

Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority

8/19/2024; 11:00 AM

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

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

Members Absent: Tanghe, Wessler

Staff Present: Eggermont

Attorney: Davis

Members of the public present: Perry

Best called the meeting to order at 11:06 AM.

Roll Call

Ann Arbor Township: Present/Colvin-Garcia

Pittsfield Township: Present/Best

Scio Township: Present/Auth

Ypsilanti Township: Present/Hines

City of Dexter: Absent/Tanghe

City of Saline: Present/Sirls

City of Ypsilanti: Absent/Wessler

City of Ann Arbor: Present/Mason

Approval of agenda for 6/17/2024 meeting

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

Approval of Minutes

6/17/2024 Meeting Minutes Approval

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

Unfinished Business

Recycling Audit Update: Eggermont is still working on getting a date with Iris and RAA. He will send it out to the delegates when a date is decided.

Colvin-Garcia arrived at 11:14 a.m.

RFP Timeline:

Best introduced the topic and noted there is preparation that needs to be done. Best noted that this is the most important part of what WRRMA is going to do and that it is crucial to get those who want to join the contract to join the process. If this effort isn't successful, the window will close for 5-10 years if it doesn't happen this round. He noted this is an opportunity to take advantage of this to provide a really good price on a contract for members and residents.

The Board debated if Scio would be able to join the contract under their existing contract terms.

Auth inquired about if WRRMA would want one hauler for the number of communities and what would happen if there were issues. Perry suggested to the Chair that the Board return to the agenda item and pick up where they left off.

Davis explained that we're looking for communities to lock into a process, not to lock them into a community. Davis noted the Section 5 and Section 6 contracts and provided a draft of the Section 5 contract which would be between the community and WRRMA for the community to pledge their waste to WRRMA. We didn't get that far in the last RFP effort but this time around we are going to move the Section 5 contract earlier in the process. The goal would be to provide

some glue between the communities interested in pursuing a joint contract to derive the best pricing. Hines inquired what the financial commitment would be to stay a member of WRRMA and if that would be available at that time.

Davis noted that we should clarify the carts or carts plus, or carts plus with an asterisk. We'll need to know what services each community wants or doesn't want, which will need to be provided in the very near future. Davis recommended soliciting a pricing for carts only and carts plus. Davis noted that if the haulers sense a lack of unity among the group that they will try to peel one away. Davis noted that WRRMA should be able to get lower prices than individual communities and centralize service coordination therefore relieving communities of phone calls for service issues.

Davis noted that we should be able to get better pricing for communities. Sirils noted that he believes his City Council is looking for this. Best added that Saline received a number from their hauler that was close to what they had been paying for, about 3.5% increase. When WRRMA didn't proceed, that number went to 9.5% increase. Saline is now lined up with the WRRMA Contract. Hines inquired if we could get the haulers to commit to not submitting a bid. Davis replied no, but the bidders would have to hold pricing for 180 days from submission. It would be legally questionable to try preventing haulers from submitting unsolicited bids.



Handwritten signature and initials, possibly 'MBS', located to the right of the second paragraph.

Auth noted he believes that the contract would supersede the Articles of Incorporation. Davis said to take it out as there aren't any inconsistencies. Auth made a motion to refer this to Foster Swift for a review as to the effect of the Contract on the Articles of Incorporation. Sirils noted that he would support motion for piece of mind and so that no member has doubts. Davis noted that he put it forward as a draft. Auth withdrew his motion if this is brought back next month. Auth noted that he has some edits both minor and substantial. There was discussion about a court review or binding arbitration, under the section equity disputes. Sirils withdrew his second. Best recommended that Davis put together a final draft. Davis said that he could send it on Friday. Best asked the group to send Davis edits and CC all with questions by Labor Day, but not to have any back and forth, and then the Board can move forward on the Section 5 contract at the next meeting. Best encouraged members to have their attorneys review the draft noting there will be a final with a few edits. While a transition will have challenges, members should take the opportunity back to their community and note the long-term opportunity to get a better deal on solid waste citing SOCRRA as a model.

Eggermont went through the timeline provided in the packet. He spoke about the pledge and that Davis and Eggermont would go to the meeting, with the goal to have them back in November. He noted that municipalities need to review the last RFP and see if Delegates need any changes. The Board will discuss the RFP in a closed session next round. Hines noted that providing a draft RFP at the time of the pledge would be helpful to provide context to the township Board. Eggermont noted that can be done by moving the RFP discussion up to our next meeting. Davis asked for clarification if communities want to do carts or carts-plus and recommended requesting the bids to provide both pricing. Eggermont will reach out to the communities about carts-plus. Eggermont noted the timeline was derived from the last schedule based on hauler input and adjusted for holidays. The pledge will be in effect until the contractor is selected at the March 17, 2025, board meeting.

Eggermont talked about funding for staff. The one percent discussed during negotiations isn't enough to fund two staff people. Eggermont noted that additional funding would be proportional by number of households through a service fee. Eggermont will put together some numbers for the next meeting.

Eggermont noted that haulers and contract dates are provided in draft form in the packet, highlighting that he will edit Scio Township's as requested by Auth. Any other edits should be sent to Eggermont so it can be provided in final form in the next packet.

New Business

Reports and Updates

Member Reports

County Reports- Eggermont provided an update on the Materials Management Planning process, the committee, the overall goal, setting facility siting processes or restrictions, and approval process.

Invoices

Motion to approve the Davis invoice for \$375 moved by Sirls, seconded by Hines. All in favor. Motion carries.

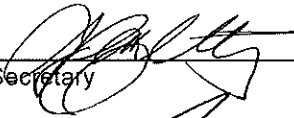
Next Steps

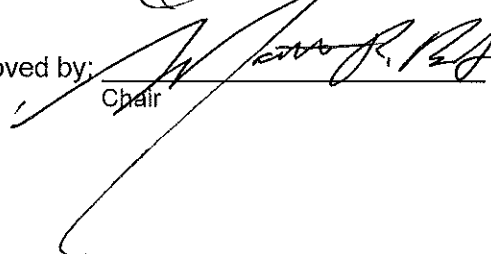
- Davis will send out a comprehensive draft this Friday, before and after that Delegates will send their questions.
- Audit update
- Staffing and funding options
- Delegates to review the RFP. Davis will provide an opinion letter at the next meeting.

Public Comment: General/Unrelated to current Agenda Items

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Mason, seconded by Hines. All in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Theo Eggermont

Minutes approved by:  9/15/2024
Secretary

Minutes approved by:  9/16/24
Chair