



## SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN SOLID WASTE CONSORTIUM

Minutes of Wednesday, March 15, 2017

219 Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw, MI 49079

www.SWMSWC.com

Minutes prepared by: AJ Brucks

Meeting called to order by Chair Max Thiele at 7:08 PM.

**Roll Call of Counties:** Members & Technical Advisory Council (TAC) Present: *Allegan* – Max Thiele and Ben Williams; *Berrien* – Ezra Scott and Jill Adams; *Branch* - Don Vrablic; *Calhoun* – Steve Frisbie and Sarah Kelly; *Cass* – Clark Cobb and Robert Ziliak; *Van Buren* –Richard Godfrey, Paul Schincariol, and AJ Brucks.

Paul Schincariol and Steve Frisbie are welcome as new County Commissioner representation along with Ezra Scott who attend in January.

**Reorganization of Board of Directors:** New officers for 2017; Motion made by Vrablic, supported by Scott for the nomination and election of Schincariol for Chair. Motion carried. Motion made by Godfrey, supported by Vrablic for the nomination and election of Ziliak for Vice Chair. Motion carried. Motion made by Ziliak, supported by Scott for the nomination and election of Cobb for Treasurer/Secretary. Motion carried.

Paul Schincariol, new Board of Director Chair, took the SWMSWC Meeting over.

Motion made by Scott, supported by Vrablic to approve the new board of directors: Paul Schincariol, Chair; Robert Ziliak, Vice Chair; Clark Cobb; Treasurer/Secretary, as authorized signers on the Southwest Michigan Solid Waste Consortium checking account at PNC bank. Motion carried.

**Others Present:** Mrs. Ziliak; Katie Venechuck from MDEQ, Katie Fahey from MRC.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by Ziliak, supported by Thiel to approve the March Agenda with the addition of Website Update in Reports/Project Updates. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by Godfrey, supported by Thiel to approve the January meeting minutes with the correction and change from Freestone supporting January minutes to Godfrey supporting the January minutes. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Venechuck from Michigan Department of Environmental Quality discussed the MRC Conference in May with the Governors Summit scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup> of the conference. The MDEQ has \$500,000 with two grants available one focusing on infrastructure and the other education. They are looking for submissions for the Excellence of Recycling Award that the SWMSWC won two years ago. Part 115 is being worked on to streamline recycling in Michigan, Venechuck will send additional information so members can read up on what the current PA 115 states as well as proposals for recycle law updates. Questions- Construction material is a problem – Scott mentioned Lakeshore Disposal wanting to open up a recycling facility to take construction material for repurpose and recycle. Venechuck discussed construction materials is a huge material input in landfills and Kent Co. has just done a feasibility plan to see if they are viable to start accepting this line of material.

**Financial Report:** Balance of \$5,134.25. Brucks presented the Financials remain the same and she will call PNC bank and touch base with new BoD with information about becoming authorized signers for the SWMSWC Checking Account.

**Payment of Bills:** none.

### Old Business:

- MRC Conference (May 17-19) - Conference is scheduled in Lansing and agenda is being finalized. SWMSWC meeting will be changed to May 24<sup>th</sup>. Williams and Kelly from Allegan & Calhoun requested the support of \$300.00 each from the SWMSWC to support their attendance of the annual MRC Conference.



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Motion by Thiele, supported by Godfrey to approve the \$300.00 request from both Allegan and Calhoun County to support the TAC representative attend the annual MRC conference. Motion carried. Brucks will prepare a check for \$300 for Allegan and \$300 for Calhoun, after Schincariol updates information at PNC bank Brucks will send to Thiele for second signature.

- Recycle, MI Partners – Adams requested the reimbursement of mileage for Fahey as she was invited by TAC at the Boards request at the previous meeting to attend and present. Motion by Ziliak, supported by Scott to pay mileage, at the given IRS rate, for any presenters that were invited as a special request by the Board and/or Technical Advisory Committee to the SWMSWC Board Meeting. Motion carried. Brucks will request an invoice from Fahey and prepare a check at the IRS .535 rate.
- Recycle, MI Partners cont.– Katie Fahey from the Michigan Recycling Coalition presented on what it means to support the Recycle, MI program. What is Recycle, MI – it is a program that ties it altogether across MI. Bring attention to recycling where you live, work and play. Fahey talked about who is supporting the program, the mission behind having one logo, one principle to showcase recycling opportunities in MI, what is gained by becoming a partners and what is offered to partners when they join. Motion was made by Scott, supported by Cobb to have the SWMSWC fund a \$150.00 small sign partner membership for each of the supporting County members; Allegan, Berrien, Branch, Cass, Calhoun, St. Joseph and Van Buren Counties, totaling \$1050.00, along with the honorary membership of the SWMSWC as a whole. Motion carried. MRC said if any County wanted to upgrade they can do so by paying the difference.
- SWMSWC Dues – Brucks prepared letters for Thiele to sign and Commissioners to take back with them. Letters said dues were not expected for 2017 but requested support each year starting FY2018.

### **New Business:**

- July Tour – Calhoun Co. Recycle Center – Information on date, time and meeting location will be available at the next meeting.

### **Reports/Project Updates:**

- Scrap Tire Grant 2017 – Thiele discussed the issues the SWMSWC partners are facing with the lag time of grant awards. The submission for the grants happen in October and the awards haven't been getting awarded until April or May which only leaves a small amount of time to plan and execute the grant. The short time leaves partners with limited dates because vendor's available trailers/times/dates fill. Venechuck recommend the Consortium writes an official letter to the current director discussing the issues at hand. Venechuck will send information on where to send letter. Williams and Adams will work on the official letter.
- MRC Regional Meeting Update – skipped due to time constraint
- SWMSWC Website Update – Williams has updated the contact list on the SWMSWC website. TAC would like updated photo of the Board of Directors. If anyone has additions or changes they can contact Williams in Allegan.

### **County Updates:**

Allegan- Williams updated he is looking into the Zika Virus Funding to see if it is possible to host a tractor tire collection with the funds. Allegan's spring events are scheduled and the SWPC is actively meeting due to Stoddard Oil Processing Facility.

Berrien- Adams updated the Berrien County Recycling Event Fliers are being printed and distributed and plan on submitting the MDEQ Recycling Education Grant to print and distribute a count-wide recycling guide.

Branch- Vrablic had nothing at this time.



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Calhoun- Kelly updated the Marshall Recycling Center opened Feb. 7. They have shipped two semi-trailers and one compactor box. Newspaper is filling slower than expected and they are working on balancing traffic flow and make lines manageable by adjusting staffing and adding hours. Calhoun will not be registering the Community Compost Center this month and all of the material has been removed. Solid Waste has relocated to the Community Development Dept. Recyclorama is April 1 at Bailey Park in Battle Creek from 9-1. They have a new host agreement as of Jan. 1 and the Solid Waste Committee is active and enjoying the strategic planning process.

Cass- Ziliak updated the HHW Collection has been scheduled in Cass.

Van Buren- Brucks updated she is working on updating the VBCD Recycle page and is partnering with Berrien and Cass for a Pesticide Container Recycling Collection in July during a Clean Sweep event. She has also scheduled her HCW Collections and is working to finalize the Tire Collections with or without the grant funds.

**Next Meeting:** May 24, 2017 (changed date due to MRC conference)

**Future Meetings:** Change to May meeting, now May 24<sup>th</sup> due to the MRC conference.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourn. Motion made by Thiele, supported by Scott to adjourn the business meeting at 9:28pm. Motion carried.