



SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS' EXCHANGE

*Cooperative marketing * market development * materials exchange*

507-328-7022

SEMREX Technical Committee Meeting

Friday, October 27, 2017


10:00 a.m.


Waseca County Highway Department - Conference Room

1495 5th Street SE

Waseca, MN

AGENDA


-  10:00 Call Meeting to Order & Approve Minutes

-  10:05 Director's Update – Sharon Schriever
 - National Sword Impact

-  10:25 JPB Meeting Planning
 - Review Opportunities & Challenges
 - Next Steps

-  11:20 MPCA Updates

-  11:30 Member Updates – All

-  12:00 Adjourn

If you cannot attend, please contact Sharon

SEMREX Meeting Minutes
Red Wing, MN
9/22/17

Attendance: Scott Martin, Olmsted; Jeff Weaver, Mower; Rita Cole, Dodge; Jean Lundquist, Blue Earth; Jeff Schneider, Red Wing; Sharon Schriever, SEMREX; Anna Kerr, MPCA

Meeting Called to order at 10:08 a.m.

Motion to Approve minutes from previous meeting by Jeff W, seconded by Rita. No Discussion

Directors Update:

- OCC is down \$10.00 to \$160.00 per ton.
- LDI – Flour bags/feed bags have liners that muck up the system – beware. Send pictures if accepting this material.
- Recycling Education meeting to discuss lists of acceptable materials. We have an issue with gabled boxes being included – these affect the smaller operations that don't accept this.
- Marketing tons down 858 from last year. OCC may be going elsewhere
- Revenue is way up, but down slightly for marketing revenue over 2016
- Glass to Envirolastech – off loading difficult. Delivery schedule needs to be improved.
- CISSR will be touring facility in October
- Mower has a market for S.U.S. wet strength cardboard.
- You can't fight emotion with facts – artists evoke emotions.
- Don't stop preaching to the choir as their enthusiasm is contagious
- Hank Fisher Died

Challenges & Opportunities: Planning Opportunities & Challenges – list is compiled by Anna

- Timing & Strength in numbers
- Maximize use of OWEF Capacity to lower the cost.
- Achieve more options for processing & disposal of CED
- Collaboration can create good ideas for progress
- Team work for new staff to learn from old staff legacy
- Better Plan
- Waste boundaries don't abide borders
- Increase political influence for policy & programming
- Reduce cost and increase revenue for environmental outcomes
- Pooling of resources
- Utilize SEMREX's JPB Status
- Cost savings in planning
- Unified Front

Challenges:

- Political Philosophies
- Funding
- Seeing the big picture
- Political support
- Getting Non-SEMREX counties to support & participate
- Tipping fee differences

- Loss of autonomy
- Increased burden to integrate
- May include increased cost not currently incurred
- Pressure on small systems to implement big plans
- Don't operate facilities or manage material – plan benefits don't apply as clearly
- Some counties may be too far to receive centralized benefits
- Progress/Planning may take longer
- Requires Ind. Co. actions plus JPB action
- (acknowledge the concerns of hesitant counties and provide solutions ahead of time)
- Lessons learned from other counties
- Inability to convince reluctant members of tangled benefits
- Get leaders involved – Staff to Elected, Elected to Elected, Staff Lead to Staff Lead
- Lessons learned from other regional efforts
- Identify shared values
- PCA Staff will summarize discussion

MPCA Updates:

- 2017 leg. Session: \$3,000,000 from CLP to go to Fed Gov. for payment of obligations
- \$1,000,000 available for compost and recycling
- \$17.25 million for SCORE disburse in October & April
- Polk received \$9,000,000 from CAP grant program
- SCISSR in St. Charles
- Statewide handling contract for recycling & solid waste collection for contracts by July of 2018

Integrated hauler reporting into SCORE Reporting

- Mower – not much – update to County Board renew addition
- Dodge – road still being fixed in front of facility – grading at building for self-serve3 drop off. Ready by January 1
- Olmsted – adopting Env. Ordinance with appeds process
- Blue Earth – 278 days
- Olmsted – Scott is new Water Lab guy – Interim

Rita Moved, 2nd by Jeff S. to Adjourn the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

SEMREX Regional Planning Discussion – September 22, 2017

Challenges to Regional Planning

- Decision make process make up
- Political support to implement plan
- Getting elected officials to see the bigger picture
- Political differences/philosophy

- Pressure for small counties to act like the “big boys”
- Losing sight of county-specific goals, projects, and/or priorities
- If a county doesn’t own/operate a facility, they don’t get those benefits from the plan
- May be more burdensome (not everything applies to every county)
- Loss of autonomy

- Inability to convince reluctant members of the group of the benefits
- Getting additional counties involved (Winona, Houston, Fillmore, Goodhue)

- There could be additional cost incurred by counties if a consultant is hired
- Funding – some counties currently do plans in-house, while others hire contractors or consultants to write them

- Staff turnover
- Turnover during the process
- Changing elected officials mid-process
- Too far away to participate in milk run collections, etc.
- Tip fee difference (LF v. WTE)

Opportunities

- Strength in numbers
- Teamwork – new directors and staff
- Waste moves beyond county borders, so we should be working together
- Better plan overall
- Collaboration and brainstorming
- Maximize capacity to increase processing and lower cost
- Reduce costs, increase revenue, benefit environment through economies of scale
- Command better commodity prices
- Operating contingencies – long and short term, disasters
- Timing
- Achieve more options for C&D (processing, sorting, disposal)
- Increase political influence for policy and programs (unified front)
- Work together to make better decisions as we go forward.
- Maybe get a deal on collections of problem materials.
- Get a big picture look of how or where solid waste moves through lower state.
- Better chance as a large group to receive funding for projects.
- Some Counties do not have Landfill or Waste to energy = \$\$ or voice

Other Considerations

- Get leaders involved to help bring skeptics along (commissioner to commissioner relationships)
- Lessons learned from other regional efforts (e.g. One Water, One Plan)
- Identify shared values
- Need to educate decision makers – short message that highlights benefits to individual counties and the region

SEMREX SOLID WASTE PLAN DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

Include in JPB Timeline	Task	Start	Finish
	Tech Committee meeting to discuss level of staff involvement		
	Tech Committee develop recommendation for staff vs. consultant work breakdown	8/25/2017	11/1/2017
X	Develop scoping document	8/25/2017	11/9/2017
	Send Scoping Document & supporting material to JPB	11/17/2017	11/17/2017
X	Approval by JPB to move forward with Regional Planning Effort	12/1/2017	12/1/2017
	Develop Resolution for individual Boards/Councils	12/4/2017	1/1/2018
X	Approval by individual County/City Board's supporting Regional Plan	1/2/2018	1/31/2018
	Determine alternative funding sources		
	Secure Funding/Seek assistance from MN legislature.		
X	Legislative/SEMREX/local/MPCA for funding request. Will it be staff drivers? Do we hire a consultant?		
	Find out who would provide legal review of RFP		
X	Develop RFP for consultant portion of work (research/develop scoring criteria)		5/10/2019
	Purchasing Div., attorney (MCIT?) approvals		
	Tech Committee approval of RFP & recommendation to JPB		
X	JPB approve RFP for regional planning		6/7/2019
	Advertise Proposals		
	Tech Committee Review Proposals		

X	JPB approval of consultant bid		12/6/2019
X	Develop Plan		11/10/2021
X	Submit final draft to MPCA for formal review		
X	County approval of final draft of Plan		
X	Public Notice		
	Review and respond to comments		
X	Potential Public Meeting/Hearing (if requested during public notice)		
X	Final Plan Approval by MPCA		6/1/2022
	Final Plan Adoption by resolution of individual Member		
X	Boards/Council	6/1/2022	6/30/2022