

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN SOLID WASTE CONSORTIUM

Minutes of Wednesday, July 18, 2018

Land Administration Service Building
219 Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw, MI 49079

www.SWMSWC.com

Minutes prepared by: AJ Brucks

Meeting called to order by Chair Paul Schincariol at 7:08 PM.

Roll Call of Counties: Members & Technical Advisory Council (TAC) Present: *Allegan* –Rosemary Graham; *Berrien* – none; *Branch* - Don Vrablic; *Calhoun* – Sarah Kelly; *Cass* –Clark Cobb; *Van Buren* – Paul Schincariol, Richard Godfrey, AJ Brucks and Emily Hickmott.

Others Present: Katie Venechuk, MDEQ and Kathy Cobb

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Cobb, supported by Vrablic to approve the July Agenda as presented. Motion carried. (March 21 was event at KVCC and no May meeting due to the MRC conference)

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Godfrey, supported by Vrablic to approve the January 18, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Financial Report:

- Balance of \$6,479.86. Brucks presented PNC Bank Statement.
 - All members are paid for membership dues
- PNC Bank Account: Godfrey was able to go to PNC to update account and show ID. Current signers of account are Ziliak, Schincariol, Godfrey, with the backup of Brucks in emergencies and with approval.

Payment of Bills: Motion made by Vrablic, 2nd by Godfrey to approve the reimbursement for KVCC event in the amount of 129.03\$ paid to the Van Buren Conservation District. Motion carried. Check was written, signed and given to Brucks.

Old Business:

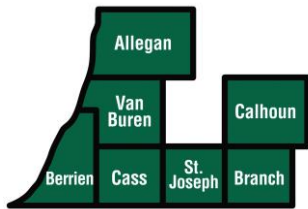
- MRC Conference – Around 400 people and a successful event. Kelly mentioned that DEQ got good reviews for updates and feedback on evaluation forms, tours were able to go through Bell's brewery and the local papermill outside of Kazoo. Graham said the conference was informative, well organized and thought the composting information session was good. Venechuk thought MEDC marketing developing was beneficial, it was a good networking opportunity and had great discussion and positive ideas and hope moving forward.
- Draft #6 of New Legislation – Venechuk said it was down to details and the committee has had a lot of community feedback and comments that were taken into consideration. She had talked with Kristian Miller right before the meeting and Miller updated there were no major changes moving towards Draft #7 which should be done in August and ready to be introduced as PA943 and then PA115 so the drafted funding component is separate and bills are less convoluted.

New Business:

- Bell's Tour – Board and TAC voted the first requested date for meeting and tour be September 26, followed by the 27th if the first chose wouldn't work by Bell's facility. Suggested times were later afternoon 3pm or 4pm meeting/tour and possible outing afterwards.

Reports/Project Updates:

- Scrap Tire Grant 2018 Update- Brucks updated tire grant is going well for this year, timeline has been extended through the end of the year and new grant should be out already for next year.
- MDEQ – Venechuk commented and updated on New Legislation, above.



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County Updates:

- Allegan Co. – Graham updated they had successful HHW events, one the cars were up and volume was down and the other vice versa. Their next collection is in Oct. Tire Collections are scheduled for August 4 and 11. Kent Co. landfill has upped their cost from 40 to 70\$ per ton processing fee. Chief purchased Republic and are currently going to split the cost with the county for the residents that services had been free but are working to find alternatives. S. Kent landfill is taking Ag. tires that are cut for \$69 per ton.
- Berrien Co. – Adams was not able to make the meeting as she was at a CPR refresher course. Brucks updated that Berrien's Tire Collection May 10/11, they filled 4 trailers with tires under the Consortium's grant and additional 1.5 trailers full of tires that will be covered under Berrien funding. Berrien has seen a 23% increase in participation and large increase in materials brought into each of the other community recycling events so far this year.
- Branch Co. – Vrablic has scheduled his tire collection in August.
- Calhoun Co. – Kelly updated they are no longer taking batteries at any of the collection sites as there is a large problem with lithium batteries exploding, they will only be taking them at the HHW's. Kelly is working on new resources for both batteries and light bulbs. Kelly has developed a recycle center pilot project at the landfill instead of at the township, residents can get a passcard for \$3 and don't have to sort there materials.
- Cass Co. – Cobb updated the HHW collection went well and the tire pick up is scheduled for August 4th and information can be found on the County website.
- St. Joseph Co. – N/A
- Van Buren Co. – Brucks introduced Emily Hickmott the VBCD's new Recycling Coordinator with support from Van Buren County program funds and millage support. Hickmott has worked on updating the website and recycle guide and looks forward to having it in print for residents. Hickmott is planning on working with restaurants and schools on waste audits and improving of solid waste reduction.

Next Meeting: September TBA, for Tour of Bell's facility

2018 Dates: November 7 (changed due to thanksgiving).

Meeting adjourn.