

MARQUETTE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Board Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting

November 16, 2022

DATE: Wednesday, November 16, 2022

PLACE: Landfill Administration Complex
600 County Road NP
Marquette, MI 49855

MEMBERS PRESENT: In Person: Randall Yelle, Glenn Adams, Dennis Honch, Dave Campana, Amy Manning, Joe Minelli and Helen Amiri (Alternate Board Member)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Carr Baldwin (unexcused)

EX OFFICIO: Brad Austin (in person)

OTHERS: In Person: Beth Bonanni, Recording Secretary; Amy Stakvel, MCSWMA; Gary Wommer, Negaunee Township and Jo Foley, MI League of Women Voters. By Zoom: Lyn Durant, Marquette Township and Scott Cambensy, City of Marquette.

1. Call to Order: R. Yelle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. Approval of Agenda: D. Honch made a motion to approve the agenda. A. Manning supported. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Public Comment: None.
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. 10/19/22 – Regular Meeting
- G. Adams made a motion to approve the 10/19/22 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. D. Honch supported. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Consent Agenda
 - a. Statistics – October 2022
 - b. Accounts Payable

- c. Board Member Contact List
- d. Fee Schedule

J. Minelli requested that 5b be pulled out of the Consent Agenda for discussion. D. Honch made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with 5b removed for discussion. D. Campana supported. Motion approved unanimously.

J. Minelli asked what the payment to Fire Rover was for under 5b? B. Austin said it is the 24/7 fire suppression system for the facility. D. Honch made a motion to approve 5b of the Consent Agenda. A. Manning supported. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Business

- a. Banking – D. Honch made a motion to approve the banking. J. Minelli supported. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. Financials – D. Campana made a motion to approve the financials. D. Honch supported. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. Recycling Financials – A. Manning made a motion to approve the Recycling Financials. J. Minelli supported. Motion approved unanimously. A. Manning asked when the new tipping fee for out of county recyclables will be imposed? B. Austin said the new tipping fee for out of county materials will not take effect until next month.
- d. Reimbursements – None presented.

7. Reports

- a. Director Report – B. Austin provided an update on the EGLE grants MCSWMA is receiving reimbursements on. One grant was in the amount of \$50,000.00 for e-waste and Battery Awareness campaign. The other grant reimbursement will come from Delta County for the landfill's recycling infrastructure in the amount of \$159,371.00.

B. Austin stated that Part 115 Recycling could be passed in the Lame Duck session. The state wants Michigan counties to plan dollars (about \$10,000,000.00) for solid waste. Increased costs to operate solid waste landfills and facilities is estimated to be approximately 20 percent.

The RFP for the wastewater treatment plant design went out November 4, 2022. The proposal deadline is December 14, 2022. The bid award date is December 21, 2022. B. Austin said things are moving quickly and there will be a tight timeline on the project schedule.

The KI Sawyer biosolids are complete for 2022. MCSWMA received only 10% of what was expected from KI Sawyer on the biosolid materials. A tentative date of May 1, 2023 has been set for receiving the biosolids in 2023.

The efficiency/infrastructure assessment results have been received. The Authority needs the recyclables compensation. MCSWMA will focus to improve health, safety and operational efficiency and utilize technology that is available to attain composition, identify hazards/reduce or eliminate injury, notification, etc. There are grant partners at the table.

B. Austin indicated that the recycling facility needs a longer presort area and will be providing more information on the upgrading of the facility to the Board at the next meeting. One issue with having a smaller presort area, the materials get bunched up (jammed) on the line and presents a safety hazard for the workers who are trying to sort the materials.

Facility tours of the Landfill have been conducted with school children.

There has been a substantial drop in commodity values. Cardboard value went from \$175.00 /ton in July, 2022 to \$32.50/ton in November, 2022. Mixed paper value in July 2022 was \$62.50/ton and is at \$5.00/ton for November, 2022. Milk jugs are up a little bit from .48/lbs. to .62/lbs., but otherwise values are down. MCSWMA may have to look into increasing tipping fees.

An industrial assessment on energy efficiency was completed at MCSWMA's facility by MTU/Michigan State University. Some of the recommendations included applying weather stripping, changing light bulbs, etc. B. Austin commented that MCSWMA received a very good score.

A new employee was hired at the Landfill 2 weeks ago.

The renewal of healthcare coverage for 2023 is scheduled for January 1, 2023.

NMU will hold a zero waste event on December 2, 2022 at the NMU-Michigan hockey game.

Tentative Board Agenda items for December will include the wastewater treatment plant design bid award, proposed 10-year tipping fee plan, and recycling facility dust control proposal that was approved in the 5-year capital plan.

J. Minelli asked if MCSWMA will receive more than 20% of biosolids from KI Sawyer in 2023? B. Austin said it is hard to say but starting in the Fall this year was tough because of the rough weather. However, B. Austin believes the Landfill will receive more materials in 2023 than what was received in 2022.

A. Manning asked if the recycling jam in the presort area was unique to the MCSWMA facility. B. Austin indicated it was unique to MCSWMA. The Authority is experiencing 5 times more growth than what was expected and normally the building footprint is built around the equipment. In MCSMWA situation, an existing structure was used to fit the equipment inside of the building.

G. Adams made a motion to approve the Director's Report. J. Minelli supported. Motion approved unanimously.

- b. Attorney Report –No attorney report was presented.
8. Public Comment – None.
9. Trustee Comments – G. Adams commented “great job.” J. Minelli indicated this was the last board meeting he would be attending in person as he is headed to Florida for the Winter. Mr. Minelli said he will attend the meetings by telephone while in Florida. Joe Minelli concluded his comments by wishing everyone happy holidays.
10. Adjournment. R. Yelle adjourned the meeting at 4:26 p.m.

Randall L. Yelle, Chairperson

Dennis Honch, Secretary