

Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority

12/12/2022; 11:00 AM

Washtenaw County Western Service Center
705 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

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

Members Absent: Wessler

Staff Present: Eggermont, Porta

Attorney: Davis

Members of the public present: Mark Perry

Best called the meeting to order at 11:01 AM.

Roll Call

Ann Arbor Township: Present/Colvin-Garcia

Pittsfield Township: Present/Best

Scio Township: Present/Auth

Ypsilanti Township: Present/Hoffmeister

City of Dexter: Present/Tanghe

City of Saline: Present/Sirls

City of Ypsilanti: Not Present/Wessler

City of Ann Arbor: Present/Mason

Approval of agenda for 12/19 meeting

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

Approval of Minutes

11/21/2022 Meeting Minutes Approval

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

Unfinished Business

Discussion of Budget

Eggermont shared the budget that was amended after the October meeting discussion and sent to each municipality's clerks to give them an opportunity to provide feedback or objections. No municipalities followed up with feedback or objections. Eggermont provided a brief financial update that as of October we had around \$38,000 in expenses for 2022, which does not include County time for the fourth quarter. Through membership dues we will generate ~\$35,000 in 2022 and have ~\$75,000 left in reserves allowing WRRMA to operate next year for any projects that the board decides to take on. Perry asked if the \$75,000 reserves is restricted or unrestricted cash reserve. Eggermont responded that it is unrestricted.

Upon a vote for the adoption of the Budget, the vote was:

YES: Best, Auth, Hoffmeister, Tanghe, Sirls, Mason

NO: None

ABSTAIN: None

The Budget was adopted as presented.

Colvin-Garcia arrived at 11:10am

Introductions

New Ann Arbor Township delegate – Carlene Colvin-Garcia

Grant Updates

Porta provided an update on the survey results from the survey that was sent on a postcard to households identified as having low-participation during the cart-tagging program. The survey results suggest that most residents have access to curbside and/or drop-off recycling and that they participate in recycling. The results also suggest that more information about what can be recycled and what the materials get recycled into would help residents recycle more and have higher confidence that materials are being recycled into new products. The board discussed several ways WRRMA might consider educating residents about what can go in their recycling bin and what their items get turned into.

RFP Next Steps

Davis shared an updated model contract that has been restructured to have carts only. Davis indicated that before the contract gets worked into an RFP, some degree of certainty is needed as to who is in the group for the initial RFP process so the contract can be tweaked among the participating members. He noted that currently the participating communities are Pittsfield Township, Ypsilanti Township, City of Ypsilanti, City of Saline, and City of Dexter. Davis explained how the contract gets backed into an RFP and how the pricing matrix works for the bidders. Auth indicated a needed correction on page 20 to change "Saginaw" to "Washtenaw County area". Best reiterated next steps of moving contract into RFP and asked for any objections. Davis will work on the RFP to bring to the January meeting so that there will be several months to review. Eggermont noted that a collaborative contract is directly tied to the recycling goals of increasing participation and decreasing contamination and it would create opportunities to do more education and outreach.

Reports and Updates

Davis pointed out that food waste is a high percentage of residential waste and suggested that WRRMA might consider putting attention towards food waste in 2023.

Eggermont provided an update on the Part 115 eight-bill package that passed the Senate in lame duck and shared copies of the bill analysis with the board. There are many changes that will impact solid waste facilities and county solid waste planning. Eggermont encouraged the board to read the bill analysis and invited those who have questions to reach out to him.

Eggermont shared that the Ann Arbor drop-off station is continuing to progress and there will be a stakeholder meeting, tentatively set for January 12, to review the different facility concepts and proposed materials to collect. WRRMA delegates will receive an invite to the session.

Hoffmeister shared that he is taking on a new position, and this is his last WRRMA meeting.

Next Steps

January meeting will be January 23rd and will include elections and meeting updates. Porta will send the WRRMA contacts to Colvin-Garcia. Eggermont and Porta will work on next steps for outreach as a follow up to the survey. Davis will incorporate the contract into an RFP.

Public Comment: General/Unrelated to current Agenda Items

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Hoffmeister, seconded by Colvin-Garcia. All in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 12:14PM.

Minutes prepared by Angela Porta

Minutes approved by:


Secretary

Minutes approved by:


Chair