

MAB Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2018
Hampshire Daily Gazette Conference Room
10:00am – 11:30am

Members Present: Jan Ameen, Kathleen Casey, Arlene Miller, Steve Ellis, Cristina Ferrera, Véronique Blanchard, Susan Waite, Tracy DeMaio, Amy Donovan and John Alphin.

Guests: Chris Lucarelle & Mike Moores of Waste Management Recycle America

The meeting was called to order at 10:05.

Public Comment Period: No members of the public were in attendance.

Review and approve previous meeting minutes: Jan moved to accept the minutes of September 27th as presented and Arlene seconded. Amy requested a couple of corrections; Jan amended her motion to accept the minutes 'as corrected' and Arlene seconded. The vote was unanimous, with Amy abstaining.

MRF & Automated Operations / Market Update - Mike Moores reporting

Mike informed the members that the MRF is getting prepped for winter conditions, which includes sand, shovels and the sprinkler system. OCC is at \$75/ton, news is static at \$25 and #1-7 are moving. Mike reported that there have been no issues with the materials which had been sent to Syracuse for secondary processing. The optical sorters in Syracuse can be 'taught' to sort specific materials. There was some discussion about Waste Management's MRFs and their capacity.

Steve asked Chris if he could send the audit information directly to the member municipalities. Chris said that WMRA does eleven audits in a row to give them an 85% confidence in the results. Audits for WMRA are done at the Automated facility on Tremont Street. Steve said that if Chris would send the audit information to him he can then distribute it.

DEP Update - Steve Ellis reporting

Steve said that they are very close to having a finished Request for Responses, and that the MAB needs to review the language on location and the list of acceptable materials.

WMX Contamination Discussion – Chris Lucarelle reporting

Steve is working with Chris to develop a clear policy on how the facility addresses excess contamination and also to make clear that contamination is now more an issue than ever before. The notice to be sent out will include information on the need to clean up the recycling stream as much as possible, and will also outline how fees for contamination will occur. Arlene asked how quickly contaminated load notices would be sent out; the same or next day? Chris responded that is the intention. Chris reminded members that 10% contamination is allowable, so if a load comes in which contains 20% contamination, the weight slip would be altered to credit 90% of the tonnage as opposed to 80% since the 10% contamination is allowed. Jan mentioned that billing the dual stream members immediately rather than deducting from the education fees would be preferable as a way to make sure dual stream members are aware of any contamination issues. Tracy agreed that receiving an invoice might move municipalities to take more action to clean up contamination. Kathleen asked how rejected loads which have to be removed immediately differ from those assessed a fee? Chris responded that this policy was overly punitive so they do not require immediate removal of contaminated loads anymore. Chris also mentioned that it's very important they have the correct email contact list. The committee then discussed the draft WM letter and suggested changes. Véronique asked about wet paper issues, and was told WM is charged if a load contains more than 12-15% moisture. Mold is a big problem for loads traveling any distances, and domestic mills may just deduct weight from

slips instead of charging. Snow and ice are definite problems, and open dumpsters are the biggest problem when it comes to excess moisture.

Steve discussed the distribution method for the DEP letter, which will be stapled to MRF weight slips, enclosed with revenue checks, and also included with the letter to municipalities about the new contract process. It will also be posted on the MRF website and in the Western Mass Recycling Newsletter, and the MAB will send it out both via email and hard copy.

Tracy updated the committee on the discrepancies between the MRF list of accepted materials and the RecycleSmartMA website. The RecycleSmartMA website does not list aerosols or shredded paper as accepted, cartons now include a notation to check with local recycling programs, greeting cards and gift wrap now have the same direction as gift bags, and residents are directed to put tissue paper in the trash.

MAC Update – Véronique reporting

Véronique mentioned that she will be working on a new app or form to post on the MRF website to streamline the booking process for MRF tours.

Treasurers Report - No report this month.

Facebook – Amy reporting

Amy told the committee that the post containing the DEP's blue 'Don't Bag Recyclables' flyer was seen by 2,000 people, without boosting, and that there are currently 82 followers.

Contract Subcommittee

The draft letter to be sent to member communities from Tracy as Chair of the MAB was reviewed. Several minor edits were made.

Public Education Material - Tracy reporting

The letter is ready to go out, and there are just a few updates to the menu left to make. The Education Materials package should be ready to send out on November 1st, with an order date deadline by December 14th.

Radio Ad – Susan reporting

Susan read a statement from the subcommittee in answer to requests for more information on alternative radio stations. Véronique moved to accept the subcommittee's recommendations and Arlene seconded. Jan offered an amendment to change the budgeted amount from \$10k to \$3,300. John seconded and the committee discussed the amendment. The committee then voted on the amendment, which was 4 in favor, 3 against and 2 abstentions, which set the maximum budget at \$3,300 for radio ads. The committee then voted on the original motion with the amended budget amount, and the vote was 4 in favor, 4 against and 1 abstention. As there was no majority the motion failed and the radio ads will not occur next cycle.

Future meeting dates were set for:

November 29th
December 20th
January 24th
February 28th

March 28th
April 25th
May 23rd
June 27th

As there was no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:08.

Respectfully submitted, Véronique Blanchard, Clerk