

MAB Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2018
Hampshire Daily Gazette Conference Room

Members Present: Amy Donovan, Jan Ameen, Mike Pattavina, Jamie Cahillane, Cristina Ferrera, Tracy DeMaio, Susan Waite, Kathleen Casey, Véronique Blanchard

Guests: Mike Moores of Waste Management; Mimi Kaplan, Amherst WREC

The meeting was called to order 10:07

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

Review and approve previous meeting minutes: Susan moved to accept the minutes as amended and Kathleen seconded. The vote was unanimous with Jan and Jamie abstaining.

MRF & Automated Operations / Markets Update: (Mike Moores)

Mike reported that dual stream OCC is at \$75 which is down about \$10, news is at \$25, also down about \$10, plastics is coming up, with natural bringing in a very high price but color is down \$.16. The plant is running at 95% efficiency, with no issues due to weather. Single stream at Automated is running at 85% efficiency.

Tracy asked if shredded paper is a problem in the streams? Mike said they prefer it to come in in clear plastic bags which can then be set aside. If it's in the paper bag the bag will most likely end up in OCC because of the 'stars' OCC runs across, or the bag might break, making shredded paper rain down like confetti.

Treasurers Report: (Jan)

FY 2018 Budget: The MAB has spent \$26,000 so far for outreach, with \$80,000 left to be carried over for FY19. The committee discussed the MRF tours and how much had been paid to Nancy, and whether Arlene should be paid for conducting tours.

FY2019 Public Education Fee: Tracy asked if the MAB wanted to invoice the communities for the public education fee. These fees have not been paid directly in the past by most communities, instead the 5% fee was deducted from any revenue checks to be issued, with single stream communities being the exception. With recycling markets down there will not be revenue for the municipalities this cycle. Jamie mentioned that towns will probably be paying for recycling instead of receiving revenue in the new contract, so perhaps we should continue to have the towns pay the fee until the new contract comes in. Jan said the public ed fee could possibly be paid by the new contractor in the future. The public ed fees are technically due in July, but Jan has to wait to see if there's any revenue before doing the assessments for each municipality. Jan proposed we change the formula by cutting the ed fee in half from 5% to 2.5%. Kathleen asked if the towns might be able to use small scale or RDP grant monies from MassDEP for their public ed fee? Véronique will look into this. Susan said she preferred, due to China's new policies and the state of the recycling markets, that munis continue to pay the fee. Tracy moved and Jan seconded a motion to keep billing the municipalities at 5%. The vote was unanimous.

FY 2019 Budget review and vote: Jan moved that we adopt an FY 19 budget based on the draft presented with a roughly \$42,000 carryover for FY20. Mike seconded and the vote was unanimous.

DEP Updates: (Tracy reported for Steve) There is no update on when Chris Lucarelle will come visit with the MAB. The RFP process is still in motion, with no new updates. The MAB then discussed the

timeline for the RFP. The MAB would like to keep to the timeline which was developed last year, through to the development of the bid draft. There was discussion on having the contract ready for the town meeting deadlines in 2019.

Education & Outreach Committee Projects

Radio Ad; website statistics: This discussion was tabled to await more information.

Mimi mentioned that she thinks the radio ads are helping to reduce the amount of plastic bags in the recycling, which is very good news indeed!

Future Project Ideas: Tracy mentioned a proposal she had received from Jessica Wozniak to create a Facebook page for the MRF/MAB. The MAB discussed the mechanics of Facebook and how it could work to promote proper recycling and the MRF. This idea has been brought up several times over the last few years, but no one on the committee has had the time to devote to administering it. Susan moved that Véronique, Cristina, Susan and Amy form a subcommittee to discuss how a Facebook page would be used, what the MAB would want to promote on it, etc. and report back at the June meeting. Kathleen seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Véronique will call the meeting. Mike proposed the subcommittee also hold a phone interview with Jessica.

Amy wanted to know what the timeline is for the next education grant round? This will be discussed at the June meeting.

MAC Update: none

Other business: none

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34. Future meetings dates are 6/28; 7/26; 8/23; 9/27 and 10/25. All these dates have been reserved at the Daily Hampshire Gazette conference room

Respectfully submitted

Véronique Blanchard

Clerk