

Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority

12/11/2023; 11:00 AM

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

Members Present: Best, Auth, Hines, Tanghe, Sirls, Wessler, Mason, Colvin-Garcia

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Eggermont, Wright

Attorney:

Members of the public present: Joe Gondek (Recycle Ann Arbor)

Best called the meeting to order at 11:02 AM.

Roll Call

Ann Arbor Township: Present/Colvin-Garcia

Pittsfield Township: Present/Best

Scio Township: Present/Auth

Ypsilanti Township: Present/Hines

City of Dexter: Present/Tanghe

City of Saline: Present/Sirls

City of Ypsilanti: Present/Wessler

City of Ann Arbor: Present/Mason

Approval of agenda for 12/11/2023 meeting

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

Mason arrived at 11:03 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

11/20/2023 Meeting Minutes Approval

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

Wessler arrived at 11:04 a.m.

Unfinished Business

RFP Next Steps – Administration & Meetings

Eggermont noted a few questions were submitted by one bidder so far and that he is looking for clarification on the posting of answers to questions. Eggermont suggested answers to the questions asked at the pre-bid meeting be posted online as soon as possible after the meeting. Any remaining questions from bidders would be submitted and answered following the timeline in the RFP.

Hines arrived at 11:07 a.m.

Eggermont shared that Best, Davis, Wright, and himself will score the submissions and then use those to determine which ones will be interviewed. Eggermont asked that anyone who is interested in participating in the interviews contact him by December 18 and noted that if more than three board members participate then the interviews would need to be posted as public meetings but would go into closed session. Hines, Sirls, and Wessler expressed interest in participating in the interviews. Wessler noted that if she is the determining member for quorum that she is fine to opt out.

Auth gave a reminder about looking into insurance with the upcoming changes to WRRMA.

2024 Budget

Discussion

Eggermont shared that he did not receive any comments from communities to make changes and opened it up for further discussion to the board. Eggermont noted that there is not currently a proposal for funding staff costs, if a proposal for dues were to increase in 2024, an amendment will be brought forward at that time.

Colvin-Garcia arrived at 11:17 a.m.

Vote

Motion to approve the budget moved by Sirls, seconded by Wessler.

Upon a vote to approve the 2024 budget, the vote was:

YES: Best, Tanghe, Auth, Mason, Hines, Sirls, Wessler, Colvin-Garcia

NO: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passes.

Reports

Member Reports

Drop-Off Station – Mason reported that there are no updates at this time.

Other – None.

Washtenaw County Updates

Eggermont provided an update that there is a potential for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation in Michigan to be drafted in the next year that would create a system where packaging producers would subsidize recycling by paying into a fund that would distribute money to Materials Recovery Facilities and municipalities. It would not take away individual municipality's authority to set up their own services but would create a payment structure to direct money from packaging producers to municipalities to help pay for recycling.

Auth asked if there is any update on the plastic bag ban legislation. Eggermont responded that there are discussions in the legislature, and we anticipate it coming up next year. Eggermont added that at the county level a tax would be implemented rather than a ban because research suggests that approach reduces more plastic.

Invoices

Motion to approve the Davis invoice for \$1,237.50. motioned by Auth, seconded by Wessler. All in favor. Motion carries.

Next Steps

Members need to pay dues for 2023. The next meeting is January 22. The pre-proposal meeting is on January 4. Wright will make a public meeting posting for the January 4 meeting.

Public Comment: General/Unrelated to current Agenda Items

Joe Gondek asked if the RFP is open to the public. Eggermont responded yes and that it is posted on the WRRMA website.

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Hines, seconded by Colvin-Garcia All in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Angela Wright

Minutes approved by: _____

Secretary

Minutes approved by: _____

Chair