

MAB Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2023
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MAB Members Present: Abbey Massaro, Jan Ameen, Linda Cernik, Tracy DeMaio, Amy Donovan, Steve Ellis (DEP), Arlene Miller, Laurie Simmons, Mary Stucklen, S. Cooper, Susan Waite

Others: Mike Moores (Waste Mgmt.)

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 am by Chair A. Miller. The following items were taken up.

1. Public Comment Period. None

2. Review and Approval of Draft Minutes. *S. Waite made, and S. Cooper seconded, a motion to accept the 11/17/22 minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.*

3. MRF Update. Mike Moores noted that the January AMV is almost the same as last month; markets are flat; issues moving ONP (old newspaper) and switching to a more local outlet (Pratt) so ONP is going as OMP (old mixed paper); plastics are flat; PET and cartons are slow to move out; no increase in contamination.

Arlene read a statement from Chris Lucarelle. There is a new paper mill coming online in April. Issues with small brown OCC causing marketing problems.

There was a general discussion about specific materials and markets.

Steve Ellis gave an update on MRF tours. He is doing a couple each month. MassRecycle sponsored a tour in December. The tours are going well and two a month is good for Steve. Arlene asked Steve to keep track of the number of tour participants.

4. Treasurer's Report. J. Ameen reviewed the FY23 budget reporting little activity since the last meeting. No questions were asked.

The MRF's social media consultant, Jess Wozniak, has asked for an increase in her hourly rate. **Jan moved to pay Jess \$25/hour. Susan Waite seconded. There was discussion about whether to pay Jess the \$22/hour she requested or a higher rate. The motion passed with seven in favor and one opposed.**

5. Video Committee Update. Amy Donovan reported that the videos are all posted on the website and that she sent out a lot of publicity about them. There are almost 7000 views on You Tube. She encouraged towns to include links to the videos on their websites. EPA is interested in posting the four specific videos to their webpage. There was discussion about translating the videos into languages other than English. Tracy DeMaio polled other single stream towns and found that Russian was one of

the top three languages spoken in each town's schools. She identified a company that the schools use to translate videos. That company needs a transcript of each video before they can price out the cost for translating. The board agreed to translate the four specific videos into Spanish and Russian to start. Tracy offered to ask the National Honor Society students to draft a transcript of each video. Agawam and W. Springfield are willing to use their RDP funds for the translations. There was a question about whether the translation would be subtitles or voice over. Tracy will get more information. The video subcommittee offered to meet to work on this project, too.

6. MAB Public Education and outreach report. Jan Ameen shared that there were 32 grant submittals, including from five single stream municipalities. Not all points were used. Based on the grant orders, the estimated cost will be \$9500.

7. RRR 2023. The RRR will run in *The Republican* on 4/21. The full page ad for the MAB will cost about \$2000. Susan Waite and Amy requested more overruns than last year so towns can put them in their town offices. There was discussion about the cost of this as last year *The Gazette* charged more than expected but eventually credited the bill. Susan will get a price from *The Gazette*.

Susan Waite contacted *The Berkshire Eagle* about running an RRR supplement. The paper is interested but wants the \$2000 printing costs covered in advance. There was discussion about this and whether the MAB would pay for it. Susan will get more information.

8. MAC Update. S. Waite provided a list of upcoming webinars, reporting deadlines, and office hours. DEP will start publicly sharing waste ban violations.

10. Other Business. Kevin Quesnel has resigned. Susan Waite offered to look for a new member to replace Kevin.

11. Next meeting and adjournment.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Susan Waite, seconded by Jan Ameen, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:04 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Ameen

Documents used in the meeting:

- 1/26/23 MAB meeting packet, including 11/17/22 draft minutes and agenda
- MAB FY23 budget vs. actual
- 12/22 MRF Operations report.