



Mid Michigan Waste Authority
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
9:30 am –March 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 Thursday, March 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 9:30 am.

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, D. Reams/WM, J. Reynolds/WM, J. Weiss/WM, M. Long/Priority Waste, K. O'Brien/Michigan Recycling Coalition, A. Ellis/US Ecocycle Systems

III. Public Comment:

Public comment solicited – D. Reams/WM said thank you to Katharine and Syndi for working together on the roll out of carts. Reams stated it's been a good experience and they are looking forward to cart deployment next month.

IV. Part 115 Guest Speaker Kerrin O'Brien Executive Director of the Michigan Recycling Coalition

Kerrin O'Brien, Executive Director of the Michigan Recycling Coalition delivered a presentation on Part 115 and took questions from members.

V. Review Minutes and Other Information

A. Approve January 23, 2023, rescheduled Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva, seconded by Frankenmuth Twp/Hildner to approve the January 23, 2023, rescheduled Executive Committee Meeting Minutes.

Passed unanimously.

VI. Financial Information Review and/or Approval

A. 2023 YTD Financial Information

Tessin noted that the financial chart looks different now because MMWA has two vendors. She stated everything is on target highlighting that Programming is very low because most Programming expenses are incurred during the summer.

Motion by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva to approve the 2023 YTD Financial Information.

Passed unanimously.

B. Review Banking Services Proposals

Tessin reviewed a chart that was included in the meeting packet with specifics from MMWA's current bank, Isabella Bank, and a proposal from Frankenmuth Credit Union. Members agreed MMWA should remain with Isabella Bank as Isabella did provide higher interest rates and the work involved in changing banks. Tessin stated the next steps would be to reach out to Isabella Bank to see if MMWA can get a little better rate on some short term CD's and confirm they can run credit card payments.

Motion by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva to stay with Isabella bank and get CD rates from Isabella Bank.

Passed unanimously.

C. Review MMWA Cash Handling

MMWA does not currently have a cash handling policy. As MMWA will be actively pursuing donations for HSW events Tessin included a draft cash handling policy in the meeting packet. Richland Twp/Grose recommended numbering policies.

Motion by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva to adopt the cash handling policy.

Passed unanimously.

D. Review MMWA Credit Card Payment Handling

As cart purchases will be handled through MMWA, MMWA needs to be able to provide residents with a link for credit card purchase. Residents would also be able to make HSW donations via credit card. MMWA will not take credit card information from residents over the phone. As MMWA is staying with Isabella Bank Tessin will reach out to them to make sure they can set something up for MMWA. City of Frankenmuth/Smith stated they use point and pay.

C. Other

Taylor asked WM if they could take the current 18 gal recycling bins from residents that no longer want them. Reams stated that MMWA and WM did have a conversation about it. Taylor would like to have an option for the residents to drop them off to recycle.

VII. Organizational/Administrative Items Information and/or Approval

A. Update Priority Waste Solid Waste Service Implementation

Tessin summarized that the approximately 1000 ticket volume from the first two weeks in January declined to approximately 331 the last two weeks of January. For February, Priority had a total of 501 tickets. MTD for March Priority has a total of 328 tickets with 48 of those educational only meaning Priority must touch the remaining 280. That's a total of 2,160 tickets through Tuesday.

Tessin stated the final version of the customer service portal remains outstanding. Priority let us know earlier this week they are working with their vendor and need another week to get us a good update on the portal and on the roll out of their electronic routing.

Communication from Priority to MMWA remains an issue. Tickets are not always handled in the agreed upon timeframe, videos are not always provided as requested or accurate. Some issues have impacted service for some residents. Some of you have gotten detailed write ups from MMWA on specific tickets. MMWA continues to document almost daily tickets that haven't been completed per our process and/or emails that are not responded to or responded to in full. Tessin stated it seems like I write the same email repeatedly detailing work product and communication that requires improvement. Both on February 8th and February 20th MMWA sent extremely detailed emails to Priority about ticket issues and communication failures. In another email exchange on March 8th/ 9th Priority advised MMWA that their general rule for bulk items is that they should be broken down into 4 feet sections no more than 50lbs. Those requirements would redefine the bulk program. Tessin said that she responded that's not how MMWA's bulk program works and received no response back. Tessin concluded by noting Yard Waste collection starts in the City of Frankenmuth on the April 3rd. MMWA has received assurances from Priority that they have everything they need to start yard waste collection and delivery to TDE.

Frankenmuth Twp/Hildner asked Priority Waste/Long how these issues are going to be fixed. Long stated they had new people on routes but missed pickups have decreased. Long stated he is in charge of the MMWA account locally; he is boots on the ground and works with the drivers. Austin Azzaretti is the direct point of contact. Long acknowledged Priority's general rule is to cut everything into 4-foot sections. Going forward Priority Waste should be collecting based on MMWA's program. Hildner stated that Priority Waste should bring someone higher up next time to a meeting to explain how they are going to fix these issues. City of Frankenmuth/Smith stated she has had many conversations with her staff and residents about Priority's service. These initial issues have been irritating but not unforeseen. Smith does expect that Priority will improve. Both Hildner and Smith expressed that MMWA emails should be acknowledged and responded to.

B. Update WM Cart Service Implementation

Tessin advised that WM and Cascade have been diligent about sharing their project plan and lots of good solid progress has been made.

There will be four staging areas; WM Transfer Station on Findley will handle Bridgeport Twp, Carrollton Twp, Buena Vista Twp, Spaulding Twp, Kochville Twp, Zilwaukee City, Birch Run Village. Hayes Twp Park will handle Tittabawassee Twp, Breckenridge Village, Wheeler Twp, Lakefield Twp, and Bethany Twp. 4000 Hospital Rd will handle Saginaw Twp, James Twp, and Swan Creek Twp. Brady Twp Offices will handle Brady Twp, Chapin Twp, Chesaning Twp, Maple Grove Twp, St. Charles Twp, St. Charles Village, and Fremont Twp.

Tessin stated 30,000 carts should finished being delivered to the WM site on Findley by Friday.

Delivery to residents should start from that location the morning of April 10th. Tessin explained carts will be delivered to the other locations starting on the 10th itself. Semis will be coming in, being off loaded, and box trucks will then be loaded up and head out to start delivery. Some days there will be four loads coming in, some days two. The full route management team at WM will be involved on the ground especially in the early days. WM has identified a single point of contact for Cascade. MMWA is setting up a single point of contact between MMWA and WM.

Recognizing that we need to manage expectations, Tessin relayed that MMWA is telling residents that given the scope of the project, 83,000 carts are being rolled out to 41,000 households over a 6–8-week period, we are not able to take individual actions until after the first 30 days. Tessin said that as a very general guideline, Cascade tries to tackle either the host community or the largest community attached to each staging area first. MMWA will have a detailed outgoing phone message and multiple updates on our website and our Facebook page.

Tessin also noted that MMWA will be advising the Sheriff's department of the project and will work with each municipality to have them update their law enforcement. Tessin stated that cart lit has been printed and is being stuffed as we sit here. There are 24 versions of the recycling calendars which include holidays and various preparation tips. Tessin also stated that MMWA will be going to the Findley location to verify the contents of each box and add additional labeling as needed. At Cascade's request MMWA will also pull out the Thomas Twp cart lit and hold it at the Authority until it's needed.

VIII. Program Items Information and/or Approval

A. Update 2023 HSW Drop Off Program

Thayer stated that there are only 34 days left until the first HSW event occurs on April 26, 2023. Currently, MMWA has 158 people registered for the events with little to no outreach. On March 22, 2023, MMWA sent an email to all previous attendees letting them know about the new season. The Saginaw County Sheriff's department has been contacted and they will once again be providing onsite traffic flow management and security. Thayer stated that Bridgeport Twp had found a location for MMWA, but it was too small. Michelle McGregor, Bridgeport Twp Manager, is looking to see if we can utilize the old Candlelight parking lot. Thayer stated an email will go out to municipalities soon with information.

IX. Next Scheduled MMWA Meetings

A. Next Board Meeting: 9:30 am, Monday, April 10, 2023 @ Thomas Twp Public Safety Bldg.

B. Next Executive Committee Meeting: 9:30 am, Thursday, May 18, 2023 @ Thomas Twp Public Safety Bldg.

Adjourn

Motion by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva, seconded by Richland Twp/Grose, to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 am.

Passed unanimously.

Submitted by: Katharine Tessin/Administrative Director _____