

Present: John Alphin, Jan Ameen, Karen Bouquillon, Jamie Cahillane, Tracy DeMaio, Justine Fallon, Juliette Haas, Arlene Miller, Michael Pattavina, Barry Searle, Greg Superneau, and Eric Weiss.

Guests: Mike Moores, Springfield MRF Plant Manager

Agenda:

Eric called the meeting to order at 10:00AM

- A. Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the September 6, 2012 meeting were approved as presented. (Michael/Jan)
- B. Treasurer's Report: Jan passed out a treasurer's report for review. She explained the expenditure for the COG service of managing our books (\$45/hr or \$100/quarter which ever is less). Justine presented Jan with the MAB revenue numbers (\$25,900 down from \$36,936), less than expected because of no public education fee payment from Chicopee, Springfield and U Mass (new single stream communities).  
There was a general discussion about our expenses for FY 2013, especially the mini grant project. All agreed that our FY 2013 budget is OK as adopted. It was also agreed to have a discussion at our December meeting about policy related to MRF communities, not receiving revenue but owing public education fees.
- C. MRF Operations and Markets Update: Mike reported.
  1. Mike reported that the markets are down and not improving. He did not expect them to improve for the rest of this year. The MRF is not having any problem moving the materials and some materials are still being exporting to China.
  2. He reported that the single stream communities are not receiving any revenue at this time and that Waste Management is losing money on the single stream operation.
  3. Plastic, tin and aluminum markets are doing well.
  4. The rigid plastic pilots are doing well but the revenue on the commodity is about zero right now.
  5. Mike reported that the bottles and cans being collected single stream at this time are not going to Birnie Avenue as planned but—because of operational issues at Automated—that material needs to be cleaned up. Therefore it is being sent to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party for processing. This issue is being addressed by Waste Management.
- D. November 14, 2012 America Recycles Day Event: Arlene, Tracy, Justine, Juliette and Greg reported on hi-lites of the event. The event planning committee felt that everything was on track and looking good. They expect yet another fabulous America Recycles Day event this year.
- E. Single Stream Recycling update: Eric introduced this topic by saying that after the MAB tour of Automated, MAB members expressed diverse views about the operation. Eric felt it best to have an open discussion at the meeting to clarify operations and discuss issues. Board members were each given a chance to express their view. There was a general discussion. Mike and Justine told the Board that Waste Management is working on adding additional equipment to the line to make the product cleaner. Eric summarized the discussion and agreed to keep this issue on the agenda for our next meeting.
- F. Mini grant review: Justine and Arlene reported that the two of them, with assistance from John Grossman, had reviewed all grant applications. After some clarification with applicants, the amount requested was close to the amount budgeted. They asked the board for no more than \$1000 extra if needed to complete the process. A motion was made (Michael/Juliette) to approve up to, but no more than \$41,000 for the FY 2013 mini grant project. It passed unanimously.
- G. Newsletter: Jan and Arlene reported that the September newsletter will be mailed in a few days.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35AM.

**Our next meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2012.**

Notes taken by Arlene C. Miller