

Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority

4/20/2020; 1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Members Present: Weirich (Pittsfield Charter Township), Auth (Scio Township), Fordice (City of Saline), Nicholls (City of Dexter), Akers (City of Ypsilanti), Perry (Scio Township), DiPietro (Ann Arbor Township), O'Connell (Ann Arbor Township), Stanfield (Ypsilanti Township)

Members Absent:

Washtenaw County Staff Present: Eggermont, Garramone, Pratt

Attorney: Davis

Members of the public present: Weir, Naples

Akers called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM

Roll Call

Ann Arbor Township: Present/DiPietro

Pittsfield Township: Present/Weirich

Scio Township: Present/Auth

Ypsilanti Township: Present/Stanfield

City of Dexter: Present/Nicholls

City of Saline: Present/Fordice

City of Ypsilanti: Present/Akers

Akers informed the group of virtual meeting protocols, including utilizing the raise hand function to signify interest in talking and voting as a roll call vote for each item. In additional, all votes will be a Roll Call Vote.

Approval of agenda for 4/20 meeting

- Fordice would like to add discussion of the Ann Arbor Drop off Station.
- Motion to approve agenda as amended moved by DiPietro, seconded by Fordice. Roll call vote: Yes (7). All in favor.

Approval of Minutes

2/24/2020 Meeting Minutes Approval

- Motion to approve without edits moved by Fordice, seconded by Auth. Roll call vote: Yes (7). All in favor.

Unfinished Business

Voting Structure

- Eggermont introduced a draft resolution for feedback, restructuring the voting structure to the next amendment of the articles in relation to potential new members. He proposes different voting structure, keeping one vote per community for routine decisions, weighted based on cost.
- Davis suggested weighted voting with respect to issues related to recycling tonnage instead of general business or control of the authority.
- Akers noted that while it is good to start this discussion, he would like to research the voting structures of comparable authorities.
- Auth informed he believes this resolution is unnecessary and premature.

- Motion to table item to a future meeting moved by DiPietro, seconded by Weirich. Roll call vote: Yes 6 (DiPietro, Weirich, Stanfield, Nicholls, Fordice); No 1 (Auth).

New Business

Labor Resolution Discussion

- Eggermont shared a draft resolution of a transferability clause, citing concerns heard during WRRMA formative discussions over labor relations from the City of Ypsilanti and the City of Ann Arbor.
- Pratt explained further that this would allow a WRRMA members to add riders, or specific clauses into contracts that would only apply for their own communities. These may be supporting their own preexisting labor contracts or fair wage laws. Pratt would like a resolution in place to set a precedent and to show potential members that the Board is willing to work with each municipality's unique set of needs.
- Davis shared he met with the City of Ann Arbor's attorneys and neither could help in understanding city council concerns over WRRMA and labor. In SOCRRA contracts, many communities have clauses in the contracts that only apply to their community.
- Both Auth and DiPietro expressed concern over wage language and felt the resolution should be more generic. DiPietro also introduced that if a municipality-specific clause in a contract increases the cost, that municipality should be responsible for the increase.
- Auth informed he believes this resolution is unnecessary and premature.
- Fordice acknowledged the value of the City of Ann Arbor joining WRRMA and the ability for this resolution to help that happen.
- Eggermont will review and re-draft, members can send specific concerns to Eggermont to include and discuss.
- Motion to table resolution and discussion until next meeting moved by Fordice, seconded by DiPietro. Roll call vote: Yes (5- DiPietro, Weirich, Nicholls, Fordice, Akers); No (1 - Auth); Absent (1 - Stanfield)

Recycling Quality Improvement Grant Acceptance Resolution

- Eggermont announces WRRMA was awarded the Recycling Quality Improvement grant. The terms of the award include 18 months from start to finish to complete our objectives but can be extended due to obstacles relating to the current pandemic. The county will soon request information from communities to get started on coordination, such as addresses. WRRMA needs to approve the grant to be put through to the county Board of Commissioners due to the county acting as the fiduciary.
- DiPietro informs that since our last meeting, the Ann Arbor Township board got majority board approval to be part of the grant.
- Motion to approve the agreement moved by DiPietro, seconded by Fordice. Roll call vote: Yes (7). All in favor.

Covid-19 Recycling Discussion

- Eggermont informs the GFL MRF is back up and running after having at least 1 employee test positive for Covid-19. All WRRMA communities except for the City of Ypsilanti send their materials to this MRF.
- The Board discussed information provided by their representatives and which municipality's recycling is still processing at the MRF. Some uncertainty exists if WM is still taking their materials to the GFL MRF.
- When they can reopen for tours, and with the grant project rolling out, DiPietro would find it useful for WRRMA to visit the New Boston GFL MRF to see their recent improvements.
- Motion to receive and file moved by DiPietro, seconded by Fordice. Roll call vote: Yes (7). All in favor.

Ann Arbor Drop-off Station Discussion

- Eggermont reports the City of Ann Arbor is taking the lead of applying for a grant to site a new location for a replacement drop off station and will at some point look for support from other communities. The vision is that it will be a regional DOS and can start to approach WRRMA communities at some point in the future, though it will take 3-4 years to potentially open.
- Motion to receive and file moved by Auth, seconded by Fordice. Roll call vote: Yes (7). All in favor.

Reports

- Davis noted that in the most recent data, cardboard value is up 50% and commodities are overall up, so the recycling marketplace is looking positive.
- Motion to receive and file moved by DiPietro, seconded by auth. Roll call vote: Yes (7). All in favor.

Next Steps

- Comments on the resolution for municipality-specific clauses in contracts can be sent to Eggermont. He will compile, review, and redraft a resolution for discussion at a later meeting.
- Eggermont will look at the voting structures of other authorities and the Board can revisit this at a later meeting.
- Continue to plan future MRF tours at WWRA or GFL when they can safely allow tours.
- WRRMA will plan to meet at our regular date and time next month. The meeting may again be virtual depending on restrictions or recommendations.
- County staff will coordinate with municipalities on next steps for grant.

Public Comment: General/Unrelated to current Agenda Items

None

Motion to adjourn the meeting: moved by Auth, seconded by Fordice. Roll call vote: Yes (7). All in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM.

Minutes prepared by Isabella Garramone

Minutes approved by: Della DiPietro
Secretary

Minutes approved by: Ronald A. Akers
Chair

Signature: Della DiPietro
Della DiPietro (May 21, 2020 14:34 EDT)

Email: dipietro@aatwp.org

Signature: Ronald A. Akers
Ronald A. Akers (May 22, 2020 11:56 EDT)

Email: rakers@cityofypsilanti.com










4.20.20 WRRMA Minutes_for signing

Final Audit Report

2020-05-22

Created:	2020-05-18
By:	Isabella Garramone (garramonei@washtenaw.org)
Status:	Signed
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