

MAB Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2022
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MAB Members Present: Abbey Massaro, Jan Ameen, Tracy DeMaio, Amy Donovan, Arlene Miller, Susan Waite, Kathleen Casey, Michael Pattavina, Steve Ellis (DEP), and Rene Wood (left at 10:50am)

Others: Ethan Tupelo, Mike Moores (Waste Mgmt.), and Laurie Simmons.

The meeting was called to order at 9:32am by Chair A. Miller. The following agenda items were taken up.

1. Public Comment Period. There were no comments from members of the public.

2. Review and Approval of Draft Minutes of 3/17/22.

J. Ameen made, and S. Waite seconded, a motion to accept the 3/17/22 minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

3. MRF Update. The monthly tonnage report and signature certification (Operations report) had been received prior to the meeting. Prices continue to be good and solid with several categories, such as aluminum, up. Question re: OCC and paper's flat prices was answered with the market maybe seeing a little bump in May. M. Moores reviewed the building inspection report that had taken place as part of the MassDEP/Waste Management contract renewal and the required improvements and fixes. These are close to completion with approximately \$100,000 spent by Waste Management. MassDEP is paying for the roof replacement.

Steve Ellis also provided an update on replacing the artwork on the front of the SMRF building. A quote of approximately \$12,000 was received from the company that created and installed the current artwork. How to pay for it was discussed. J. Ameen reviewed the accounts, including a forthcoming \$10,000 payment from Waste Management as of 7/1/22. While there was not clarity on how the original artwork was paid for, the Carton Council participation was cited. After discussion, it was decided that A. Miller, A. Donovan and possibly others would pool their potential sources, including industry sources/councils or SMRF vendors, and come up with a plan. It was further suggested that the current artwork be reviewed to make sure it is current with what is recycled and has lids on the recyclables where lids are now accepted.

4. Treasurer's Report. J. Ameen reviewed her Treasurer's Report, which had been emailed earlier to all members. The 2nd and final bill is due for the Rendon Group and in general she gave a healthy and positive Treasurer's report, including funds in both the single stream and dual stream accounts. Waste Management annual donation \$10,000 had been cited earlier. Discussion turned to whether grants should be given out this year, with suggestions that such grants, if given, should focus on helping communities with the two new DEP waste bans – mattresses and textiles. Certain signs translated into Spanish could provide communities with part of the requirement for the 1 RDP point re: inclusion. Any such program needs approval by June; this topic will be taken up in May.

5. Election of Officers. A. Miller brought this up as there are several open positions on the executive committee. K. Casey will be replaced by L. Cernik at the end of April. With R. Wood volunteering for Clerk, open positions include Vice-Chair and a Member-at-large. Both A. Donovan and M. Pattavina expressed interest in the Member-at-Large position. These elections take place at the Annual Meeting in June and will be on the agenda for May.

6. Video Sub-Committee Update. A. Massaro introduced the final version of the Me and My Bin video, and everyone clapped after its showing. Congratulations all around for her and her steadfast team who brought this to completion after several months of comments and re-do's. DVD's were requested for a variety of uses, especially at the SMRF education center, which does not have internet access. SMRF does have a YouTube page so that page will link to the YouTube Me and My Bin video; A. Donovan volunteered to work with the MAB's web technician to make this happen. In process are the other videos, which are coming along and undergoing review/final adjustments. **R. Wood made a motion, which was seconded by A. Donovan, to release the Me and My Bin video. The motion passed unanimously.** S. Waite will do a press release and asked for input on what points to stress.

7. RRR. Both RRR South and North have been released and are being extremely well received. S. Waite has graphics from the Recorder-Gazette, which may be used by the municipalities, as well as text from the articles. If you want to use something from the Republican, you will need to check on that as that was written by their writers. A. Donovan has sent out the 2 links to these RRR publications and will update the SMRF's "What do I do with.....?" pages. A concern was voiced about the place of alcohol in publications, including those which are celebratory in nature. Everyone understood the concern.

8. MAC Update. S. Waite provided an update on several items including MassDEP RDP deadline of 6/15, including a call for municipalities to spend the \$7M in grant funding carried into 2022, recent programs on mattress and textile bans, including sharing of ideas; and her newsletter and email updates. She will be sending out a mattress survey, which was in her newsletter, soon to gather ideas. S. Waite also noted that Justine Fallon (former MAB member who now works with Mattress Recycling Council) worked with rural communities in Oregon, and that there were regional drop offs hosted by non-profits and other types of organizations. It was suggested that the Springfield MRF allow towns to add 1-2 mattresses to containers for consolidation there at the MRF. S. Waite noted that 55 of 100 communities in western Mass have under 2000 people.

9. Other Business. None

10. Next Meeting: May 19.

11. Adjournment. **J. Ameen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by M. Pattavina and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11 am.**

Respectfully submitted,
Rene Wood

Documents used in the meeting:

- 4/28/22 MAB meeting packet; MAB FY22 April budget; 3/14/22 draft meeting minutes
- Monthly Tonnage report and Attest signature page for Monthly Tonnage Report