

DPW Meeting Room
Northampton, MA

Present: Jan Ameen, Veronique Blanchard, Kathleen Casey, Tracy DeMaio, Amy Donovan, Steve Ellis, Arlene Miller and Greg Superneau.

Guest: Jacob Seldin (Springfield's DPW Project Director) and Mike Moores (Springfield MRF plant manager)

Agenda:

Greg Superneau, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:05AM

- A. Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the September 24, 2015 meeting were approved (Jan/Veronique) as corrected.
- B. Public Comments: There were no public comments offered.
- C. MRF Related Issues: Steve Ellis and Mike Moores reported.
 1. MRF Contract related issues: Steve reported.
 - a. Steve reported that all of the revenue checks for January-June 2015 have been processed and will be mailed to communities within the next two weeks. He will provide Jan with a master list of the numbers to share with all towns.
 - b. Steve reported that new MRF contracts are in various stages of being signed and returned to towns. That process should be completed shortly.
 - c. He mentioned that DEP might send out a press release soon about the revenue distribution.
 - d. Jan and Steve reported that all the single stream towns have been invoiced since they have no incoming revenue from which to deduct the public education fee. Steve's address is on the invoice mailing for checks.
 - e. Contamination issue was discussed. Steve and Mike agreed that the situation is improving. West Springfield and Westfield are still having some issues. All towns are doing better. Charges have been assessed to several towns for processing and disposal of contaminated loads. It costs the towns with contaminated loads less if they go to Automated with a town truck, remove the contaminated load and dispose of it themselves. Amy asked what the top 3 contaminants are. The answer was wrapables, electronics, diapers and plastic bags. She mentioned that Lowes take back all bulbs; Staples takes back electronics.
 2. MRF Operations issues: Mike reported.
 - a. Markets: Mike reported that not a lot has changed in the last month regarding markets and revenue. Plastic is low and tin is very low.
 - b. Mike reported that the new fiber sorting system at Birnie Avenue is working very well.
 - c. Waste Management has invested some capital into infrastructure improvements at Birnie Avenue. A plastics blower belt and blow system, new parts for the Eddy Current separator for aluminum sorting and a split belt on glass are among the new improvements. These improvements increase efficiency and value.
- D. Treasurer's Report: Jan passed out a Treasurer's report for review. She pointed out that public education income will be about \$13,000 from single stream invoiced communities, about \$5,100 from DEP to compensate the MAB for the incentive offered during the contract signing, and about \$17,500 from Waste Management for public education fees deducted from revenue. The total public education fee amount is about \$35,500.
- E. MAB Election of Chairman: Greg reported that, because of his new job promotion to becoming the Deputy DPW Director, he will be stepping down from the Board effective the end of the meeting today. A motion was made (Arlene/Veronique) to nominate Tracy DeMaio to that position. The motion passed unanimously. It was pointed out that this is the first time a woman has served as Chairman of this Board. Congratulations to Tracy. On another Board membership issue, Jacob presented his letter of appointment by the Springfield Mayor to Tracy-for the record. Jacob is now officially on the Board.

- F. Education and Outreach committee report. The committee members (Veronique, Tracy and Amy) gave a brief update. Tracy suggested adding Jack Golden to the menu of things towns can apply their “points” to. All agreed by consensus. Amy suggested that we think about updating the MRF video, which is outdated. She had a videographer in mind. The Board agreed by consensus that a new video would be advantageous but thought that perhaps grant money might be available for that project. There was no agreement to move forward at this time with the new video.
- G. Website update: Amy reported that there was nothing new about the website at this time.
- H. Newsletter: Arlene reported that the committee still plans to send out a newsletter in late October. If anyone has an article for the newsletter, they should forward it to Tracy.
- I. DEP Update: Arlene reported that there was no update at this time.
- J. America Recycles Day Committee report: Arlene, Jan, Veronique and Tracy reported. Jack Golden will be both the speaker and entertainment. The theme will be the “MRF 26 years: past, present and future.” Plans are moving along nicely.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10AM.

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2015 at 10AM in Northampton. Please let Arlene know if you are not planning on attending.

Notes taken by Arlene C. Miller