landfill Program potentially creating a significant future liability for County residents and businesses.

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.

Landfill - Landfill volumes are a little down from last year at this time. Along with replacing our landfill loader (Volvo L220), we had cell construction of cell 8 this summer. Base/fluff layer on cell is completed and we are on schedule for winter months.
New Scale software has been up and running for over 6 months now. System seems to work fine, but on-going “getting used to” the technology for both Rice County staff and haulers continues.

Recycling has seen an increase for mixed recycling. Business OCC is down some due to Waste Management mixing most of their smaller business OCC load in mix recycling. Special recycling items (tires, electronics, and appliances) are all coming in at very good rates with a very large increase of heavy and big TV’s being dropped off. This fall the County hosted three separate electronics and appliance collections events. A total of 192,080 lbs. of electronics and 1,011 appliances were collected. The three events were in the cities of Faribault, Lonsdale, and Dundas. The total cost for recycling was $43,471. Even with the events this fall, we have not seen any noticeable decline in what has been coming into the facility during normal business days.

In September the Recycling Center unfortunately had a fire on the tipping floor section of the facility inside the Allied Waste recycling trailer. We were very fortunate that no one was injured and the damage was very minimal to the facility with no structural damage to the building. Fire was ruled an “Accidental Fire” with the cause most likely for a smoldering object that came in with one of the recycling loads.

Hazardous Waste - Household Hazardous Waste continues to come with participation numbers higher than last year. Although participation being up so far, we expect the total for 2014 to be about the same as 2013 because of the cooler weather as of late. Paint Care has started, but agreements with County programs have not yet happened. In Rice County there are three business signed up to accept paint with a 5 gal. limit per visit. They are located in Faribault, Northfield, and Lonsdale. Reuse continues to be very popular. Our reuse totals will be around 20 tons for 2014.

Paul Pieper
Rice County

Steele County

November 10th Mark Goskeson started part time as Recycling Coordinator.

Landfill Waste Delivery Contracts – new contracts are being executed with haulers for 2015-2016 term. During the next year, the County Board will be reviewing long-term options for the landfill and solid waste management. (Existing landfill site has ~20 years capacity remaining).

Recycling – 2014 gross tonnage is up about 15% over 2013 gross tonnage and about 75% above the tonnage during the last full year of the dual sort program in 2011. Cost per ton for single stream recycling is roughly $167/ton vs. $200/ton for previous dual sort system.

Solid Waste Plan - Will be placed on public notice soon!

Mark Goskeson
Steele County
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<th>Service</th>
<th>Actual 2013</th>
<th>ADOPTED 2014</th>
<th>(Cash Basis) Actual 2014 to date</th>
<th>Budget Variance</th>
<th>Budget Var %</th>
<th>PROPOSED 2015</th>
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**EXPENSES**

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<th>Budget Variance</th>
<th>Budget Var %</th>
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Notes:
1) Line Item No. 6298 includes: Salary, Health Insurance, PERA, FICA, Medicare & photocopying
2) Current Cash $129,349.61 - 6/3/14
   Note - Cash Basis, no budget changes
Fiscal Management Agreement

This agreement, entered into by and between the Southeast Minnesota Recycler's Exchange Joint Powers Board, hereinafter referred to as "JPB" and the County of Olmsted, hereinafter referred to as "Olmsted", as follows:

Witnesseth:

WHEREAS, the JPB was established in 1997 to establish a formal structure for Southeast Minnesota public entities to work together on Recycling and Waste Reduction projects, and

WHEREAS, other SEMREX member counties have provided fiscal agent services for the organization since 1990 and prior to its formation as a Joint Powers Board,

WHEREAS, Olmsted has been a member of the JPB since its inception,

WHEREAS, the JPB requires a fiscal agent to administer its accounts,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the JPB do establish and appoint Olmsted to serve as fiscal agent, and to aid in carrying out the purposes for which the JPB was established.

DUTIES OF OLMSTED COUNTY:

Olmsted in such capacity, shall:

1. Provide fiscal services to the JPB in support of JPB activities, including cooperative marketing disbursements.

2. Receive in and disburse out all monies received by the Olmsted County Finance Department from the SEMREX Executive Director, per the specific instructions of said Director and the Joint Powers Board Chair.

3. Provide account activity summary information monthly, quarterly and annually to the SEMREX Executive Director.

4. Olmsted County will not be responsible for data errors originated by the JPB.

5. The total cost of contracted services shall be $2,750 for 2015. Payment for serving as fiscal agent will be made by no later than November 30.

DUTIES OF THE JOINT POWERS BOARD:

The JPB shall:

1. Provide the support and cooperation by its staff to allow Olmsted to provide the required services as further outlined below.

2. Provide any contracts, documents and authority necessary to allow Olmsted to carry out required services as further outlined below.
3. To the extent permitted by law, JPB shall fulfill any reporting requirements to the State of Minnesota or its agencies, provide accounting and auditing services to comply with grants as further outlined below.

4. Except for loss or damages occasioned by the gross negligence of Olmsted or its employees or authorized agents, JPB will indemnify and hold Olmsted harmless for any loss or damage, including costs and attorney fees, resulting from any activities arising out of the services contemplated by this agreement.

DUTIES OF BOTH PARTIES

1. INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS FOR GRANT FUNDS: In the event the JPB receives grant dollars which are passed through by Olmsted County, the JPB agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Olmsted County for any determinations by any authority that grant dollars used by or received by the JPB were used for an illegal or unauthorized purpose and therefore must be repaid to the State or Federal government. The JPB agrees to pay any necessary amounts, including any penalties, interest, or fees of any kind, on the time schedule determined by the State or Federal government to the payee determined by the State or Federal government. If Olmsted County, solely in its own discretion, agrees to be an intermediary in any repayments for the JPB, the JPB agrees to cooperate fully with Olmsted County and to not delay any necessary payments. The JPB agrees to reimburse Olmsted County for any reasonable costs incurred by Olmsted County related to assisting the JPB or caused by complying with the requests of the granting authority related to funds received by the JPB.

2. NO GRANT FUNDS TO BE ADVANCED BY OLMSTED COUNTY: Olmsted County may not advance pass-through or expense reimbursement grant dollars to the JPB. The JPB acknowledges that it will not receive any grant funds from Olmsted County until Olmsted County has received the funds from the grantor. Olmsted County will make reasonable efforts to disburse funds to the JPB as soon as practicable through Olmsted County’s normal accounts payable processes.

3. PROVISION OF NECESSARY DOCUMENTS: The JPB acknowledges that if the grant terms require provision of documentation by the fiscal support entity for any purpose including securing reimbursement from the grantor, it must provide the documentation to Olmsted County on the schedule established by Olmsted County so that sufficient processing time is available to pass the information through to the grantor. Olmsted County will make reasonable efforts to gather and pass on required documentation, but staff absences or work load may delay this process. Olmsted County is not responsible for any interest or fees due to delayed pass through of funds which result from the JPB’s failure to provide documentation on a timely basis. Olmsted County is not responsible for requesting, editing, reviewing, changing, or verifying any information provided to it by the JPB for this grant unless specifically stated elsewhere in this agreement.
4. GENERAL PROVISIONS - All terms of the professional services agreement between the JPB and Olmsted not inconsistent with the terms of this fiscal management agreement shall apply to this agreement as well and are incorporated herein by reference. The terms of this agreement shall be effective upon signature of the parties for a period of one year under the provision of Article V of the JPB Agreement. This agreement may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party. Amendments shall be in writing and adopted in the same manner as in this agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned parties, by action of their respective governing bodies, have caused this agreement to be executed.

Date: 11-5-14 Olmsted County
By: ____________________________
   Public Works/Environmental Resources Controller

Date: ____________________________ SEMREX Joint Powers Board
By: ________________________________
   Its

By: ________________________________
   Its