MRF Advisory Board (MAB)
Meeting Minutes

Date: April 27, 2017

Location: Northampton Department of Public Works Meeting Room

Present: John Alphin, Jan Ameen, Veronique Blanchard, Jamie Cahillane, Kathleen Casey, Tracy DeMaio, Steve Ellis, Cristina Ferrera, Mike Pattavina, Susan Waite, and Heather Wasilewski

Guests: Mike Moores, Springfield MRF Plant Manager, Greg Superneau, Assistant Deputy Director of Springfield DPW, Brooke Nash & Greg Cooper, MassDEP Boston, Municipal Branch

AGENDA

Tracy DeMaio, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:07am.

A. Meeting Minutes: The minutes from March 23, 2017 were approved (Mike P./Jan)

B. Public Comments: There were no public comments offered.

C. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Guide Update: The guides are out! The Republican did not have much advertising compared to the Daily Hampshire Gazette.

D. MRF Operations: (Mike Moores)
   a. The ONP index went down from March, although it’s still not bad. Fiber is at $85/ton and OCC is at $160/ton.
   b. The main in-feed will be replaced this weekend.
   c. Glass: Susan Waite asked about glass, because she has noticed that some communities have stopped collecting glass. Mike M commented that, yes, processing glass has its challenges, especially with damage to equipment. He said that the Springfield MRF does have a glass line with a split belt. They are harvesting clear glass for a modest value.
   d. Tracy asked how bad is contamination with single stream. Mike replied that it is not bad. Although there is some focus on an area of W. Springfield.

E. 2020 MRF Contract:
   a. Guests Greg Cooper and Brooke Nash talked about the process leading up to a new contract. Ideally OSD will open a statewide consulting contract and bring on qualified consultants with expertise in solid waste/recycling. If this doesn’t happen by this summer, DEP will go out to bid independently for a qualified consultant. The latter is a more time consuming process for DEP.
   b. Prepare your officials for the sticker shock of potentially having to pay tip fees for recyclables.
Meeting adjourned at 11:45
Next Meeting 5/25 at 10am
Minutes recorded by Heather Wasilewski