

MAB Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2013
DPW Meeting Room
Northampton, MA

Approved as corrected at the March 28, 2013 meeting.

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

Guest: Mike Moores: Springfield MRF Plant Manager

Agenda:

Eric called the meeting to order at 10:00AM

- A. Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the January 17, 2013 meeting were approved as corrected. (Jan/Mike)
- B. Treasurer's Report: Jan passed out a treasurer's report for review. Jan reported that some public education fees were paid by both Springfield and Chicopee, but not all that was owed. Chicopee owes \$1,959.10 and Springfield owes \$4,877,57. Justine is working with both towns to release any incoming MRF revenue to off set the fees owed. However, she will be sending an invoice to each town at some point. The question was raised about when a town should be invoiced for public education fees if there is not enough revenue in their account to off-set what is owed. A motion was made (Jan/Karen) to authorize Justine to send an invoice to Springfield if the fees have not been paid by April 1, 2013. The motion passed.
- C. MRF Operations and Market Update: Mike reported.
 1. Mike reported that operationally things are good at the MRF.
 2. Mike reported that the markets are still pretty flat, with the exception of a slight increase in co-mingled.
 3. The revenue for January was \$19.27 and for February is \$20.54.
 4. The MRF was able to operate most of the day during the recent snowstorm but shut down early. It did not create a problem.
 5. Mike reported that there seems to be an increase in plastic bags in the bottle and can stream. A Board member asked if there were more plastic bags noticed in the single or dual stream loads? Mike will take a look at that issue.
 6. It was reported that Karen, Justine and Mike met to discuss non-bottle rigid plastics. The idea was to create a list of acceptable items to expand the materials we could collect. Mike checked his markets and the result was disappointing. That committee agreed to meet one more time before making a final recommendation to the Board.
- D. MAB Newsletter: Arlene reported that the January newsletter has been mailed. The next edition will come out in May or June. The issue of creating an electronic newsletter will be discussed later in the agenda.
- E. Single Stream update: Eric reported that both Westhampton and West Springfield are scheduled to go single stream in April 1, 2013.
- F. RRR Update: Arlene reported that both the Hampden County and the Franklin/Hampshire County RRR's were underway. Both committees will be meeting with their respective papers this week. The issue of a MAB advertisement in each publication was discussed. A motion was made (Barry/Jan) to authorize MAB advertisements in both publications, but not to exceed a combined spending of \$800. The motion passed. Jamie gave an update on efforts to have the MAB contribute to an Earth Day publication of some sort in Berkshire County. That discussion will be continued at our next meeting with a possible request for another advertisement.

G. MassDEP Proposed Transfer Station Regulation Change: Jan gave a summary of the proposed changes to the transfer station regulations and offered to circulate a copy of the comments she had forwarded to DEP.

H. MAB FY 2014 Priorities Discussion:

1. Education Sub-Committee meeting update and recommendations: Karen, Veronique, Jamie and Justine met on the issue of exploring various forms of outreach. Their report and ideas included:

a. Reach out to haulers to promote a uniform MRF recycling message. Perhaps create the design work for a recycling education piece that haulers can use to distribute to their customers. The estimated cost from Nancy Turkle for a 2-sided recycling info postcard is \$250.

b. Form several other sub-committees to help create educational materials. The suggested committees included a school outreach committee to target both cafeteria and classroom recycling, a website promotion committee (maybe creating a small business card to draw folks to the website or a website widget) and the creation of a social media sub-committee to explore a MAB face book page.

c. The idea of converting our newsletter to an electronic format was recommended and discussed. These ideas will be discussed further at our next meeting.

Justine presented a quote from Nancy Turkle totaling about \$850 for the hauler two-sided recycling postcard (\$250), the MAB brochure revisions (words only-\$150), the expanded MAB brochure revision (\$300) and the creation of the website widget by the website design person (\$100). A motion was made (Jan/Mike) to authorize Justine to spend the funds needed to have the website widget created and have Nancy T. revise the MAB brochure (words only) as described above. The motion passed.

I. Other: There was a brief discussion about unwanted medication collections.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30AM.

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2013.

Notes taken by Arlene C. Miller