



## SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN SOLID WASTE CONSORTIUM

### Minutes of Wednesday, January 18, 2017

Van Buren Conservation District's Office  
1035 E. Michigan Ave. Paw Paw, MI 49079  
www.SWMSWC.com  
Minutes prepared by: AJ Brucks

Meeting called to order by Chair Paul Schincariol at 7:07 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* – Paul Schincariol, Richard Godfrey and AJ Brucks.

**Others Present:** Calhoun's Intern; Katie Venechuk, MDEQ; Mrs. Ziliak; Phil Hover, Van Buren ISD

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by Ziliak, supported by Cobb to approve the May Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by Thiele, supported by Ezra to approve the March 15, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Recognition of the audience, no comments.

**Financial Report:** Balance of \$3,385.81. Brucks presented the Financials and Bank Statement.

**Payment of Bills:** All approved checks from March (#1043-#1046) have cleared.

#### Old Business:

- Recycle, MI Partnership Update- Kelly updated signs will be given at the end of the meeting for each County to take one and display. Venechuk from MRC will be sending updates, info for websites, press releases and Facebook pages accordingly.
- Membership Dues Letters- Brucks asked if all Dues letters were distributed, all Board responded they have. Letter/Invoices will be signed and sent out to each partnering County in January.

#### New Business:

- Correspondence with MDEQ about Scrap Tire Grant – Letter sent by Thiel, Letter in response from MDEQ were presented. Discussion about protocol to sending letters on behalf of the Board and Tech Advisory Committee was had, Board would like to see drafts and have comments before anything is sent. Motion made by Vrablic, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ezra for the chair to be fiduciary for the Board, sign letters after comments from Board/TAC members. Motion carried. Adams presented a thank you correspondence letter to the MDEQ staff that has been working with the TAC members for the Scrap Tire Grant and the frustrations there has been. Board gave the approval to sign and send the letter. Venechuk thanked the consortium for patience and partnership. The MDEQ announced additional grant awards, Katie will be the grant administrator for this region. County Planning, Regional Planning Process for Solid Waste is in the works. Venechuk will send current PA115 language and proposed changes.
- July Tour – Kelly arranged with the TAC members to visit/tour the Marshall Recycling Center, at the Calhoun County Road Department at 13300 15 Mile Rd., Marshal. Kelly will go over what is collected, what companies they are working with, staff costs and how successful it has been thus far.

#### Reports/Project Updates:

- Scrap Tire Grant 2017 – \$30,000/~15 trailers (trailers are \$1,000min. - \$2,000max each)  
Current schedule, location and trailer numbers are below. TAC will keep track of funding as events are completed.
  - Allegan Co.:
    - August 5 in Allegan – 1 trailer



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- August 5 in Otsego – 1 trailer
- August 5 in Dorr – 1 trailer
- Berrien Co.:
  - May 11/12 at Berrien Co. Road Commission - 4 trailers
- Calhoun Co.:
  - June 17 in Tekonsha – 1 trailer
  - June 24 in Athens – 1 trailer
  - July 22 in Albion – 1 trailer
- Cass Co.:
  - August 5 at Cass Co. Fairgrounds - 2 trailers
- Van Buren Co.:
  - May 12 at Covert Transfer Station – 1 trailer
  - June 17 at VBC Human Services, Paw Paw – 1 trailer
  - June 22 at VBC Human Service, Paw Paw – 1 trailer
- Governor's Recycling Council and Solid Waste and Sustainability Advisory Panel Reports Update
  - Governor's Recycling Council Report: [http://www.michigna.gov/documents/deq/deq-wmrpd-GRC\\_Report\\_FINAL\\_555408\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigna.gov/documents/deq/deq-wmrpd-GRC_Report_FINAL_555408_7.pdf) (resend link to Board)
  - Solid Waste and Sustainability Advisory panel Report: [http://www.michigna.gov/documents/deq/deq-wmrpd-SWSAP\\_Report\\_FINAL\\_555407\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigna.gov/documents/deq/deq-wmrpd-SWSAP_Report_FINAL_555407_7.pdf) (resend link to Board)
  - MRC Conference (May 17-20 in Lansing) Presentation – Kelly and Williams prepared a PowerPoint for the Board and visitors, they discussed all of the sessions they attend, highlights and information they were able to take home. Venechuk and Hover both discussed highlights of sessions they attended and information and knowledge they learned.

### **County Updates:**

Biggest announcement was: Berrien- Berrien Co. Parks Department received the MDEQ Recycling Education Grant for \$15,800; with a local match of \$5,3000 out of Berrien Landfill Use Fund to update the Countywide Recycling Guide and redistribute it to residents across the County. Calhoun County is looking forward to showcasing their hard work and hosting a tour in July.

**Next Meeting:** July 19, 2017, 1PM-3PM, Calhoun County Road Department.

2017 Dates: September 20, November 15

**Notes:** Question-Compost facilities: Venechuk discussed compost facility challenges and changes in legislation for general permitting, operation plants and siting processes, management plans and streamlining so communities would be able to set up composting sites properly, functionally and operate them with no problems. Current there is no laws for food waste but there is for yard waste. Morgan Composting is a great facility and has a public and private partnership.

Henry Bulkema with Michiana Recycling operates a MRF in Cass County and has invited the SWMSWC members for a tour of the facility.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourn.