

**Materials Management Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**November 30, 2023**  
**2:00 p.m.**

**Public Comments:** None

**Present:** Ben Larson, Curt Judson, Gretchen Janssen, Susan Burack, Krissy Sundstrom, Claire Christian, Jonathan Nagel

**Old Business**

- 1. Updating County Materials Management Plan
  - o Susan would like recycling drop off locations in Lake Linden and Calumet.
- 2. CCRI grant for signage and outreach update
  - o Jonathan reported that he received the signage graphics and they are identical to the mailer. He was unsure of where the mural will be. CCRI received an extension on when the grant money must be spent.
- 3. Waste Characterization Study
  - o Jonathan and Claire reported they are nearly done with all the sorting. Next semester, at the end of March, the study should be completed. Data so far shows that about 35% of material sorted is compostable.
- 4. Monitoring of recycle bin at Transfer Station
  - o Susan reported that she volunteered from 1:00-2:00 p.m. on Wednesday to monitor the recycling container. She said the girl in the office was not handing out the recycling flyer.
  - o Curt commented that the office staff does hand out the flyer then she's asked for them.
  - o Susan also reported that there was a lot of cardboard. She would like it to be separated to make more room for other recyclables. She found that most people bringing in recycling were compliant with the rules.
  - o Krissy commented that the County website hasn't been updated with Jonathan's flyer.
  - o Discussion about considering a grant for a cardboard baler.

**New Business**

- I. Posting Agenda & Minutes on County Web Site
  - a. Gretchen to send agendas, minutes, and 2024 meeting schedule to Ben to post on the County web site.
- II. Discussion of available grants
  - a. Susan suggested that we should be ready to pounce when grants become available for things like containers and compactors. Could separating cardboard be a money maker?
  - b. Discussion about if Part 115 money is available for planning for the Transfer Station, should we give some funds to a consulting firm.
  - c. Discussion about pricing out the options of 1 container vs. 2 containers (more capacity).
  - d. Curt commented that we rely on Waste Management to haul recycling for us. WM charges \$8.50 paperwork fee and \$286.54 per ton (or less) plus an energy surcharge of \$177.00. The cost to the County comes to about \$565.00 per month and was

\$4364.00 for the year as of October. The Marquette MRF said we should stay at Wednesdays only for recycling drop off.

- III. Request for glass crusher
  - a. Discussion about not pursuing a grant for a glass crusher now. There are additional expenses that can't be covered now. Perhaps this could be considered in the future. Curt said he would prefer a tire shredder as this would be a better opportunity to make money for the transfer station.
- IV. Impact of Waste Management raising fees
  - a. Curt said that WM will do what they will do and that he wants to take care of his customers first and foremost. The Transfer Station's budget is now in the black. Money made goes to expenses for maintenance of equipment.
  - b. It was suggested that we look infrastructure in the Master Plan and to consider population growth. We need to think about and analyze possibilities.

**Future meetings** will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday every other month at 2:00 in the 5<sup>th</sup> floor conference room at the Courthouse. The 2024 meeting schedule is:

January 18

March 21

May 16??

July 18

September 19

November 14

**Further comments:**

- We need the community's input for WUPPDR's efforts of the MMP to work.
- Curt suggests we have a WM representative to a future meeting.
- Ben reported that the courthouse lights bulbs were replaced with 70 LED bulbs for free by UPPCO.

Public Comments: None

Adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.