



THE SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS' EXCHANGE

cooperative marketing * market development * materials exchange

SEMREX JOINT POWERS BOARD (JPB) MEETING

Friday, June 4, 2020

Conference Room B

Dodge County Government Services Building (not the courthouse)

721 Main Street North (on the west side of Highway 57)

Mantorville, MN

9:30 A.M.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only) - +1 507-328-7930,,42461975# United States, Mankato

Phone Conference ID: 424 619 75#

AGENDA

- 9:30 Call Meeting to Order – Roll Call and Introductions
- 9:35 Approve December 2020 Minutes
- Approve February 22, 2021 Emergency Meeting Minutes
- Approve May 3, 2021 Emergency Meeting Minutes
- 9:45 Director's Report– Sharon Schriever, SEMREX
 - Market Update
 - Budget Report
- 10:05 Renew/Approve ReCollect Contract for the Waste Wizard
- 10:15 Minnesota Recycling Education Committee Update
- 10:25 MPCA and Legislative Update – Ben Crowell
- 10:35 Member Update Report Questions/Discussion - All
- 10:45 Set Next Meeting
- 10:50 Adjourn

**SEMREX Joint Powers Board Meeting
Dodge County Government Services Building
December 4, 2020 - 9:30 a.m.**

Present: Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Rita Cole, Dodge County; John Allen, Dodge County Commissioner

Joining by SKYPE: Ben Crowell, MPCA; Mike Lee, Freeborn County Commissioner; Ken Brown, Olmsted County Commissioner; Jeff Schneider, City of Red Wing; Molly Kjellesvig, Blue Earth County; Katie Barden, Steele County; John Glynn, Steele County Commissioner; Paul Pieper, Rice County; Jeff Weaver, Mower County; Tammie Bramer, Waseca County; Terri Heim, SEMREX; Tony Hill, Olmsted Co; Scott Martin, Olmsted County; Brian Harguth, Waseca County Commissioner; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn County; Mark Piepho, Blue Earth County Commissioner; Mike Ankeny, Mower County Commissioner.

Call Meeting to Order : Called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

John Allen Motion, Mark Phiepho, 2nd.

Roll call – Motion approved.

Nomination for Pro-Tem Chair – John Allen accepted to be Pro-tem chair for today. Roll Call – Motion approved.

Requested Volunteers or nomination for Chair for 2021. John Glynn nominated Mike Ankeny for chair with John Allen 2nd. Roll call – Motion approved.

Approve August 2020 Minutes: Motion by Mike Lee and 2nd by Mark Piepho. Roll Call – Motion approved.

Directors update: It was mentioned by Mike Ankeny that Tim Gabrielson passed away a couple weeks ago. There will be no service for him until this coming summer because of Covid. Mower County will have a Primary February 9th and a special election held on April 14 to fill his position. We appreciate his service as a county commissioner and to SEMREX. Sharon also wanted to recognize Jake Gillen for his service to SEMREX for the past 11 years.

Conflict of Interest documents are out for the commissioners to sign and send back.

OCC has had its ups and downs. May was a high and is now lower again.

Sorted Office paper is going down – we need another toilet paper shortage.

Mixed paper is holding steady – SEMREX mixed paper is currently going to insulation.

Tonnage should go back up with Waseca and Red Wing back up and running.

Revenue – November went up a little at the end. Fees are down.

China Sword – there will be a lot of capacity in the next 3 years in the US because of the bans.

US markets should become more stable as facilities come online.

Recycling Education committee – they have developed documents/calendar for facebook posts and for information and education. Mostly based on what and what not to put in the bin.

Regional Planning – 6 entities have approved the resolution to move forward if funding becomes available. We are still waiting on MPCA for possible grants.

BUDGET – looking at about the same as last year with the use of approx. \$16,500 out of reserves. Change with phone line item this year because of no long distance calls and Olmsted pays a stipend for Sharon's phone which she uses most of the time now.

Motion to approve the budget – John Allen motioned – Mark Peipho 2nd. Roll call – Motion approved.

MPCA Update: Ben stated that the state is looking at budget surplus. MPCA is still working through the process with the grants. Greater MN grants will be available.

With China ban on all Solid Waste materials in 2021 – marketers will be looking for other outlets. A reminder – with Covid #'s increasing, if any facility needs to cut back services or shutdown – please ask for regulatory relief that is available. If you do not have the information, please contact Ben and he will help you out.

Member Updates –

Rice Co – Paul Pieper stated that Jake Gillen did not win re-election as county commissioner. Olmsted County – Had some shortage of staff with quarantine but still able to function as needed. Revenue has gone from down 10% to now down 3%. Phase 1 of the planned residential self-haul had been completed. Will be going into phase 2 with RRT and take to committee of the whole in January or February.

Blue Earth County – Molly said the compost facility in Blue Earth County has submitted a new state permit to reviewed for being able to operate their facility. It is under review.

City of Red Wing – The facility is up and running. They are receiving 3400 tons per month so they have easily doubled their capacity. City of Red Wing/Goodhue County have a lawsuit in process with the haulers challenging the designation ordinance.

Waseca County – Tammy stated they did not run their HHW this summer. Their new building is now operational since October. They are working on getting their compost ready to sell. OCC is picking up.

Next Meeting is set for Friday June 4, 2021 at the Dodge County Government Services Building. Motion to adjourn – John Allen, 1st, Mike Lee 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Rita Cole.

SEMREX Emergency Joint Powers Board Meeting
Via Microsoft Teams
February 22, 2021 - 7:30 a.m.

Present via Microsoft Teams: Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Rita Cole, Dodge County; Tony Hill, Olmsted County; Mike Ankeny, Mower County Commissioner; John Allen, Dodge County Commissioner; Ted Herman, Freeborn County Commissioner; Mark Piepho, Blue Earth County Commissioner; John Glynn, Steele County Commissioner; Brian Harguth, Waseca County Commissioner.

Call Meeting to Order : Called the meeting to order at 7:39 a.m.
John Allen Motion, Brian Harguth, 2nd.
Roll call – Motion approved.

Commissioner Mike Ankeny read the proposed grant resolution to enter into and sign a grant agreement with MPCA to carry out the regional planning project.

Roll Call - Motion passed unanimously.

No other business.

Commissioner Ankeny requested a motion to adjourn.
John Glynn, 1st. John Allen 2nd.
Meeting adjourned at 7:43.

Minutes submitted by Rita Cole.

SEMREX EMERGENCY JOINT POWERS BOARD
MAY 3, 2021 - 7:30 A.M.

The Emergency SEMREX JPB meeting was brought to order by Commissioner Ankeny at 7:33 a.m. Roll Call: Present were Commissioner Piepho, Blue Earth County; Commissioner John Allen, Dodge County; Commissioner Herman, Commissioner Mike Ankeny, Mower County; Commissioner Wright, Olmsted County; Commissioner Purfeerst, Rice County; Commissioner Glynn- Steele County; Commissioner Brian Harguth, Waseca County, Marcus Thompson, Mower County Staff, Angie Knish, Mower County Director, Tammie Bramer, Mark Goskeson, Rita Cole, Dodge County staff, Sharon Schriever, SEMREX Director.

The Emergency Meeting was called to determine how to respond to the State regarding their offer of \$57,500 to complete a regional solid waste management plan. The State would only fund half of the total request. Each member would have to fund the half that the State would not fund. The members have already put in \$10,000,

Option1: Decline the offer unless the project can be fully funded.

Option 2: Accept the offer for \$57,500 and try to develop a plan with project management assistance from the southern Minnesota MPCA planner (pending approval of MPCA management – 4/29/21) and considerable additional staff time from each member organization.

Option 3: Accept the offer for \$57,500 and ask each participating member to come up with additional funding to support the development of a plan. Each member County/City has already committed an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for this project

Sharon noted that Option #2 was no longer on the table as there would be no additional planning help from MPCA staff. At their April 29th meeting, the Tech Committee approved a recommendation to accept Option 1.

Motion: Turn down the State and wait for the full amount of the grant.

1st by John Allen; 2nd by Greg Wright

Yes: 3. No: 2. Abstain: 3. A 2/3 majority was needed so a recommendation was not reached.

Mower County clarified: This money was to create a regional plan. The State would like us to do a regional plan but it is not required.

Motion to reconsider was introduced. 1st by Commissioner Herman; 2nd by John Allen. Passed.

Motion to deny the State offer of half the grant request and wait until the State fully funds the grant.

1st Mike Ankeny; 2nd by Greg Wright.

Passed with unanimous vote minus the 3 abstentions.

Next Meeting June 4.

Motion to adjourn. 1st by John Allen, Dodge County and Mark Piepho, Blue Earth County

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 a.m.

Submitted by,
Rita Cole