



## **SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS' EXCHANGE**

Cooperative marketing \* market development \* materials exchange

507-328-7022

### **SEMREX Technical Committee Meeting**

**Friday, April 21, 2017**








**10:00 a.m.**

**Mower County Highway Department**

**1105 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Austin, MN**

(Parking lot is behind the Recycling Center)

### **AGENDA**

-  10:00 Call Meeting to Order & Approve Minutes
  
-  10:05 Director's Update – Sharon Schriever
  
-  10:15 Regional Education Committee White Paper Review - Sharon Schriever
  
-  10:20 Regional Planning Next Steps Discussion – All
  - Follow-up on last month's assignments
  
-  10:40 MPCA Updates – Anna Kerr & Ben Crowell
  
-  11:10 Member Updates – All
  
-  12:00 Adjourn

If you cannot attend, please contact Sharon

*Minutes of the SEMREX Technical Committee Meeting  
Freeborn County  
March 24, 2017*

**Present:** Ben Cowell-MPCA, Anna Kerr-MPCA, Mark Goskeson-Freeborn County, Georgette Hanson-Waseca County, Rita Cole-Dodge County, Jean Lundquist-Blue Earth County, Scott Martin-Olmsted County, Paul Pieper-Rice County, Jeff Schneider-City of Red Wing, Sharon Schriever-SEMREX

**Meeting Called To Order:** at 10:00am with correction from Freeborn County from 90,000 tons to 90 tons.<sup>f</sup> Motion by Jean Lundquist, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Pieper, meeting minutes of November meeting were approved with the change and passed.

**Director's Update:**

Sharon presented the marketing updates. Key points are that volumes are down; OCC is up \$35/ton to \$175/ton. Traders are optimistic that prices should remain strong through mid-Summer. Envirolastech Inc. St Charles, MN is in search of #2 plastic. Sharon would be willing to send a load for fair market price.

**Not in the Bin Advertising:**

More to come, the Regional Education Committee (REC) is developing a list of items that can commonly be accepted at all recycling programs in the state, as well as a list of things that should not go in the bin. Similar to the Keep America Beautiful message. The intent to develop a consistent message statewide. MPCA does not want to host a website to distribute information, so they are looking at other options.

**Regional Planning:**

Meeting on December 2, 2016 JPB agreed we move forward with ideas of Multi-County Solid Waste Plan. Discussions on how to proceed took place. Consensus was that we need to find out which members will commit to doing regional planning. Action items were listed (attached). Additional subcommittee meeting may be necessary to align or prioritize ideas. This topic should also be addressed at the April 7, 2017 Multi-County Solid Waste meeting.

**MPCA Update:**

Ben Cowell referenced SCORE "Get your stuff in". Anna Kerr discussed different Grants available for Recycling and Organics. It seemed Anna was looking for Mark Goskeson to discuss the EA Environmental Assistance Grant he received, and how he is using the funds to introduce "Recycling in Public Space". Working together, Freeborn County and the City of Albert Lea have a plan to increase recycling and organics through education and convenience. But I don't think he wanted to talk about it. So Anna mentioned to keep a lookout for another round of EA Grants. Additional updates handout was given.

**County Updates:**

**Freeborn County-**Mark Goskeson reported recycling volumes up slightly along with commodity price, also working on SCORE report.

**Rice County-** Paul Pieper reported working on SCORE, OCC down 200 tons from Post (former Malt-O-Meal) experiencing staffing issues, recycled 40 tons of mattresses in 2016. Residents pay \$20 per mattress to offset some of the cost. Future plans to update the tipping floor to include recycling and organics.

**Waseca County**-Georgette Hanson reported new County Administrator started. FEMA report done, submitted and reimbursement funds received of \$112,000. In February 2017 her site received an OSHA audit which resulted in no fines. Recycling volumes are up. Metal \$ are up. Equipment wish list contains a new Zero turn lawnmower, looking to update/beautify facility, working with Americans with Disabilities to collect clothing.

**City of Red Wing**-Jeff Schneider reported Echo \$2.1 million plus \$400,000 improvements to facility, planning to go from 20,000 tons to 50,000 tons a year through waste designation. Ramp up with Excel and waste to Olmsted.

**Olmsted County**-Scott Martin reported working on SCORE, plans to purchase new skid-loader. He is also a new member of the MN Product Stewardship Counsel.

**Blue Earth County**-Jean Lundquist reported Full Circle Organics down 7,000 tons from previous year (2015). The blame is being placed on Blue Earth County.

**Dodge County**-Rita reported solid waste fee's going up 22%, they are looking into options to reduce cell space.

**Mower County**-Jeff Weaver reported they are distributing a new solid waste booklet, new addition at the recycling center is working well. Residents really like the weekly recycling collection. Mower County is in the works of revamping the Solid Waste Ordinance.

**Adjourn:**

Next meeting planned for April 21, 2017 in Mower County, meeting adjourned at 12:15pm by Paul Pieper and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Weaver. Motion carried.

## SEMREX ACTION PLAN

<b>Objective:</b> Develop Regional Plan		<b>Measures:</b>			
<b>Action Step</b>		<b>Owner</b>	<b>Contributors</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Completed?</b>
Ben will get Resolution from SW Counties		Ben		4/21/2017 next meeting	
Paul will talk to Julie about Regional Planning		Paul		4/21/2017 next meeting	
Develop list of commonalities - bring to April meeting Include Ann & Ben		Sub Committee		4/21/2017 next meeting	
Ann & Ben to take to multi-county meeting April 7 - Regional Planning		Ben Anna	Jeff Weaver	4/7/2017	
				March 24, 2017	1