MAB Meeting Minutes
June 22, 2017
Northampton, MA

Present: John Alphin, Veronique Blanchard, Jamie Cahillane, Kathleen Casey, Tracy DeMaio, Steve Ellis, Arlene Miller, Susan Waite and Heather Wasilewski.

Guest: Mike Moores, Springfield MRF Plant Manager
Amanda Malinowski, Springfield MRF Weigh Master

Agenda:

Tracy DeMaio, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00AM

A. Public Comments: Tracy introduced Amanda. Amanda said she wanted to meet us all and had an announcement she would make at the end of the meeting.

B. Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the May 18, 2017 meeting were approved as corrected.

C. MRF Related Issues: Mike Moores reported.
   1. MRF operations continue to run smoothly.
   2. The markets are slowing down. OCC up $10 to $155. ONP up $5 to $70. Plastic price are down somewhat.

D. Treasurer’s Report: Jan was not present but submitted a report to be presented by Tracy. The MAB had approved a FY 2018 budget at its last meeting. No other action is required at this time. The Board asked Tracy to ask Jan to send to all members a copy of the approved budget.

E. DEP Update: Heather gave a brief report about the DEP grant process. She also announced that the Technical Assistance project application would be available shortly. Tracy added that small scale grant invoices need to be submitted shortly or the money would be lost.

F. Education and Outreach Committee reports: Several topics were discussed and they included:
   1. RRR: There was a brief discussion about the 2017 RRR and what changes we might consider making going forward. A few things mentioned included slightly changing the Community Survey by deleting the MRF column and replacing it with something like bulky rigid and ordering more additional copies to make more available during the year. Tracy asked Arlene to bring copies of the sections to be reviewed so we all had them as reference for the discussion at a future meeting.
   2. Radio Ads: This committee had not met since our last meeting.
   3. Hauler Literature: Jan had communicated with all the haulers and had received requests for a number of copies. More information will follow on this at the next meeting. In addition, Arlene reported that she had been contacted by a hauler, requesting an electronic copy of the literature so they could include it with electronic bills. Arlene will work with Jan to help make this happen.

G. 2020 MRF Contract Discussion: There was a general discussion about the ideas expressed at earlier meetings regarding the MAB holding informal discussion meetings with certain MRF operators in the near future. The purpose of these meetings would be to exchange information about MRF operations today and in the future. This exercise would allow the MAB to meet a few vendors and for both parties to get a better understanding of expectations and possibilities. The MAB agreed that this would be a good idea and directed the contracts committee to proceed. The goal is to schedule the meetings with about 3-5 vendors for September and invite all interested MAB members to attend.

It was also agreed that we would provide the vendors with several questions in advance of the meetings. A few folks submitted question ideas at that time.
H. Other:
   1. There was a brief discussion about other possible MAB projects for next year. Kathleen mentioned re-invigorating the old MRF Mini grant program. She and Arlene agreed to meet and bring back ideas to the full Board at the next meeting.
   2. Amanda made the announcement that she has been offered a promotion by Waste Management and will no longer be working at the MRF. The Board extended their congratulations and wished her well in her new position.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30AM.

Our next meeting is scheduled for August 24 2017 at 10AM in Northampton. Please let Arlene know if you are not planning on attending.

Notes taken by Arlene C. Miller