

Muskegon County
Solid Waste Planning Committee

Monday, February 3, 2025

2:00 PM

Muskegon County Marquette Campus

Marquette Conference Room

1903 Marquette Avenue

Muskegon, MI 49442

Sidney Shaw, Chair

William Crabtree, Vice Chair

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Shaw at 2:00 PM

ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS

Present: Commissioner J. Brett Herman, Sidney Shaw, Dave Kendrick, Stephen Carlson, Scott Huebler, Saxon Smith, Sam Flanery, Trevor Bailey, Joe Kuerth, Steven Biesiada

Excused: Barbara Marczak, Kim Arter, William Crabtree

Staff Present: Greg Leverage, Solid Waste Supervisor; Wade VandenBosch, Public Works Director; Sara Cooper, Sustainability/Community Relations Coordinator

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

SWPC-25-001 Moved by Scott Huebler, seconded by Dave Kendrick, 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-25-002 Moved by Stephen Carlson, seconded by Trevor Bailey, to nominate William Crabtree 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-25-003 Moved by Scott Huebler, seconded by Trevor Bailey, 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-25-004 It was moved by Dave Kendrick, seconded by Trevor Bailey, to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2024, Solid Waste Planning Committee meeting.

Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

COMMUNICATIONS

None

SCHEDULED MATTERS

None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Materials Management Planning Update – Stephen Carlson

Stephen Carlson, a local planner for the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) working with the West Michigan Shoreline Materials Management Planning Committee (MMPC) on the process, provided information regarding the Materials Management Plan (MMP) planning process. He passed out the GENERALIZED outline for the MMP Planning Process (*attached*) and explained steps 1 through 18 to the Muskegon County Solid Waste Planning Committee (SWPC) members and staff present. Discussion occurred between SWPC members and Stephen Carlson regarding the MMP Planning Process. Stephen encouraged SWPC members to attend the upcoming West Michigan Shoreline MMPC meetings, be added to the email updates for the MMPC, and check out the West Michigan Shoreline MMPC [website](#) for information.

2. Muskegon County Sustainability Update – Sara Cooper/Wade VandenBosch

Sara Cooper gave an update on the many exciting changes regarding sustainability in Muskegon County that have occurred since April 2024. On April 17, 2024, the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners approved the Muskegon County Resolution to Urge the Adoption of Policies that Will Lead to Environmental Sustainability in Muskegon County and the United States Resolution #2024-01 (*attached*). On September 3, 2024, during the Ways & Means Committee meeting and the September 10, 2024, Full Board Meeting, the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners approved developing the Muskegon County Sustainability Advisory Committee (*attached*). On September 17, 2024, during the Ways & Means Committee meeting and the Full Board meeting on September 23, 2024, it was moved and approved to create a Sustainability position for Muskegon County. This became effective October 1, 2024. SWPC members, Sara Cooper, and Wade VandenBosch discussed the Muskegon County Sustainability updates. Sara Cooper will provide Greg Leverence, Secretary of the Solid Waste Planning Committee, with information regarding the Muskegon County Sustainability Committee listed above, the link for the Sustainability Advisory Committee [website](#), and the [link for the application](#) for the Muskegon County Sustainability Advisory Committee so the SWPC members can have the information emailed to them.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Solid Waste Planning Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:26 PM

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

GENERALIZED Outline of the MMP Planning Process

Steps	Phase	Description
1	Explore Current Context	County demographics Inventory & map facilities Hauling services & infrastructure
2		Identify generation & diversion of materials per county: - Real data, contracts, estimates, EGLE tools, landfill/recycling reports, etc
3	Identify Gaps	Compare local contexts & analyze on the 5-county scale
4	Visioning	Service, program & infrastructure priorities Maximize options for providing services
5	Identify requirements & best practices; Establish goals & benchmarks	Recycling: curbside, infrastructure, typical materials
6		Recycling: drop-off, infrastructure, typical materials
7		Organics: services & infrastructure
8		Solid waste services & infrastructure
9		Discuss options for materials utilization, reuse, repair, diversion, etc
10		Education, outreach, other programming, etc
11	Identify Goals	Existing and future partnerships Opportunities for regional collaboration or coordination
12		Enforceable mechanisms
13		Facility development & compliance
14	Implementation Strategy	Coordinate vision, timeline, & responsibilities
15	Siting Process	Local zoning analysis Authorization process Community approval/agreements
16	Approval process	All local units will have opportunity to approve 2/3 of responding governments must approve
17		EGLE approval
18	Prepare for updates	Maintain plan

*Public engagement will be encouraged throughout the process.

*Efforts to engage local communities will begin, in earnest, near the end of steps 1-2 after some information has been gathered.

*A “work plan” must be developed annually by WMSRDC, to include budgets provided by each county. This outlines expected activities and will justify each county’s annual allowance.

*Work Plan, MMPC information, and external resources on WMSRDC.org, under program “Materials Management Planning



Muskegon County Board of Commissioners

Muskegon County Resolution to Urge the Adoption of Policies that will Lead to
Environmental Sustainability in Muskegon County and the United States
Resolution #2024-01

WHEREAS, environmental sustainability promotes responsible and proactive decision-making that minimizes negative impacts and maintains balance between social, environmental, and economic growth to ensure a desirable planet now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan is to create a roadmap depicting where the County is today and where it would like to be in the future, in regards to achieving sustainability goals and targets by a specific time frame; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan is a living document intended to evolve over time and is divided into eight categories: Recycling and Waste Management, Solar Energy, Water Quality, Community Engagement, Municipal Engagement, Natural Resources, and Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan contains long-term objectives and short-term actions for helping the County achieve targets related to sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the objectives are intended to be quantifiable so that progress can be measured on an annual basis and reported to decision makers and stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, Muskegon County is responsible to promote the public health, safety, and welfare of residents, including access to clean air, clean water, and a safe environment; and

WHEREAS, energy resources we utilize as a local government and community significantly impact public health, safety, and welfare, including the economic and social well-being of current and future residents; and

WHEREAS, access to the financial benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy must be shared equitably across all economic classes; Muskegon County needs to seek strategies and equitable cost structures that protect and support low-income members of the community; and

WHEREAS, environmental sustainability is designed to boost local economies, help municipal operations become more efficient, reduce operating costs, facilitate grant opportunities, and offer additional support to municipalities as Muskegon County embraces an ongoing process of working toward greater sustainability; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Muskegon County adopts the following goals and will pursue local actions that support these goals:

1. Increased building energy efficiency, including HVAC systems and insulation to reduce energy consumption;
2. Increased renewable energy use;
3. Increased vehicle and equipment fuel efficiency;
4. Increased solid waste diversion;
5. Increased use of methane from landfills;
6. Reduced water consumption;
7. Increased water and wastewater infrastructure efficiency;
8. Promotion of sustainable solar at the Resource Recovery Center;
9. Apply for energy efficiency programs for public buildings, Marquette Campus, the county airport;
10. Investments in and expansion of public transportation systems to reduce reliance on individual cars, thus decreasing emissions and promotion of the use of hybrid vehicles within county fleets and electric vehicles when the charging infrastructure is available and the vehicles are economically feasible;
11. Promotion of recycling and composting programs and reduction of waste going to landfills;
12. Support for reforestation and the creation of green spaces within urban areas, which can help absorb carbon dioxide;
13. Partnerships with neighboring counties, cities, and states to develop regional environmental action plans and share resources and best practices;
14. Establish systems to collect and monitor data on emissions, energy usage and climate impacts, allowing for informed decision making and tracking progress.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to focus attention and effort within Muskegon County on matters of environmental sustainability and in order to promote Muskegon County's local initiatives and actions toward energy resiliency.

The Muskegon County Board of Commissioners, at its April 16, 2024, meeting recommended approval by Commissioner Marcia Hovey-Wright, supported by Commissioner Jessica Cook, the aforementioned resolution.

Ayes: Michelle Hazekamp, Marcia Hovey-Wright, Zach Lahring, Jessica Cook, Charles Nash, Darrell Paige

Nayes: Kim Cyr

I, Karen D. Buie, Clerk of the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners and Clerk of the County of Muskegon, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted by said Board on April 16, 2024.



Karen D. Buie, Clerk
County of Muskegon

April 17, 2024

Date



Muskegon County Ways & Means Committee

Request for Board Consideration

Requestor: Mark Eisenbarth
Requesting Department: Administration
Budgeted: No
Partially Budgeted: No
Non-Budgeted: Yes

Committee Date: 09/03/2024
Full Board Date: 09/10/2024
Agenda Number: WM24/09-69

Suggested Motion:

Move to authorize the Administration staff to begin the process of developing a Muskegon County Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Summary of Request:

The name of this Committee is the Muskegon County Sustainability Advisory Committee.

The Sustainability Advisory Committee is charged with researching opportunities to reduce the environmental footprint of the County of Muskegon activities when possible, practical, and efficient and making recommendations to the Board of Commissioners and staff for consideration and implementation.

The purpose of the Sustainability Advisory Committee is to encourage education, stewardship, and policy leadership that will make our community a leader in economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

The mission of the Sustainability Advisory Committee is to provide guidance on and lead projects that maintain balance between economic, social, and ecological needs of residents and businesses for today and future generations.

The Sustainability Advisory Committee shall consist of seven members, which include the following:

- One member shall be an educator or represent the educational community with an interest in the environment or sustainability.
- One member shall be an environmental scientist or licensed professional environmental engineer.
- One member shall be a LEED certified licensed architect or construction manager.
- One member shall be a representative from a waste and/or recycling hauler operating in Muskegon County.
- One member shall be a representative of an Electric or Gas utility company with Customers in Muskegon County.
- One member shall be from a business located in Muskegon County that focuses on sustainability or has implemented sustainable practices.
- One member shall be from an organization or research institution with a focus on natural resource conservation.

The members above are residents that are appointed by the Board of Commissioners and serve a two-year term.

Attachments:

1. Muskegon County Sustainability Resolution



Angela Gasiewski, Finance Director

Date: August 26, 2024



Mark Eisenbarth, County Administrator

Date: August 30, 2024