

Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority

8/21/2023; 11:00 AM

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

Members Present: Colvin-Garcia, Best, Stumbo, Tanghe, Sirls, Mason

Members Absent: Auth, Wessler

Staff Present: Eggermont, Morris

Attorney: Absent

Members of the public present: John Hines (Ypsilanti Township); Sean Adams (Recycle Ann Arbor)

Best called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM.

Roll Call

Ann Arbor Township: Present/Colvin-Garcia

Pittsfield Township: Present/Best

Scio Township: Not Present/Auth

Ypsilanti Township: Present/Stumbo

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 8/21/2023 meeting

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

Approval of Minutes

7/17/2023 Meeting Minutes Approval

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

Unfinished Business

RFP Discussion

Attorney Bob Davis is unable to attend this meeting; Eggermont read comments provided by Davis related to RFP planning.

Sirls arrived at 11:09 a.m.
Colvin-Garcia arrived at 11:11 a.m.

Davis will verify with staff that he has all the comments for the RFP from municipalities, incorporate them into the document, and send for final review next week.

At the next meeting he would like to

- take a vote to approve the RFP document in terms of both form and substance.
- discuss WRRMA staffing, billing, and administration of a hauling contract.
- set a series of time related events that includes the approval of the RFP and its process by the legislative body of each participating municipality and the review and approval of

a draft agreement between WRRMA and each community wherein the participating community contracts its waste streams to be managed and serviced by WRRMA.

The RFP process will, as discussed, contain a provision that accommodates other members of the WRRMA potentially joining the contract when that community has a contract that has expired. This will result in the WRRMA communities eventually all being on the same contract schedule in the future.

Best requested that the RFP consider inclusion of a process for "vacation holds" in the RFP, where an individual customer can temporarily stop service within certain timeframe parameters that would be negotiated and could in theory allow for a cost savings for individual households, and more accurate accounting of waste generation. Eggermont will bring this issue to Davis's attention and ask for feedback based on work with other communities. The board discussed how a "vacation holds" process would be administered, and whether the assumption should be that WRRMA office would administer processing vacation holds. The effect of this process on millage-based accounts versus billed accounts was noted as a consideration.

New Business

Drop-Off Site

Eggermont posed the question that when the new Ann Arbor Drop-Off Site opens if there is interest among the WRRMA communities in forming a centralized contract for residents in the member communities to access Drop-off Site? Would there be interest and benefit in WRRMA playing a role in this site? Or is this something individual municipalities will continue to do on their own?

Best described Pittsfield Township's current model, in which the Township holds a contract with Recycle Ann Arbor, and the Township administers on individual resident level to provide access to the site using a "card" system. Best lent support to adding "Drop-off Site" to the current potential "menu of WRRMA options", which, with the RFP, would include solid waste, recycling, composting, and possibly the Drop-Off.

Tanghe pointed out that distance would be a factor for Dexter community, and that the new site is far from them, but an expansion of the Recovery Yard on Jackson Road in Scio Township would be favorable to his community. Best pointed out that the financial stability of the new site was important to long-term success of all programs.

Members were interested in continuing the conversation about looking at a WRRMA contract at the Drop-Off Site for WRRMA members.

The board discussed proof of residency to use the Drop-off Site. Pittsfield Township uses a card system, which is available to each resident by pick-up at Township Hall. Colvin-Garcia pointed out that WRRMA may want to select a methodology to review residency, instead of each community having their own methodology. Another consideration would be providing a "Drop-Off Card", plus an identification to prove identity when using the Drop-Off Site.

Reports and Updates

Drop-Off Site Report

Mason provided an update on the new Drop Off Site. Site plan package has been completed, but has not been sent to Pittsfield Township for review. City of Ann Arbor staff have been requested to provide additional information to Ann Arbor City Council by October 16, and will have more information to share after this meeting. Information that is still being developed

include internal policies related to use by non-Ann Arbor residents and understanding long term costs of operations. Mason and Eggermont noted that the new site was large enough to be used by non-Ann Arbor communities.

Financial Report

Eggermont provided the Financial Report and noted expenses are under budget. Eggermont reminded members that WRRMA will invoice member communities in October.

Motion to receive file by Sirls, second by Colvin-Garcia. All in favor. Motion carries.

Update: Master Composter Program

Eggermont shared that the Washtenaw Master Compost Program will start again this September, after pause during COVID. County sponsors this course. Eggermont encouraged members to share with their networks and other interested parties in their communities.

Update: HHW Center

Eggermont reviewed status of the new Household Hazardous Waste Center, which is the result of the consent judgement between Arbor Hills Landfill (in Salem Township / Northeast Washtenaw County) and State of Michigan Attorney General. This new site is targeting opening date of October 1st. Press release and other information coming in September.

When this new site opens, Washtenaw County will continue to operate the Home Toxics Center on Zeeb Road but will now operate this second Center. The new center will serve all Washtenaw County, City of Northville, and Northville Township residents. Eggermont updated that both centers will move to an appointment-based system in October.

Invoices

Motion to approve the Davis invoice for \$637.50 motioned by Stumbo, seconded Mason. All in favor. Motion carries.

Next Steps

Eggermont will connect with Davis about the RFP, drop-off station, and vacation holds. Eggermont will provide Davis' notes to the group and provide additional information to the group regarding the Master Composter list.

Public Comment: General/Unrelated to current Agenda Items

No comments or additional items.

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Tanghe, seconded by Sirls. All in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 11:57 AM.

Minutes prepared by Abby Morris

Minutes approved by:


Secretary

Minutes approved by:


Chair