



Mid Michigan Waste Authority
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
2:00 pm – January 23, 2023
Thomas Twp Public Safety Building 8215 S Shields Dr/Thomas Twp

Following are the minutes of the Executive Committee of the Mid Michigan Waste Authority (Authority), a Michigan Municipal Corporation, located in Saginaw County, Michigan, held on Monday, January 23, 2023, at the Thomas Twp Public Safety Building, Thomas Twp, Michigan, pursuant to written notice served on the members of the Authority and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

I. Welcome

Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

II. Member Attendance Roll

9 present – quorum achieved.

Members Present

Brant Twp/P. Cooper		Saginaw Twp/D. Gotham
City of Frankenmuth/B. Smith		Thomas Twp/R. Taylor
Frankenmuth Twp/T. Hildner		Tittabawassee Twp/T. Metiva
Richland Twp/R. Grose		City of Zilwaukee/M. Bourbina
City of Saginaw/P. Karwat		

Members Absent

No members were absent.

Staff / Guests / Public

Staff: K. Tessin/Administrative Director; S. Thayer/Assistant Administrative Director; S. Charboneau/WM J. Reynolds/WM, J. Weiss/WM, V. Hoyumpa/Priority Waste, A. Kruse/Priority Waste, D. Venet/Priority Waste.

III. Public Comment:

Public comment solicited – No comment.

IV. Review Minutes and Other Information

A. Approve November 17, 2022, regular Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva, seconded by City of Saginaw/Karwat to approve the November 17, 2022, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Passed unanimously.

B. Approve November 17, 2022, Executive Committee Closed Session Meeting Minutes

Motion by Frankenmuth Twp/Hildner, seconded by City of Saginaw/Karwat to approve the November 17, 2022, Executive Committee Closed Session Meeting Minutes.

Passed unanimously.

V. Financial Information Review and/or Approval

A. 2022 YTD Financial Information

Tessin referenced the actual vs budget spreadsheet including in the meeting packet. She stated YTD financials continue as previously reported and reminded members that the 2022 estimate was forecasted in 2019. December actuals will be added when they are available.

Motion by Brant Twp/Cooper, seconded by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva to approve the 2022 YTD Financial Information.

Passed unanimously.

B. Member Deposit Review

Tessin explained that upon joining the Authority each municipality had to provide a member deposit equal to one month's estimated expenses. She then advised that while some member deposits were increased in 2010, costs increased with new agreements in 2013, 2016 and 2020 with no accompanying increase in member deposits. In late 2015, when MMWA began taking advantage of the one percent rebate provision in the WM collection agreement, MMWA's Executive Committee determined that members would continue to be billed at 100% with that one percent being accrued with the intent to apply those funds to each member community's member deposit. The purpose of this discussion is to determine next steps. One option is to continue accruing the one percent until member deposits reach one month's estimated costs in year ten of the agreements. Or, set a different threshold at 10% or 15% of forecasted costs in 2032. Tessin did complete forecasted solid waste services estimates through 2032 and provided members with a handout showing examples of various scenarios.

Taylor recommended that the member deposit amount be set based on the forecasted 2032 solid waste service estimates and the Authority continue to accrue the one percent. Then, once a member community reached the target amount, that community would get back the difference going forward. Hildner stated that he doesn't think having two months' worth of payments is out of line. Taylor thinks ten percent works. Grose was not in support of getting a refund. Taylor suggested for the purpose of the 2022 audit, the Authority have the member deposits reflect the one percent accrual through 2022. After 2022 MMWA will adjust member deposits each year going forward using the one percent.

Motion by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by City of Zilwaukee/Bourbina, to adjust the 2022 Audit to reflect the revised Member Deposits and establish the Member Deposit requirement going forward at ten percent of that community's forecasted 2032 Solid Waste Services Estimates.

Passed unanimously.

C. MMWA Investment Policy

Tessin stated MMWA does not have an investment policy. Taylor suggested that Tessin meet with Frankenmuth Twp/Hildner and Richland Twp/Grose to discuss options.

VI. Organizational/Administrative Items Information and/or Approval

A. Update Priority Waste Solid Waste Service Implementation

Tessin stated Priority Waste's performance in its third week was better than during the second week and significantly better than in its first week. Tessin detailed that in week one, Jonesfield Twp, Marion Twp and the Village of Merrill had the level of anticipated issues for a new vendor roll out. Other communities such as the City of Saginaw, Brant Twp and Birch Run Twp had much more extensive issues. Tessin stated the Authority took over 1,000 phone calls in the first week. To handle that volume, MMWA extended hours, cut lunches in half, and opened on Saturday. Tessin also noted that she went down to Birch Run Twp on Sunday. Tessin noted for context that Brant Twp had 118 tickets the first week in January versus the highest number of tickets previously completed in one year at 82 tickets. The City of Saginaw had 552 tickets that first week in January. Previously the highest number of tickets in one month for the City of Saginaw was 271 tickets.

Tessin stated there were issues with route familiarity, routing issues, and tech issues. In addition, the first version of the service ticket portal wasn't effective and Priority is further developing the second version of the portal which MMWA is currently using. MMWA is hopeful the third version of the portal will be better. Tessin stated there have been some communication issues and Priority Waste made some personnel changes. Tessin and Thayer have had meetings with Priority Waste weekly via video and in person to review multiple issues including the service ticket process, communication timeliness and effectiveness, and the availability of pictures and videos. Tessin also stated that Priority Waste needs to address drivers zig zagging and double siding as those are safety issues. Tessin stated there is a good trend on improvement.

Frankenmuth Twp/Hildner stated he has had complaints of more trash left on the road and around containers and it seems like the Twp is not as clean as in the past. Hildner also stated he has had a couple of residents claim recycling is going into the trash truck and it's not just the driver walking to the opposite side of the road but the entire truck being in the opposite lane that is an issue. Tessin stated once you have the perception of recycling being emptied into a trash truck it starts a snowball effect. Richland Twp/Grose stated he did witness the recycling truck going down middle of road, drivers throwing containers back in the resident's yard, and drivers zig zagging. Grose also noted there is a world of difference from the first week to the third week. City of Saginaw/Karwat said while he knows there is a service day, not a collection time, residents are going to need to adjust to the new times Priority is coming through. Karwat stated we need to reinforce residents putting their materials out by 7 am. Brant Twp/Cooper stated the first week she had 5-6 calls, the next week a few, this week she has had no calls. Cooper stated for a truck that is in her area you can hear the brakes screeching all the way down Ring Road a mile away. Hoyumpa stated they are all brand new trucks so they are not broken in yet.

Tessin said that video is great, and that already in some instances MMWA has been able to say to residents I can see X, Y and Z which has helped resolve some service concerns. Tessin gave Vince a shout out for a situation with City of Saginaw. Tessin explained that a resident with a history of issues was repeatedly contacting multiple people at the City of Saginaw regarding his trash. While the video did show a late set out, Vince understood the circumstances of the issue and got the trash picked up.

B. Update WM Cart Service Implementation

Tessin stated that Brian Miller, the project manager from Cascade, will be delivering a presentation and taking questions on the cart roll out at the Board of Trustees Meeting in February. Tessin said Brian came to MMWA's first monthly meeting with WM the second week in January and has been a very knowledgeable resource. Tessin explained that the cart roll out is likely to begin in mid-April,

which is earlier than expected, and run through June. Cascade and WM are planning on utilizing a hub and spoke model with four staging areas; Saginaw Twp, WM on Findley Rd, Brady Twp, and Tittabawassee Twp. Cascade plans on rolling out 10,000 carts a week with all four sites operating at the same time with different teams. Tessin said that Thomas Twp will be delayed until early fall due to projects that Township has going on.

MMWA has begun implementing its communication plan starting with a postcard that will be delivered to residents in February. This will be followed up in March with a second postcard and then information attached to the cart at delivery. Tessin thinks a door hanger to hang on carts would work because most people will probably just toss paper into the trash or recycle cart. MMWA will also be using its website, Facebook page and outgoing message to highlight cart information. Tessin stated MMWA will be working with each individual community on their social media as needed. Taylor recommended that each community focus on getting the word out about the change to carts. In anticipation of having more calls come through the MMWA office during cart roll out, Thayer is looking at getting an intern from Delta College or SVSU.

Tessin advised MMWA is working on the address lists we are giving to WM and Cascade. The original data is from the GIS. Taylor stated if a house is not on the list, he thinks carts should be delivered to the resident and the address sent to MMWA to investigate with the municipality.

C. MMWA Facility Update

Tessin advised the hardline internet should be installed soon. MMWA has received the \$25,000 from WM for facility improvements. Tessin noted her team will begin getting estimates for fixing the gate, the office floor, and the parking lot.

VII. Program Items Information and/or Approval

A. Holiday Light Recycling Drive Update

Thayer stated the holiday light program was completed. MMWA is waiting on three municipalities to turn in their lights. Thayer stated that at the Board of Trustees meeting she should have the updated pounds and amount of the check for the Can Council.

B. 2023 HSW Drop Off Schedule

Tessin advised that she reached out to Ed Dawkins at ERG, MMWA's long time HSW vendor, as he is an expert on event management and options for cost reduction. Tessin explain one option is that MMWA could discontinue accepting latex paint which accounts for one quarter of the program volume. However, MMWA would then need to work around people bringing latex paint to the event anyway. MMWA could limit the number of latex paint cans per vehicle, but would face the same issue as residents might bring more than the allowed amount. Also, either restriction could be perceived as a takeaway. Another option is, given the longstanding relationship and composition of our events, ERG is willing to do a pilot program for MMWA where we could charge a fee per car. Tessin stated MMWA could also charge a higher amount for people who live outside of the area. Tessin noted Oakland County charges based on where you pay your taxes. The cost is between \$10-\$15 and \$75 if you are out of area. The City of Bay City has a list of charges for a wide variety of items as they are trying to become a regional facility. However, that location requires the resident to do their own unloading. Tessin also advised MMWA could put a donation button on our website and the platform we use, Eventbrite, or have the resident pay a fee to make a reservation. Karwat stated he didn't think people would mind paying to bring items to HSW events. Taylor stated the cost is about \$133.00 per car based on the number of cars that came through in 2022 and what MMWA paid in event costs.

The Executive Committee decided to add a donation button and encourage people to donate because of the cost. MMWA will collect data throughout the 2023 season and provide an analysis to the Executive Committee for consideration when planning the 2024 HSW schedule.

Motion by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by City of Saginaw/Karwat to recommend to MMWA's Board of Trustees Approval of the 2023 HSW Drop Off Schedule .

Passed unanimously.

VIII. Next Scheduled MMWA Meetings

A. Next Board Meeting: 9:30 am, Monday, February 13, 2023 @ Thomas Twp Public Safety Bldg.

B. Next Executive Committee Meeting: 9:30 am, Thursday, March 23, 2023 @ Thomas Twp Public Safety Bldg.

Adjourn

Motion by Saginaw Twp/Gotham, seconded by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva, to adjourn the meeting at 3:01 pm.

Passed unanimously.

Submitted by: Katharine Tessin/Administrative Director _____