



THE SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS' EXCHANGE

cooperative marketing * market development * materials exchange

SEMREX JOINT POWERS BOARD (JPB) MEETING

Friday, June 1, 2018

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 and Introductions |
| 9:35 | Approve December 2017 Minutes |
| 9:40 | Director's Update – Sharon Schriever, SEMREX <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marketing Report• 2018 Budget Update |
| 10:00 | SEMREX Regional Planning Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participation• Grant/Funding Options• Next Steps |
| 10:45 | MPCA and Legislative Update |
| 10:55 | Member Update Report Questions/Discussion-All |
| 11:10 | Set Next Meeting |
| 11:15 | Adjourn |

**SEMREX Joint Powers Board Meeting
Dodge County Government Services Building
December 1, 2017 - 9:30 a.m.**

Present: Jake Gillen, Rice County Commissioner; Paul Peiper, Rice County; Anna Kerr, MPCA; Ben Crowell, MPCA; Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Jeff Weaver, Mower County; Tony Bennett, Mower County Commissioner; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn County; Mike Lee, Freeborn County Commissioner; Rita Cole, Dodge County; Mark Gamm, Dodge County; Georgette Hanson, Waseca County; Scott Martin, Olmsted County; Stephanie Podulke, Olmsted County Commissioner; Jeff Schneider, City of Red Wing; Peggy Rehder, Red Wing City Council; Jean Lundquist, Blue Earth County; Mark Piepho, Blue Earth County Commissioner .

Call Meeting to Order & Approve Minutes: Jake Gillen, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Motion to approve minutes by Peggy Rehder and 2nd by Mike Lee. Motion passed.

Director's Update:

Sharon passed out the Conflict of Interest sheets to be signed for 2018. SEMREX hit \$1.2 million in material shipped so far in 2017. Average Revenue per ton is \$159.60 compared to \$102.56 for the same period in 2016. This figure is on its way down due to the China's National Sword. Tonnage is down 1,160 tons this year. This is due in part to the Red Wing Facility fire.

There is a new glass market – Envirolastic in St. Charles mixes glass and #2 (HDPE) to make a plastic lumber material that will not degrade. They make lumber, pallets, landscape bricks and edging.

Jeff Weaver-Mower County mentioned that he has had to remove the foil from his aluminum bales to get full price. He now sends foil bales to Republic.

The audit is complete. Findings came back with no issues.

Budget Discussion: Sharon shared that our revenue is over-budget therefore a budget change had to be made. Motion to accept the budget change by Mark Piepho and 2nd by Tony Bennett. Motion passed.

2016 Audit Fees only show \$1,200, however the bill for the audit came in January of 2017 so it shows we are over budget in 2017, however Sharon believes that \$5,000 should still be OK in the budget for 2018.

Olmsted County approved the Fiscal Agent Fee for SEMREX on November 21, 2017 at \$3,000 which is the same as last year. A one-year term on the fiscal agent agreement was agreed upon in case of changes that may come with the regional planning. Motion to approve the Fiscal Agent Agreement: Stephanie Podulke with 2nd by Mark Piepho. Motion passed.

With no further discussion, motion to approve the 2018 SEMREX Budget by Peggy Rehder and 2nd by Tony Bennett. Motion passed.

SEMREX Regional Planning Update and Discussion:

The Scoping Document was created to give more information to commissioners on what regional planning will entail. Sharon explained the different elements of the document. MPCA stated what the SCORE report is and how SCORE funding relates to Solid Waste Management Planning. It was discussed that regional planning is important because it has gotten very difficult to site landfills so there is a need to maximize the use of existing facilities.

If the resolution is signed by the JPB to move forward with Regional Planning – there will be a need for funding in the year 2019. This could come from a combination of places including SEMREX, Grant Funds, Legislative Appropriations and Individual Counties based on a formula (i.e. population or waste generation amounts etc.) Anna from the MPCA clarified that grants are not available to pay for things that are already required to be done but after the Plan is in place there could be better leverage in attaining grants for equipment etc.

Mark Piepho- Blue Earth Co Commissioner and Mark Gamm, Dodge County stated concern on bringing a need for funding before their County Commissioners. Commissioners will want to know where the funding is coming from. It was suggested that the Resolution state that the Regional Planning be contingent on the acquiring of funding. Jeff Weaver proposed to have in the resolution a maximum \$ amount of \$10,000 per entity. Mark Gamm stated the board may go for a commitment of 25% of the total cost whether it be cash or in-kind rather than stating a dollar amount.

Approval by the Joint Powers Board today to move forward with regional planning was requested, with some revisions to Resolution wording brought forward today. It will also be necessary for a commitment by Resolution from each County/City Board by end of January 2018. This is to continue to pursue the option of regional planning and will give another chance down the road for each county to talk about funding needed.

Motion to approve the Resolution to move forward with Regional Planning by the SEMREX Joint Powers Board by Tony Bennett and 2nd by Peggy Rehder.

In addition, Peggy Rehder stated that the City of Red Wing would be very willing to put in funding to move forward with this process.

Motion passed unanimously.

MPCA Update:

Anna Kerr

Legislative session is gearing up. Interest forms have been collected for CAP Funding which is available to publicly owned facilities and the project must be higher than resource recycling on the hierarchy.

Legislative changes to the E-waste statutes were mainly for clarification.

The Greater MN Recycling Grants will be available with applications hoping to be posted by the end of the year. \$2 million available and max of \$250,000 per project.

Ben Crowell

SCORE – Hoping to have the 2016 Report out by end of the year. Hauler reporting is in place and there is the ability of checks and balances by counties for accuracy.

Statewide recycling rate is 42.5% - Both Metro and greater MN are very close on this. Also 68% solid waste is diverted from landfills.

Waste per person ratio has not changed much - MN Population was up 2% and MSW was up 2.4%.

It is in the 2018 budget to get more accurate volume to weight ratio tables. Yard waste was one example that was requested.

County Updates:

Peggy Rehder and Jeff Schneider stated that Lab USA will be mining metals from the Ash Landfill in Goodhue County. The building is built and they hope to be up and running in the next couple of months. Jeff will try to set up a tour. They are digging up what is not covered and what is currently coming in. They will plan on operating for approximately 11 years. When they are done the building will go to Xcel or the city.

Next Meeting:

Next Regular JPB Meeting is set for Friday June 1, 2018 at the Dodge County Government Services Building.

Adjourned meeting at 11:09 a.m.

Submitted by: Rita Cole

Member Updates: June 2018

Blue Earth County

Shredding event was held on Saturday, May 19th. These events cost a few hundred dollars each, result in the paper being recycled, keeps shredded paper from contaminating other commodities at a materials recovery facility, and are very popular. Even with restrictions to two banker's boxes, people are happy for the free service, and we get over a ton of paper at each event. We do two a year. This is the fourth event.

I am retiring, and I have been busy making sure someone knows the basics of what I do, where materials are located and who contacts are. My retirement is effective on June 22, but my last day in the office is June 8th (two weeks of vacation)

Jean Lundquist
Blue Earth County

Dodge County

Transfer Station has been very busy. We have had some record Saturdays of almost 200 transactions between the hours of 8 and noon.

Self Service Waste Depot is almost ready to go. Concrete is in. BinPak is coming June 5. Should be up and running by mid to end of June.

This should hopefully ease some of the Saturday traffic. We are targeting rural residents without easily accessible hauler service or that are utilizing burn barrels first to ease into it.

Rita Cole
Dodge County

Freeborn County

Freeborn County will hold 15 mobile HHW collections in 2018. Five in the City of Albert Lea and

10 within rural cities. HHW Items are collected at no charge to Freeborn County residents.

We will hold 2 E-Waste collection events in 2018. May 18th and Sep 21st. Events are held at the Freeborn County Fairgrounds.

Proposed plans for a Regional Solid Waste Plan

We are averaging 212 tons/month of recyclables in 2018, thus far, down from 232 tons/month of recyclables in 2017. Commodity average price up to \$94.15 from \$92.69 in 2017.

Mark Goskeson
Freeborn County

Mower County

Our recycling tonnage has been relatively stable the last couple years. We have recently had an increase in the number of businesses signing up for our collection. We collect businesses, schools, churches etc. in Austin on a weekly basis. We provide containers (inside only) for the businesses to recycle. We collect bi-weekly from Hormel, at both of the corporate facilities, as well as the plant. We also have some businesses that call us when their container is full, but most businesses are on a weekly collection. We have been collecting from approximately 110 businesses in this way for the last 20 plus years. We collect everything except OCC from businesses as we do not have a collection vehicle for the OCC. Most of the small businesses are now bringing their OCC to our new drop off area.

Mower County has recently adopted the new Solid Waste Ordinance and we are still trying to get all of the changes to our operating procedures to meet the new rules set forth in the ordinance. We are also trying to bring all privately-run facilities into compliance with the new rules and regulations.

Our Household Hazardous Waste Facility has been getting quite busy as the warm weather is finally here. Our facility in Austin is open year-round on Wednesdays. We generally have approximately 1,000 customers and generate about 25 tons of HHW. We also have two collections in the smaller communities each year. This year we will be in Dexter and Rose Creek. These collections are from 11-2pm and we are at each small city every 6 years

The City/ County along with Retrofit Corp. held their electronic collection on May 12th at the Mower County Fairgrounds. I do not have the numbers of collected electronics yet, but they ran out of gaylords and had to come back on the following Monday to pick up all the material; must have been more than they expected.

Jeff Weaver
Mower County

Olmsted County

The Waste-to-Energy Facility is budgeted to burn about 110,000 tons in 2018. This includes 6,000 tons of MSW delivered from reclamation efforts at 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. We are starting to plan for a potential 4th Unit as Olmsted County's population is growing

The Recycling Center Plus facility is on track to recycle about 2,200 tons material in 2018. We have budgeted \$360,000 in recycling revenue and still hope to meet this even though the markets have been dropping this year. This facility will 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 recycling and self-hauled waste are on track to meet our budget \$1,565,000.

In 2018, we may see Product Stewardship (PS) legislation proposals for certain materials (for example, solar panels), although PS efforts have been dampened by the problems still being experienced in the Electronics and Paint PS programs.

The Hazardous Waste program in our region (Goodhue, Wabasha, Dodge and Goodhue) is expected to have participation of about 13,000 households dropping off waste generating a total of 220 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 financial reimbursement to Olmsted County for 2018 expected to be \$120,000. The Dodge County Transfer Station and Goodhue County Recycling Center continue to be approved PaintCare drop-off sites.

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 \$170,000 for 2018. The bulky waste shredding/landfill MSW reclamation project is budgeted to provide 9,000 tons/year of fuel to utilize excess capacity at the Waste-to-Energy facility, along with saving landfill space. We continue to look into feasibility of mining non-ferrous metals out of the ash.

Scott Martin
Olmsted County

City of Red Wing

City of Red Wing is still going through the process of rebuilding after the fire. We now have a fully operational MRF for processing waste but most recyclables are being sent for processing to various facilities, at this time. Waste volumes are about where they have been historically and we expect to see a slight surge with the summer months. Our efforts with resolving outstanding issues with the insurer has made some incremental progress and we hope to have a final design for our redesigned tipping floor and outgoing waste loadout areas to go out for bid in July.

The City Council in Red Wing has seen a significant level of change over the last 2 months and the City's SEMREX representative Council Person Peggy Rehder resigned from the Council in early May. At this time, the Council has 4/7 positions filled and a new SEMREX representative has not yet been appointed.

Jeff Schneider
City of Red Wing

Rice County

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, at this time, last year. In 2017 we received 47,466 tons of MSW (Municipal Solid Waste) a rise from 2016. Leachate has been an issue this winter/spring with us having to pump and ship it to water treatment plants for processing. Mid May we were able to start land applying again, so this is a big help and cost savings for the County. Last fall we started the new expansion of the MSW site. The new MSW cell was complete in late November and we were unable to start

getting the initial “fluff” layer of garbage started until Mid/late December. Thermal couplers were installed and monitored all winter. No freezing issues occurred, but with that large area open exposed it did add to our leachate uses this spring.

Recycling remains steady. Special recycling items (tires, electronics, and appliances) are all coming in at very good rates. TV’s and computer monitors seem to never end! In Early May, the Rice County Board of Commissioners approved a new “Transfer/Recycling station” building at the Landfill/Recycling site. This New building will be where the Mixed Recycling will be unloaded by the commercial haulers and then loaded into semi-trailers by the county. This new system/building will be a great improvement to how we are operating now, with the ability to get heavier loads and having push wall to assist in loader operations. The Old tipping floor will still be used for cardboard processing & baling, storage, and potential new operation in the future. When it comes to new equipment, the Recycling Center is in the process of bidding out for a new Front end loader to replace the existing loader we are currently using.

Household Hazardous Waste numbers are down a littler from this time last year. With the more seasonal weather now, we have seen a big pick up in customers, so we should be on track for similar numbers of drop offs this year. In 2017 we had 3,132 public drop offs, 18 business drop offs, and 57 fluorescent/CFL’s only drop offs. Last year we have seen a decrease in business drop offs, which is most likely due to the PaintCare Program. In the past many of the business drop offs had only paint, which now is covered through the PaintCare program. Reuse remains a very popular service with the shelves being empty all the time.

Paul Pieper
Rice County

Steele County

Still transitioning Environmental Services Duties to multiple departments.

Locating and transferring Recycling files to Planning & Zoning.

Steele County/Waste Management Recycling Drop off Center has noticed an increase in cardboard.

People are calling to make reservations for the portable recycling bins. Bins are reserved for in-county events. We currently have 25 bins to reserve.

Katie Barden
Steele County

Waseca County

Not much new. We, like everyone else, are getting busy.

HHW facility is off to a great start.

We are fully staffed, with a great crew.

Road construction has begun past our facility. We're told the end of August is the target finish date.

Out-of-county customers numbers seem to be on the rise.

Finally, able to move the big, heavy-duty gaylord boxes that have been accumulating. Got creative and researched out other recycling facilities. E-waste recyclers and metal recyclers. Didn't get a fabulous price, but something is better than storing them any longer. I let them go for \$4 each and I got my floor space back!

Our fire finally went out.

No new projects in the works. Just needing to do some cement wall maintenance and replacement as they are showing signs of drastic wear.

Georgette Hanson
Waseca County