

MAB Meeting Minutes  
November 30, 2017  
Northampton DPW Conference Room

Present: Tracy DeMaio, Jamie Cahillane, Steve Ellis, Susan Waite, Kathleen Casey, Jan Ameen, Veronique Blanchard, Arlene Miller

Guest: Mike Moores, Springfield MRF Plant Manager

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 AM

**Public Comment Period** No members of the public were present.

### **October 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes**

Jan moved and Jamie seconded to approve the minutes as amended; the motion passed unanimously.

### **MRF Operations / Markets Update**

Pricing for #56 is still at \$60, OCC is at \$105, plastic is stable. Wet paper has been a bit of a technical issue. Susan asked how wet can paper be coming into the MRF? Material is accepted wet, but it tends to stick to other materials, and Mike says the wetness affects the system enough that they must slow the system down in order to process when there is a lot of wet paper coming in to the plant.

Arlene asked about a Waste Management memo she had received from the DPW in Longmeadow. The memo states that there will be a price increase, a 'recyclable materials offset charge'. Mike and Steve said that it is coming from the hauling company, that it is most likely targeted to commercial customers and is not applicable to the Town of Longmeadow.

Steve mentioned the fire at the Avon plant a few weeks back, caused by a spark from the paper magnet. Processing was backed up for a while. This did cause some single stream materials to be disposed of, but the lines are now back up and working. He updated the MAB about bulky rigids market concerns, since there is only one outlet currently for bulky rigids, K & W in South Carolina. He expressed concern with adding more communities into the bulky rigid program with the current market uncertainty, and that he would prefer not to have new communities start up a program if there is a chance they would have to then end the program if something happens to the market. He is requesting the MAB concur about putting a hold on having new communities coming into the rigids program until markets stabilize. Arlene mentioned that the SMRP grant process won't get into full swing until about March, so there is time to see how the market behaves.

MRF tours update – Arlene said about 188 people have been through since August, and she and Nancy Bobskill will be working with Veronique as she transitions to taking over the scheduling of the tours.

### **Treasurers Report**

Jan mentioned not much has changed, but invoices should be coming in soon on public education materials, the radio ads and the website.

## **Education & Outreach Committee Projects**

**Website** – Amy has completed the updated municipal listing for recycling contacts and municipal websites which will be included before the launch of the new website. Tracy passed around two lists which Amy had sent in; one of the MAB committee contact information and one listing the municipal contacts.

## **Education and Outreach Campaign**

Tracy mentioned orders are in for the education materials and passed out a spreadsheet outlining the orders placed. These orders totaled about \$36,000 dollars – this could change according to shipping, and there may be a few piggyback orders. Jack Golden's presentations do not have to be completed by the end of the MAB's fiscal year because our money rolls over each year. This should make scheduling easier for the schools as they can schedule for next fall as well as the coming spring. 22 presentations were ordered this year. Jan is concerned that many towns which do not have representation on the board are not placing orders.

Tracy passed around the updated bulky rigid poster for the committee to see.

**Radio Ads update** Susan passed out the final scripts for the three commercials, which will start the week of December 11<sup>th</sup> and run for seven weeks. The three ads will rotate during morning commuter hours. Jan reminded the MAB that it can take two weeks from the submittal of an invoice for the check to be cut, so she will need the invoice for the ads as soon as possible for those stations needing payment up front.

In terms of discerning how much affect these ads will have on the public, Jan, Susan and Tracy mentioned that hopefully the hits on the new website will go up. The second round of seven weeks of the three ads could begin around Earth Day.

## **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (RRR) Guide**

Tracy reminded the committee that they had discussed changing some of the tabs in the community recycling information guide in the RRR, and asked the committee if they wanted to update the list of materials. The committee discussed changing the MRF line to recyclable paper and containers. Tracy asked for members to review their thoughts on changing the tabs before the next meeting and bring back suggestions for the next meeting.

## **DEP Updates**

Steve said the draft is very close to being finalized for the RFP for the consultant. Around a dozen companies have been pre-qualified to apply, and hopefully they will respond within three weeks with their bids to help write the RFP for DEP for the new MRF contract. We are basically on schedule for this process.

## **Other Business / announcements**

Next meetings dates were reserved for January 25, February 22, March 22, April 26, and May 24, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 11:17 am

Respectfully submitted,

Veronique Blanchard

Clerk