

Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority

10/18/2021; 1:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Members Present: DiPietro, Fordice, Hoffmeister, Akers, Auth, Perry

Members Absent: Breyer, Pittsfield Township Delegate

Staff Present: Eggermont, Garramone

Attorney: Davis

Members of the public present: Ukena, Weinert, Coleman

Akers called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM.

Roll Call

Ann Arbor Township: DiPietro is attending remotely from Ann Arbor Township, Washtenaw County, MI

Pittsfield Township: absent

Scio Township: Auth is attending remotely from Scio Township, Washtenaw County, MI (*left at 1:31 PM*)

Alternate Perry is attending remotely from Scio Township, Washtenaw County, MI.

Ypsilanti Township: Hoffmeister is attending remotely from Ypsilanti Township

City of Dexter: Breyer is absent

City of Saline: Fordice is attending remotely from the City of Norman, Cleveland County, OK

City of Ypsilanti: Akers is attending remotely from the City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County, MI

Approval of agenda for 10/18 meeting

Akers requested a motion to move the Recycle Ann Arbor update to beginning of the meeting.

Motion to approve agenda as amended moved by Auth, seconded by Fordice. Roll call vote: Yes (4).

Motion carries.

Recycle Ann Arbor Update

Bryan Ukena, CEO at Recycle Ann Arbor gave an update on the RAA MRF. They successfully ran the equipment last week without any materials on the belts and will continue testing with materials. The MRF is on track to start processing material from the City of Ann Arbor and surrounding communities the first week of November.

Auth asked if the MRF will take glass. Ukena replied yes, it will be recycled into glass or insulation, glass smaller than 3/8ths inch will need to be landfilled because the sorter can't read it. Paper will be recycled at a mill that only recycles post-consumer material in Ohio that mostly makes Amazon boxes. Plastic agreements for milk jugs, detergent bottles, and PET soda bottles are in progress to guarantee bottle to bottle recycling.

Weinert added RAA is actively soliciting additional tons from neighboring communities and are looking at a base processing fee for customers and sales revenue sharing based on the value of the materials. The MRF will communicate with haulers if loads have much contamination and can start to have penalties for customers if it becomes too high. Ukena noted that due to revenue sharing, communities will be rewarded for low contamination. WRRMA may be able to tour the MRF late this year or early next year.

Ukena and Weinert left at 1:29 pm.

Approval of Minutes

9/20/2021 Meeting Minutes Approval

Motion to approve without amendment moved by Fordice, seconded by DiPietro. Roll call vote: Yes (3)
Abstain (2). Motion carries.

Auth left at 1:32 pm.

Unfinished Business

Grant Updates

The committee chairs met to discuss the usage of the remainder of grant funds and proposed spending the money on magnets for distribution to residents with the recycling flyer. Eggermont shared a magnet distribution proposal. DiPietro noted approval and asked for 20 per community to be held back for distribution at tabling and events. Motion to approve purchasing the magnets and the distribution as amended moved by DiPietro and supported by Hoffmeister.

Garramone presented the draft grant report to the Board. The report outlines all education and outreach activities for the grant, the tagging and MRF audit processes, as well as in-dept data and analysis. The audience for the report is intended to be the public. Eggermont would like to put this report on WRRMA's website as well as send to municipalities with WRRMA's budget and statement of activities later this month. The Board requested additional time to review the document in more detail.

Motion to approve the grant report preliminary and allow municipalities to provide feedback for an additional week, and for the county to publish after incorporating feedback moved by DiPietro, seconded by Perry. Roll call vote: Yes (5). Motion carries.

DiPietro left at 1:55 pm.

New Business

Glass Recycling Discussion

The Board discussed follow up after learning last month the GFL MRF was not recycling glass. Eggermont added WRRMA should figure out an alternate option for glass recycling, such as sending it to a location where it will be recycled.

Akers noted the challenges the City of Ypsilanti faced when they stopped collecting glass about two years ago. Despite press, outreach, and cart rejections, glass contamination continues. Davis added that SOCRRA is continuing to take glass and operating at a loss with it. He is concerned that if glass is taken out of recycling, it will be challenging to get it back in to the stream later, and that glass has long been considered recyclable.

Garramone is reaching out to learn if GFL is sending the glass to the landfill to be used as landfill cover, but there has not yet been a response. The Board discussed actively working on solutions to recycle glass to help regain trust in recycling. Perry noted it would be helpful to hear from GFL their position on glass recycling, to learn if they might recycle it when the prices for glass go back up or if there are other reasons. Eggermont will seek further information from GFL and Davis will inquire with SOCRRA about their glass recycling situation. The Board would like to continue this discussion at future meetings.

Draft Summary of Activities and Budget

Eggermont presented the Draft Summary of Activities and the Draft 2022 Budget. These will be sent to all municipalities this month as required in the Articles of Amendment. He will also send resolutions for the municipalities to appoint Delegate and Alternate Board Members.

Motion to approve the 2021 Draft Summary of Activities and the 2022 Draft Budget moved by Perry, supported by Fordice. Roll call vote: Yes (4)

Invoices

Motion to approve Washtenaw County invoice in the amount of \$10,213.65, Facebook advertisements in the amount of \$219.28, and invoice for Adams Outdoor Advertising in the amount of \$7,500 moved by Hoffmeister, supported by Perry. Roll call vote: Yes (4). Motion carries.

Reports and Updates

Eggermont is looking into a possible County ordinance to prevent commingling trash and recycling after hearing about a dozen reports from citizens, mainly in Dexter and Scio. The Board discussed ordinance and contract language aimed at holding haulers accountable.

Next Steps

None specified

Public Comment: General/Unrelated to current Agenda Items

None

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Hoffmeister, seconded by Perry. Roll Call Vote Yes (4); Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 2:42 PM.

Minutes prepared by Isabella Garramone

Minutes approved by: *Della DiPietro*
[Della DiPietro \(Nov 18, 2021 12:03 EST\)](#)
Secretary

Minutes approved by: *Ronald A. AKers*
[Ronald A. AKers \(Nov 18, 2021 12:04 EST\)](#)
Chair









10.18.21 minutes for signing

Final Audit Report

2021-11-18

Created:	2021-11-15
By:	Isabella Garramone (garramonei@washtenaw.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAArIVKpOX7FXQfuaZnU82RFoHupNJJuFfo

"10.18.21 minutes for signing" History

-  Document created by Isabella Garramone (garramonei@washtenaw.org)
2021-11-15 - 8:07:36 PM GMT
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