

MAB Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2014
DPW Meeting Room
Northampton, MA

Approved as corrected on the July 17, 2014 meeting

Present: Jan Ameen, Jamie Cahillane, Tracy DeMaio, Amy Donovan, Justine Fallon, Janine Greaves, Juliette Haas, Arlene Miller, Michael Pattavina, Barry Searle, and Eric Weiss.

Guests: Chris Lucarelle, Waste Management and Mike Moores, MRF Operator

Agenda:

Eric called the meeting to order at 10:05AM

- A. MRF Issues: Eric chose to begin the agenda with MRF related issues. He set the stage and reviewed issues raised in a letter sent by the MAB to Waste Management regarding the possibility of expanding the type of materials collected at the MRF. Mike Pattavina also added explanation about the materials. He explained that by adding additional materials such as metal and rigid plastics, we could be diverting more waste and planning for the future.
 - a. Chris responded to both the request to add bulky rigid plastics and small metal items to the acceptable items at the Springfield MRF. Chris said that the MRF could handle the rigids but that specific language needed to be used on the educational material because—not all large plastics would be desirable. Justine, Chris and Mike M. agreed to work on the specifics of the language before the message was sent out to towns. Chris also emphasized that source separated rigids were most desirable because they would be easier to handle at our MRF. No date was set for implementation but all agreed to move forward with this opportunity.
 - b. Chris also addressed the issue of small metal items such as hangers, pots and pans etc. He explained that the current systems that we have at the Springfield MRF could not handle these items. Metal items find their way into nooks and crannies and cause problems with the machinery. Mike P. and Eric asked Chris if he could check on and report back about if and how other MRFs handle these materials.
 - c. Mike Moores presented information on the MRF operations. He explained that some modifications had been made to the line operation with new equipment being added and that this allows them to sort certain plastics better. With plastic markets at \$980/T, this has allowed the MRF to send more plastics to better markets domestically. He also discussed some of the more common contaminants seen this time of the year and they include hose, planting pots, patio furniture and textiles. He added that glass is currently going to landfills and used as cover.
 - d. Justine reported that in April the dual stream (DS) revenue was \$23.09 and \$23.80 in May, single stream (SS) was still zero. The May DS tonnage was 2,100 tons and SS was 1,600 tons.
 - e. It was reported that Huntington and Granby have recently switched to single stream. The City of Westfield is expecting to switch to SS in October 2014.
- B. Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the April 17, 2014 meeting were approved (Jan/Janine) as corrected.
- C. Treasurer's Report: Jan handed out a treasurer's report. She made a few comments related to the report and they included:
 1. Jan reported that the current Treasurer's report does not reflect many changes.
 2. She distributed a draft FY 2015 budget. A motion was made (Juliette/Barry) to accept the budget as adjusted. The motion passed.

3. Jan reviewed our arrangement with the Hampshire Council of Governments (HCOG) as our “fiscal agent”. She and Eric were able to negotiate a reasonable contract with them for this service for one more year. A motion was made (Janine/Barry) to approve that contract with the HCOG for financial services for one year. The motion passed.
- D. Future MAB Meeting Dates: The Board set meeting dates for the next 6 months and they include July 17, September 18, October 16 and December 18th.
 - E. Blue Box News: There was a general discussion about articles and the process of building an interesting document. It was agreed that each MAB member should forward 10 names and e-mail addresses to Tracy to be added to the distribution list. This should be done before the September meeting. A few suggestions for articles included bulky rigids, the new educational materials, 3 HRMC towns going SS and municipal composting.
 - F. DEP grant update: Arlene reported on a few results from the recent SMRP grant applications. She said that 68% of the towns in western MA applied. She was very proud of that effort. Many towns will be receiving much-needed dollars from these grants. There also was a brief discussion about the new Recycling Dividends Program and some of the criteria.
 - G. Education and Outreach: Justine and Tracy reported on the newly designed education materials that the committee has been working on for months. They distributed copies of the materials and explained the process going forward. Justine will e-mail to all MRF community contacts the education materials packet next week and request orders back by August 1st. A motion was made (Mike/Jan) to accept the public education materials as presented. The motion passed.
 - H. America Recycles Day event: There was a general discussion about the November ARD event. All agreed it should be at the Delaney House once again. Dates were discussed and Arlene was asked to make those reservations.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15AM. **Our next meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2014.**

Notes taken by Arlene C. Miller