

MAB Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2023

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MAB Members Present: Jan Ameen, Linda Cernik, Amy Donovan, Steve Ellis (DEP), Tracy DeMaio, Abbey Massaro (CET), Arlene Miller, Laurie Simmons, Susan Cooper, Ethan Tupelo, Janine Greaves, and Susan Waite (MAC)

Others present: Mike Moores (Waste Management), Eric Weiss (PVPC),

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

1. Public Comment Period. None
2. Review and Approval of Draft Minutes: Approval of June 2023 meeting minutes. Jan Ameen made motion to accept with no changes, Seconded by Susan Waite. Amy Donovan abstained due to not being in attendance. The motion passed.
3. MRF Update: Michael Moores spoke on the hiring of a Maintenance Person. Revenue is going up slowly and there is activity with vendors looking for material.

Eric Weiss reported that City of Holyoke has signed a contract and is going back to dual stream and will be re-joining the MRF. Ethan looked at Holyoke's website and noticed errors which he will send to Eric.

4. Treasurer's Report. Jan Ameen reported on the only expense so far was the insurance.
5. MassRecycle Award: The MAB has been chosen as the recipient of the 2023 outstanding "institution" by MassRecycle. The award will be presented at the MassRecycle annual gathering in Boston on September 27. Laurie and several other MAB members plan to attend.
6. MRF Contract extension: Jan reported that the MAB contract committee has been meeting and met one time with Chris from WM. Several issues are on the table and discussions will continue.
7. Dalton Request: The Town of Dalton requested to drop from the Springfield MRF and wanted the MRF support and the following motion was made after much discussion. Susan Cooper made the motion "While we appreciate the financial pressures faced by

Dalton, the MAB does not feel it is in the best interest in the Springfield MRF and member communities to allow Dalton to terminate this contract.” Seconded by Amy Donovan. Jan Ameen abstained. The motion passed.

8. Video Committee Report: Tracy spoke on the progress of the multilingual videos; Spanish is completed, Russian and Turkish still under review, Ukrainian is challenging and is still a work in progress.
9. RRR 2023-Berkshire County Edition: Rene, Mary, Susan C. and Susan W. are working with the Berkshire Eagle on a 2023 version of the RRR. This would be the first ever RRR in Berkshire County. A motion was made to allocate up to \$2500 of MAB money to help fund the printing cost of this RRR. The motion passed.
10. Radio Opportunity: Susan spoke with Monte Belmonte (Fabulous 413 daily talk radio show) and will work with Ethan and Arlene on doing a segment.
11. MAC Update: Susan presented a MAC update highlighting events and opportunities that she had already mentioned in her most recent newsletter.
12. Amy spoke on the discrepancy between the MRF and Recycle Smart and will be pursuing this.

Next meeting will be October 18, 2023 at 10:00

Meeting Adjourned at 11:41

Respectfully submitted,

Janine Greaves