

Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority

9/20/2021; 1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Perry, Akers, DiPietro, Fordice, Breyer

Members Absent: Pittsfield Township delegate, Hoffmeister

Washtenaw County Staff Present: Eggermont, Garramone

Attorney: Davis

Members of the public present: Munem (GFL), Roberts (GFL), Coleman (City of Ann Arbor)

Akers called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM.

Roll Call

Ann Arbor Township: DiPietro is attending remotely from Ann Arbor Township, Washtenaw County, MI

Pittsfield Township: absent

Scio Township: Perry is attending remotely from Scio Township, Washtenaw County, MI Washtenaw, MI

Ypsilanti Township: Hoffmeister is absent

City of Dexter: Breyer is attending remotely from the City of Dexter, Washtenaw County, MI.

City of Saline: Fordice is attending remotely from the City of Norman, Cleveland County, OK

City of Ypsilanti: Akers is attending remotely from the City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County, MI

Approval of agenda for 9/20 meeting

Motion to approve agenda without amendment moved by DiPietro, seconded by Fordice. Roll call vote:

Yes (4) Motion carries.

Approval of Minutes

8/16/2021 Meeting Minutes Approval

Motion to approve both minutes without amendment moved by DiPietro, seconded by Fordice. Roll call vote: Yes (4). Motion carries.

Breyer joined at 1:10pm

GFL MRF Presentation

Eggermont discussed the GFL MRF tour that included some WRRMA and community members took last month. He specifically noted learning about the large amount of downtime required to remove plastic bags and tangles from the machinery of two hours per shift with six workers. Akers mentioned the post-program audit was ongoing during the tour.

Eggermont introduced Roberts and Munem from GFL. Munem added another MRF issue in that he is seeing an increase in battery contamination, increasing the risk of fires at MRFs. Roberts noted he is getting two gaylord boxes full of lithium batteries each month. GFL is currently upgrading their systems to work better with cartons and aseptic containers and aluminum cans, increasing their capture rate and being more efficient. Roberts mentioned their landfill rate depends on the material but averages about 35%, which includes glass at the moment due to not having a system to clean glass at the MRF because glass recyclers are requiring a 4% or lower contamination rate to purchase the glass.

Fordice mentioned the Saline environmental commissions is interested in what is happening to the items in the cart, and what the material gets turned into. The group discussed the difficulties with glass recycling. Davis noted SOCCRA has significant difficulties with glass recycling as well, though they do send it for recycling.

Unfinished Business

Grant Updates

Eggermont announced WRRMA is preliminarily selected for the phase two App to Action grant through TRP and EGLE for additional money towards education and outreach based on the data collected during the program. Eggermont may look to organize another meeting between Akers, DiPietro, and Auth for determining what to spend the remaining grant funds for reimbursement by November 1st.

Audit Results

Garramone presented the audit results. WRRMA overall went from a 19.5% contamination rate by weight to 11.3%, a 42% reduction. Garramone noted the highest contaminants are unrecyclable paper – items like pizza boxes and plastic coated paper, bagged recycling, and plastic bags/film. She noted that since the contamination is by weight, and plastic bags and film are light, they likely represent the highest contamination by pieces of material due to the high number of cart tags we saw for the same items.

Perry commended the results and the work WRRMA has done for them. He expressed surprise that one ton of recyclables overall were sorted for the results.

Garramone updated the Board that two billboards are now up and will remain for the next month, one in Pittsfield and one in Ypsilanti. The billboard in Dexter will go up in December.

DiPietro left at 1:58PM

Press Release and Grant Report

Eggermont and Garramone will be working on a press release to amplify the results WRRMA has achieved. Garramone will be working on a grant report to sum up the program, the results, and future recommendation.

First Amended Articles Update

Eggermont announced Scio Township passed the amended articles at their most recent meeting, only Pittsfield Township remains.

New Business

Financial Report

Eggermont gave an overview on the financial report document. He will send the invoices in October for membership dues, then the County match will be added.

Invoices

Motion to approve Foresight printing invoice in the amount of \$13,278.47, Facebook advertisements in the amount of \$408.34, payment for Davis' services in the amount of \$225, and payment for Adams Outdoor Advertising in the amount of \$450 moved by Breyer, supported by Fordice. Roll call vote: Yes (4). Motion carries.

Reports and Updates

Eggermont and Garramone will work on the Summary of Activities and Grant Final Report and the final budget to member municipalities in October, following the next meeting.

Next Steps

None specified

Public Comment: General/Unrelated to current Agenda Items

None

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Perry, seconded by Breyer. Roll Call Vote Yes (4); Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 2:11 PM.

Minutes prepared by Isabella Garramone

Minutes approved by: *Della DiPietro*
[Della DiPietro \(Oct 20, 2021 11:50 EDT\)](#)
Secretary

Minutes approved by: *Ronald A. Akers*
[Ronald A. Akers \(Oct 20, 2021 14:48 EDT\)](#)
Chair









9.20.21 minutes.forsigning

Final Audit Report

2021-10-20

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