

Muskegon County
Solid Waste Planning Committee
February 6, 2023
2:00 p.m.
97 E. Apple Avenue
Room 119
Muskegon, MI 49442

Sidney Shaw, Chair

Linda Aerts, Vice Chair

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Shaw at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Linda Aerts, David Baker, Steven Biesiada, William Crabtree, Dave Kendrick, Sidney Shaw, Saxon Smith, Doug Wood

Excused: Donald Ames, Commissioner Zach Lahring, Barbara Marczak

Absent: Scott Huebler, Wayne Kuerth,

Staff

Present: Greg Leverage, Solid Waste Supervisor; Tina Nash, Public Works Coordinator; Wade VandenBosch, Public Works Director; Robert Ribbens, Environmental Manager

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Sidney Shaw opened the nominations for Chair of the Solid Waste Planning Committee.

SWPC-23-001 Moved by Linda Aerts, seconded by Doug Wood, to nominate Sidney Shaw as Chair of the Solid Waste Planning Committee.

There were no other nominations for Chair.

Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

Chair Shaw presiding

Chair Shaw opened nominations for Vice-Chair of the Solid Waste Planning Committee.

SWPC-23-002 Moved by Doug Wood seconded by Dave Kendrick, to nominate Linda Aerts as Vice-Chair of the Solid Waste Planning Committee.

There were no other nominations for Vice Chair.

Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

Chair Shaw opened nominations for Secretary of the Solid Waste Planning Committee.

SWPC-23-003 Moved by William Crabtree, seconded by Linda Aerts, to appoint Greg Leverage as Secretary of the Solid Waste Planning Committee.

There were no other nominations for Secretary.

Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

SWPC-23-004 It was moved by Steve Biesiada, seconded by William Crabtree, to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2022 Solid Waste Planning Committee meeting.

Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

COMMUNICATIONS

None

SCHEDULED MATTERS

None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Part 115 Changes

Greg Leverence stated, at the end of last year, the State of Michigan approved legislation that will change the Solid Waste Planning concept to a Material Management Planning program. Greg Leverence stated the law goes into effect in March 2023. Greg Leverence stated the goal is to create diversion from landfills and use waste materials in other ways.

Greg Leverence referenced a Q&A handout that was sent by Christina Miller, Solid Waste Planning Specialist with EGLE (attached). Greg Leverence spoke to #6 of the handout and stated the State of Michigan will not have any templates or plans ready until their next fiscal year. Greg Leverence then referenced #11 of the handout and stated there's nothing this group can work on until the State of Michigan provides some guidance. Greg Leverence stated more information should be available when this group meets in 2024.

Chair Shaw offered to attend meetings, held by other groups, that staff thinks may be beneficial.

Greg Leverence stated the State of Michigan is trying to focus on regional plans, counties working with adjacent counties.

Chair Shaw requested at the next meeting the Public Works Department provide updates on the landfill expansion and Part 115.

Linda Aerts stated West Michigan Environmental Action Committee (WMEAC) is working on a grant through EGLE. Linda Aerts stated she attends these meetings which are recycling focused and has reached out to Morgan Carroll at GMED in regards to the business side. Robert Ribbens stated WMEAC is reviewing the recycling study completed in 2017 and determining what needs to be updated.

Doug Wood asked staff if the Muskegon County would be communicating with other counties. Greg Leverence stated that has started through emails.

Chair Shaw thanked everyone for attending.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Solid Waste Planning Committee the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Sidney Shaw, Chair

*Preliminary Minutes
To be approved at the next Solid Waste Planning Committee Meeting*

Designated Planning Agency Contacts:

As you probably have heard – legislation revitalizing our solid waste law was signed into law in the last part of December! This is exciting news for the state of Michigan and memorializes our new way of thinking to a holistic materials management focus on how we will manage our materials going forward!

As you can imagine, while this is an exciting time; creating and implementing the new law, is a huge undertaking and will require thoughtful and deliberate changes and updates to our all our programs; and especially, to our planning program, as we will be creating a NEW Materials Management Program.

I know everyone is excited and anxious to find out what this means for them and when things will need to be started. That said, while we have started developing an implementation plan and process, there are still many unknowns that need to be determined.

The first and most important thing to know is that, while we are working behind the scenes to get things ready for our new programs/laws; you can take a breath and know that you will be given time and have opportunities to comment, ask questions, engage in trainings/webinars, etc., but will not be required to do and act on things without giving time to react.

As many of you know, we have a Materials Management Planning Workgroup (MMP Workgroup) that has been meeting now for about a year. We plan to utilize this group to help bring folks along in the process to prepare for the initiation of the new Materials Management Planning Program. Because of this, it is important to make sure that someone from your County is included and participating in the MMP Workgroup meetings, so that you know the most up-to-date information. **Therefore, please confirm that you have someone in the group and let me know if changes or additions are needed.**

That said, please see below for important information [subject to change]:

WHAT ARE SOME GENERAL QUESTIONS WE'VE BEEN GETTING??

1. **When does the new law become effective?**

Answer: March 29, 2023

2. **Where can I view the new language?**

Answer: [Part 115 Statute](#)

3. **Where can I find the overall Part 115 Implementation plan once it is available?**

Answer: Please watch the following website for updates: www.Michigan.gov/solidwaste [COMING SOON]

4. **I have questions, where can I send them?**

Answer: This group can send planning related questions directly to our Planning email: EGLE-MaterialsManagementPlanning@michigan.gov

5. **Which Listserv should I subscribe to for information and where do I subscribe?**

Answer: Subscribe by going to Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (govdelivery.com) and make sure to specifically subscribe to: Waste & Materials Management – Materials Management News and Info and Materials Management Planning.

6. When will the Materials Management Plan (MMP) be initiated? And how?

Answer: The timeframe is yet to be determined; but we anticipate that the initiation to start the development of a new MMP will not start before next fiscal year, but more likely, not until after the first of the year. The MMP process will be initiated by the EGLE Director.

7. Will there be funding available to create an MMP? If so, how much?

Answer: Yes, they are called **MMP Grants** and will be available to those counties that file a notice of intent to prepare a new MMP once initiated by the Director.

- Covers local costs for preparing, implementing, and maintaining MMPs.
- \$60,000 for each county.
- \$10,000/county for multi-county planning.
- \$0.50 per capita, up to \$300,000 would:
 - Cover the higher upfront costs of initiating the new planning process
 - Be available in the first year
 - Be awarded each year over a 3-year period

8. What can I be doing now?

Answer (1): Start reaching out to adjacent counties to see if there is any interest in potentially creating a materials management program together. [As a multi-county materials management plan; authority; building partnerships for future infrastructure/capacity needs, etc.]

Answer (2): Review your various mechanisms to see if they might need any changes or new ones might need to be pursued. Some examples (only those related to materials management): Agreements (with facilities and/or other counties); Solid waste or other materials management related ordinances (hauler licensing, flow-control to publicly owned materials management facilities), etc.); funding mechanisms; materials management related authorities; contracts, etc.

Answer (3): Look at potential partnerships (private industry and communities) and see where opportunities may exist.

9. What are some of the benefits of working with another county?

Answer: There are A LOT of reasons/benefits of working with other counties; below is a list of some of them [our Outreach Subgroup is developing a 1-pager to share – look for that in the future!]:

- Compounding of MMP Grant funding for additional counties [4 counties will create an additional \$40K/year; for a total of \$280K/year for all 4. Plus, the per capita \$ received for the first 3 years.]
- Utilizing counties that have more expertise
- Those counties with similar deficiencies may also have a similar solution
- A county may already be the main source for materials management and therefore, it may make more sense to create opportunities to feed into the existing program(s)
- Not every county needs a state-of-the-art materials management facility; but every county will need to provide capacity for their materials that are being generated.

- Potential increase: in material collection (access), overall tonnage of materials (allowing for better marketing); consistent education/outreach will allow for less contamination, etc.
- Economies/efficiencies of scale (contracting, education, service provisions, etc.)

10. What are some of the items that EGLE Planning staff are working on?

Answer: We have a lot of items that we are working on, and folks will be updated as these items become available. Some of the items we are working on include the following (noting that this list may change and/or be added to as needed):

- Develop a Q&A document to share with the public [*please see how to submit questions to be answered above*]
- Create a full implementation plan and timeline
- Update One-Pagers
 - Materials Management Planning - Introduced Legislation
 - Draft Siting Process Flowchart
 - Materials Management Planning - Agencies and Duties
 - Materials Management Plan Approval Process
 - Draft Siting Process Flowchart
- Create new One-Pagers
 - Benefits of Multi-County Planning
 - Notice of Intent Requirements [noting there is a requirement for counties to contact adjacent counties to promote regional/multi-county planning]
 - Consistency Determination Requirements
 - Materials Management Planning Committee Make-Up and requirements
 - How to transition committee members
 - MMP Grant Info
 - Update county population data for per capita grant distribution formula
 - Grant Application; requirements; and process
 - Funding Mechanisms
- Update the Planning 101 guide that was recently created
- Update Sold Waste Planning Website/Marketing URL (www.michigan.gov/egleswmp) to www.michigan.gov/eglemmp (not active)
- MMP Presentation Slide-Deck(s) for upcoming outreach opportunities
 - Both for EGLE staff as well as counties
- Getting on upcoming conference sessions/meetings agendas
- Developing a new MMP format
- MMP Guidance Materials & Worksheets to help determine recycling and diversion rates, etc.
- Creating a Toolbox with best practice examples for counties

11. You have been asked by your county Administration to give an update on the new requirements. Any suggestions on how to respond?

Answer: We recommend waiting until more information is available. Further, that as information becomes available messages through our GovDelivery system will be published (so please make sure to join all appropriate Listservs subscriptions!) Also, please know that EGLE will provide various opportunities for stakeholder engagement throughout the implementation process.

As stated above, our hope is to utilize this MMP Workgroup to continue engagement, provide education for the various new MMP requirements (and other pertinent requirements), allow opportunities to answer questions, connect counties for future collaboration, etc. All these items will allow counties to start and create the MMP more efficiently and effectively once EGLE has initiated the MMP process. I appreciate that you reviewed this important information and your patience as we venture together through this exciting time!

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Christina Miller

Solid Waste Planning Specialist

Materials Management Division

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

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