

Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority

10/17/2022; 11:00 AM

Washtenaw County Learning Resource Center
4135 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Members Present: Auth, Best, Wessler, Tanghe, Mason, Hoffmeister

Members Absent: City of Saline/Sirls, Ann Arbor Township/DiPietro

Staff Present: Eggermont, Porta

Attorney: Davis

Members of the public present: Mark Perry, Brian Conaway

Best called the meeting to order at 11:03 AM.

Roll Call

Ann Arbor Township: Not Present

Pittsfield Township: Present/Best

Scio Township: Present/Auth

Ypsilanti Township: Present/Hoffmeister

City of Dexter: Present/Tanghe

City of Saline: Not Present

City of Ypsilanti: Present/Wessler

City of Ann Arbor: Present/Mason

Approval of agenda for 10/17 meeting

Motion to approve agenda without amendment moved by Wessler, seconded by Tanghe. All in favor. Motion carries.

Hoffmeister arrived at 11:04 AM

Approval of Minutes

9/19/2022 Meeting Minutes Approval

Motion to approve without amendment moved by Auth, seconded by Tanghe. All in favor. Motion carries.

Unfinished Business

RFP Discussion

Davis shared a memo about the RFP process that redefines what the group is doing with respect to the authority, the municipalities, and the service provider. The memo includes a framework for the RFP itself and a sample contract that will go with the RFP. Best inquired with the Board about if their community is interested in being involved in the RFP initially, in the future, or not at all. Pittsfield Township, City of Ypsilanti, and Ypsilanti Township shared they are interested when their current contract expires. Eggermont added that he spoke with Sirls, and the City of Saline is interested. Tanghe indicated the City of Dexter would like a presentation from Davis before committing.

Auth stated that while Scio Township supports these regional collaborative contracts, Scio Township cannot at this time authorize its inclusion in an RFP because it does not feel comfortable yet as to the proposed wording of the RFP and what that would mean for Scio residents. Davis asked if Scio might be interested in joining if they saw the RFP and liked it with respect to recycling services. Auth responded that he does not know and brought up the concern that this may not be a favorable financial decision for Scio Township because the prices of services today are higher than when Scio established its current contract with GFL, and because a collaborative contract may lead to negative financial consequences to Scio Township residents.

nature and wording of the concept of regional collaboration of services and

M03

Scio Township residents.

Best noted that all communities want a better price in the collaborative contract than what they are currently getting, however the price will not be known until after putting out the RFP and that a commitment from a bigger group is needed to get the better price.

Davis asked Conaway, attending as a representative for Waste Management, if in general it is easier for a service provider to get paid by an authority or municipality rather than billing each household. Conaway responded yes. Davis pointed out to the Board that because billing an authority is easier, it could have a positive impact on pricing. Davis explained to Conaway that a portion of the WRRMA communities will be ready for a new service when the RFP goes out and asked what his thoughts are on additional communities joining into the contract as their current contracts expire. Conaway indicated that if Waste Management was the service provider for WRRMA, they would prefer to know all the communities that will be coming into the contract before providing pricing.

Davis walked through the framework of the RFP and asked the interested communities about their current infrastructure, approximate service units, and interest in yard waste collection. Davis shared that the default for cart sizes is 96-gallon for both trash and recycling and mentioned a study that showed giving residents a bigger cart helped with increasing participation in curbside recycling. Davis noted that similar contracts that provided 96-gallon carts by default have also given residents the option to swap for a 64-gallon cart, though not many residents choose the smaller cart. Eggermont pointed out Ypsilanti Township and City of Ypsilanti both recently went through cart grants, so those communities own their own curbside recycling carts.

Davis will make changes to the memo and send a digital version to the Board. Best instructed members to take the memo back to their communities and send any suggestions to Davis. Best shared that anyone is welcome to attend the Pittsfield Township working session that Davis will be at to discuss this RFP on October 26 and will have an opportunity to ask questions.

Grant Updates:

Eggermont shared that he received the proofs for the postcards today and the postage has already been paid. He will review and confirm the proofs with the goal of getting them sent out by early next week. Eggermont reminded the Board that if they had not looked at the surveys yet and still wanted to provide feedback to do so in the next two days. There were issues scheduling a time for the MRF audit at Recycle Ann Arbor. The target date for the next audit will be the next time IRIS is available, which is likely early 2023. Eggermont received communication last week that the reimbursement request was received.

New Business

Draft Summary of Activities

Eggermont shared the summary of activities and noted that it will be sent to each community's clerk after it is completed. Auth requested that the document reiterate that the scrap metal information is specifically for City of Ann Arbor. Auth suggested removing the second line in the third paragraph about meeting with GFL. Auth also requested the language about all communities' materials going to the Ann Arbor MRF except for Scio Township be modified to instead say "with the exception of GFL customers". Mason requested the addition of the word "interested" before "municipalities" in the second sentence of the last paragraph.

Motion to approve the draft Summary of Activities with amendments moved by Wessler. Seconded by Hoffmeister. All in favor. Motion carries.

Draft 2023 Budget

Eggermont shared that after the draft budget is sent to each municipality for review, WRRMA will consider feedback and set the budget for 2023 at the December meeting. Washtenaw County sends an invoice at the end of year for community membership dues. Auth inquired if the legal expenses budget for \$8,500 will be enough for the upcoming additional work related to the RFP. Davis responded that \$8,500 could be a light budget for the following year in 2024. Perry pointed out that revenues for participating communities should be \$40,000 because this budget is for 2023 and City of Ann Arbor would not be prorated again in 2023. Mason asked if the budgeted amount for education and outreach is grant reimbursable. Eggermont responded that WRRMA uses those funds to pay for the ReCollect search tool and it was grant reimbursable in 2022. He added that he will inquire about it being grant reimbursable again for 2023.

Motion to approve the draft budget with amendments moved by Wessler. Seconded by Hoffmeister. All in favor. Motion Carries.

Invoices

Motion to approve the Davis invoice for \$675.00 and the Washtenaw County invoice for \$4,762.12 invoices moved by Wessler. Seconded by Tanghe. All in favor. Motion carries.

Reports and Updates

Hoffmeister shared that Ypsilanti Township is in the process of distributing their new recycling carts. They will have the stickers showing what recyclables are accepted and which way to place carts. The carts were made by Cascade and have an RFID tag.

Next Steps

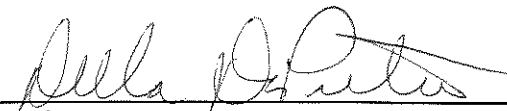
Davis will make edits to the memo shared today and will send to the Board digitally. Davis is attending the meeting at Pittsfield Township next Wednesday, October 26. Eggermont will make amendments to draft summary of activities and draft budget. He will then send to municipal clerks for feedback. Eggermont will have the postcards sent out by early next week.

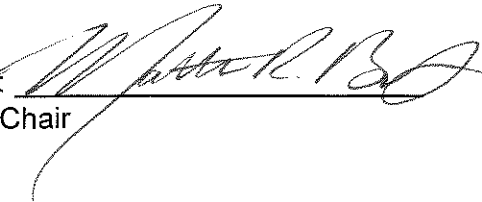
Public Comment: General/Unrelated to current Agenda Items

None

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Wessler, seconded by Tanghe. All in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 12:30PM.

Minutes prepared by Angela Porta

Minutes approved by: 
Secretary

Minutes approved by: 
Chair