



Southwest Michigan Solid Waste Consortium

1035 E. Michigan Ave., Paw Paw, MI 49079

Serving Allegan, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties

Southwest Michigan Solid Waste Consortium Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2017

Meeting called to order by Chairman Schincariol at 7:00 p.m.

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

Others Present: Phil Hover, Van Buren ISD.

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Thiele, supported by Scott to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Thiele, supported by Scott to approve the meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: none.

Financial Report: Balance of \$3,885.81. Motion made by Scott, supported by Ziliak to approve the report. Motion carried.

Payment of Bills:

Motion made by Scott, supported by Ziliak to purchase a \$100 debit card to be used for meeting refreshments; and reimburse Jill Adams for the debit card purchase at the next meeting. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Membership Fees: TAC will send letters to all Consortium members requesting annual membership fees, with deadline being end of February 2018.

Recycle MI Partnership: Partner forms are being compiled to be submitted to MRC. TAC will seek out logos from each County to include with the forms.

New Business:

TAC will meet prior to the next member meeting to plan out 2018 projects and partnerships.

The MRC has hired a lobbyist to advance their recycling efforts at the state level. The MDEQ plans to focus on County-level educational sessions at the 2018 MRC Conference, in preparation for updating and rewriting Material Management Plans. The MRC Conference is in May 2018 in Kalamazoo. Sarah Kelly is the 2018 Conference Committee Chairperson.

Reports/Project Updates:

Sarah Kelly gave an overall report to-date of the Scrap Tire Collection Grant efforts in the region. So far, \$28,243 was spent via grant funding from the MDEQ Scrap Tire Program; \$3,359 was spent by Consortium partners to cover additional collections outside of grant timeframe and larger sized tires; 18

semi-trailers were utilized from Deerpath Recyclers; and 15,026 Passenger (or equivalent) were collected and properly disposed.

Sarah Kelly reported that the Governor's Recycling Council and the Solid Waste and Sustainability Advisory Panel are working on merging the reports that each group created. It is planned that this merged report will be submitted to the legislature in November or December.

County Updates:

Allegan - None

Berrien - The proper disposal of approx. 15,600 lbs of pesticides have been paid for through the Berrien Clean Sweep grant, with 2 more events to go. Partnerships under Berrien's grant include Cass, Van Buren, Branch, and St. Joseph County. Berrien's current program funding will continue for approximately 2 more years. Staff will be seeking funding to continue current programs.

Branch – A Household Hazardous Waste Collection is scheduled for October 7 in Coldwater.

Calhoun -

Cass – The Cass County Tire collection brought in 1,711 tires.

St. Joseph – Part of the cost for collection of pesticides at St. Joseph County's April recycling event was covered under Berrien's Clean Sweep Grant Agreement.

Van Buren – A Household Hazardous Waste Collection is scheduled for September 23. The Red Box medication collection program collects approximately 100 lbs per month at 15 locations.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.