



## SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN SOLID WASTE CONSORTIUM

Minutes of Wednesday, September 21, 2016

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 7:05 PM.

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

**Others Present:** Mrs. Ziliak

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by Vrablic, supported by Vavra to approve the March Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by Vrablic, supported by Cobb to approve the May meeting minutes as presented and accept there was no official meeting for August therefore no minutes present. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** none.

**Financial Report:** Balance of \$5,134.25. Brucks presented the Financials in an excel spreadsheet.

**Payment of Bills:** none.

**Old Business:** none.

### New Business:

- MRC Update/Regional Meeting – Kelly discussed the issues at the MDEQ and the staff change throughout the agency due to the Flint water crisis such as a new MDEQ Director. The 2017 MRC will be in later May at MSU in Lansing and will be a slightly different set up as well as days of the week because of what is available. Regional Meetings will be scheduled starting this year and one will take place in Southwest Michigan. There will be networking, updates, tour and MRC staff, Karen and Katie, are looking for additional folks to help plan and host. There are changes to the PA115 and Kelly will email those out to so the Board can see any changes made.

### Reports/Project Updates:

- Scrap Tire Grant 2016 - Williams updated that the final number of 15 trailers were invoiced to MDEQ and final report was written and emailed. 2016 Scrap Tire Clean-up series resulted in 15 trailers, \$24,986.00 and 11,158 PTE total. As of 9-21-16, Deerpath received the first request from the state for \$8,520 with \$16,466 pending from the Aug 30 submittal. Here is the breakdown:
  - Allegan County: 1877 PTE
  - Berrien County: 2918 PTE
  - Branch County: 77 PTE
  - Calhoun County: 2699 PTE
  - Cass County: 1881PTE
  - Van Buren County: 1706 PTE
- Scrap Tire Grant 2017 - TAC team discussed the 2017 Request for Proposals for the Scrap Tire Grant for the FY2017 would be out and due before the next SWMSWC meeting. TAC team requested approval for submission. Motion made by Godfrey, supported by Thiele to allow the Tech Advisory Committee to write and submit the MDEQ 2017 Scrap Tire Clean Up Grant on behalf of the Southwest Michigan Solid Waste Consortium. Motion carried. TAC and Board discussed Tire Recycling Companies including Deer Path, Tire Disclaimers and Entech.



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- SWMSWC Website – Williams updated that Allegan Co. staff that manages their counties website has also been updating the SWMSWC for the last 3 years. The Board asked him to please give thanks, Williams said that a letter to the Commissioners was not needed at this time.

### **County Updates:**

**Allegan-** Act 69 Resolution: On 8/2/16, Allegan County had 9 local units of gov.t place a \$36 ballot proposal with 8 of them passing. The \$36 per household/year is for 2016-2020. The one unit that was defeated is placing on the November ballot. Processing at MRFS: Kent County is now going up to \$40 per ton. Resource Recovery had several contracts that had to be amended to be able to pay these processing fees. With the \$40 per ton, this was an additional 10-20% cost on these contracts. Only one township turned down the amendment.

Allegan County Solid Waste Planning Committee met in March for 1) a Resource Recovery Update and 2) Stoddard Oil (Wayland MI) has a permitted facility to solidify oil sludge from their vacuum service trucks used to pump out shop drains, etc. Stoddard is proposing adding shop oil napkins and paper filters to reduce the amount of sawdust used to solidify. The MDEQ states that if they want to do this, they need a letter of consistency from Allegan County and apply for a Part 115 permit as a “**processing center**”. Currently Allegan County’s plan does not address processing centers. HHW and E-Waste: Attendance is high as the past few years. My two large regional collections had over 550 cars between both. Allegan County Information Services trained me last week for the consortium website. I have control to make changes.

**Berrien-** Clean Sweep (coordinated through Berrien) had a successful year collection 12,700 pounds so far and partner with Branch, Cass, and VB counties. Silver Beach Co. Park recycling had a successful first year. 50 recycling bins were set out for the public to use. Cans, bottles and cardboard were collected. Approx. 114 cubic yards (48 tons) of waste was diverted from the landfill to a recycling stream. Approx. 16% of the park waste was diverted to recycling. Zero Waste Landfill group is forming in SW MI. Members include businesses from Berrien over to Kalamazoo. Problem wastes talked about at the first few meets were pallets, racks, batteries, carts, light bulbs, office furniture, organics/digesters, tires and doc. Shredding.

**Branch-** Vrablic reported the tour of the Tomato Greenhouse went very well and they had an amazing production which produced 30 million pounds of tomatoes with small amount (2%) of waste including water from their production and they are growing for more than 25 grocery stores. Coldwater will have a HHW on Oct. 1 and there will be a series of days for electronic recycling offered.

**Calhoun-** Kelly reported they are hiring a 19 hour a week paid intern to help out at the recycling facility and volunteers for the center in Albion. Recycle Rama on Aug. 20 was a success with 700 vehicles and with that turn out they are working to change locations to the baseball stadium for a possibility of the April 1, 2017 collection. Kelly is working to update the Counties Recycle plan and is working on filling vacancies on the committee. She is also working to get a compactor for cardboard and finalizing the budget for the New Year.

**Cass-** Ziliak reported that the May HHW went well, they ended up using Green Earth for electronic recycling and to offset the cost they charged a small entrance fee and charged for the TV’s which paid for the vendor to set up and collection electronics.

**Van Buren-** Brucks updated the VBCD past their .1 millage during the August primary. Brucks is happy to report they will be able to move forward with some ideas and plans for the recycling in Van Buren County, especially in the education realm. Brucks also updated a successful HHW, Tire, Latex Paint collection in South Haven and the year round electronic collection is working well.

**Next Meeting:** January 18, 2017.

**Future Meetings:** November 16 meeting was canceled due to lack of able attendees. Brucks will send out a reminder as well as meeting dates for the upcoming year in November/December.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourn.