



Mid Michigan Waste Authority
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
9:30 am – March 20, 2025
Thomas Twp Public Safety Building 8215 S Shields Dr/Thomas Twp

Following are the minutes of the regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the Mid Michigan Waste Authority (Authority), a Michigan Municipal Corporation, located in Saginaw County, Michigan, held on Thursday, March 20, 2025, 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 Karwat called the meeting to order at 9:31 am.

II. Member Attendance Roll

Five present – quorum achieved

Members Present

Brant Twp/P. Cooper		City of Saginaw/P. Karwat
Carrollton Twp/M. Weaver alt		Tittabawassee Twp/T. Metiva
City of Frankenmuth/B. Smith		Saginaw Twp/M. Comstock
Richland Twp/R Grose		City of Zilwaukee/M. Bourbina

Members Absent

Thomas Twp/D. Frollo		
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Staff / Guests / Public

Staff: K. Tessin/Administrative Director, S. Thayer/Assistant Administrative Director, B. Quitquit/Priority, J. Taylor/Priority; S. Charboneau/WMA,

III. Public Comment:

None

IV. Review Minutes and Other Information

A. Approve January 16, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Richland Township/Grose, seconded by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva, to approve the January 16, 2025, meeting minutes as presented.

Passed unanimously

V. Financial Information Review and/or Approval

A. 2025 YTD Financial Information

Tessin reported that the financials for FY 2025 are on target. She noted that there are minor discrepancies between the house count submitted by communities in October during the Annual Member Info Update and the final numbers for new homes received by January 15, 2025. Despite these small variations, all spending is in line with the budget and overall the financials remain on track.

Motion by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva, seconded by Richland Twp/Grose, to approve the 2025 YTD Financials as presented.

Passed unanimously.

B. Move MMWA Business Credit Card

Tessin explained that the business credit card is currently with Isabella Bank, where payments are processed in Pennsylvania. This has led to issues with timing and fees, particularly with a payment sent overnight in December that was not applied until March, after Tessin raised the issue. Tessin suggested moving the business credit card to Frankenmuth Credit Union, which would allow for local payments and simpler processing. Additionally, she proposed placing \$25K into a CD at Isabella Bank, which offers a 3.75% interest rate, as it would require less paperwork and be more efficient.

Motion by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by Tittabawassee Twp/Grose, to approve moving the MMWA business credit card to Frankenmuth Credit Union and opening a CD as presented.

Passed unanimously.

C. New Phone System

Tessin reported that MercuryTel recently provided a presentation for MMWA for a new phone system. The current MMWA phone system is from 2014 and there is no technical support available locally. The presentation included a chart outlining the price differential and features, highlighting a significant difference in pricing compared to the current system. Mercury Tel's system allows all calls to be recorded, provides message management, call tracking, and the ability to forward phones for potential work-from-home situations if needed. Richland Twp/Grose shared that he had used MercuryTel's service in Richland for two years and was very pleased with it.

Tessin also stated that currently, the organization uses an office cell phone through AT&T, which is primarily used for Eventbrite. Grose suggested implementing a stipend for cell phone use for Tessin and Thayer, similar to the \$35 stipends provided to Carrollton and Saginaw Township and removing the MMWA cell phone all together.

Motion by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by Saginaw Twp/Comstock, to approve MMWA moving to MercuryTel phone system with an 84-month contract as presented.

Passed unanimously.

Motion by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by Saginaw Twp/Comstock, to approve a monthly cell phone stipend of \$35 for Tessin and Thayer.

Passed unanimously.

D. MMWA Improvements

i. Parking lot

Tessin provided an update on the parking lot and exterior lighting improvements. In addition to using the facility at no monthly cost, a lump sum of \$25K was allocated for improvements. The most significant issue is the cracking of the parking lot. MMWA reached out to several contractors for bids: Lois K Contracting Co declined, stating they primarily work on road, Shaw Contracting declined, stating they do not pave parking lots, Pyramid Paving and Contracting Co did not return our call, Ace Saginaw Asphalt Paving Co also did not return our call, Yeager Asphalt completed a site visit and submitted a proposal, Quality Asphalt also completed a site visit and submitted a proposal.

The decision has been put on hold until the next Executive Committee meeting. Tessin was instructed to reach out to Phillip Waddel, she will get the contact information from Carrollton Township (Weaver), and Richland Township (Grose) is going to get the contact for Dan Armentrout from the Saginaw County Road Commission.

- ii. Exterior lighting
Tessin reported that there is currently no exterior lighting over the front door, and the existing exterior lighting and timer system have limited effectiveness. Additionally, MMWA has experienced issues with various outlets. MMWA reached out to Remedy Electric, Clements Electric Inc, and William F. Nelson Electric for bids. Tessin mentioned that she had Nelson Electric address the outlet issues, and while they were on-site, she requested an estimate for improving the exterior lighting.

Motion by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva, seconded by Richland Twp/Grose, to approve Willaim F Nelson Electric to complete the bid work as presented.

Passed unanimously.

E. Policy for Accepting Electronic Payments

Tessin stated that there is currently no policy to accept electronic payments. She proposed allowing members the option to pay electronically, with the bank processing the payments and the accountant tracking them. The cost to set up the payment portal would be approximately \$40-\$50. It was discussed that either a fee would be charged to member communities, or MMWA would absorb the fees. After further discussion, it was decided to pause this matter. Richland Twp/Grose was tasked with checking to see if there is a fee for ACH transactions in Richland Twp. The topic will be tabled until the next meeting.

VI. Organizational/Administrative Items: Information &/or Approval

A. WM Update

Tessin stated everything is going well with WM. Yard waste season begins the week of April 7th. and WM is fully staffed and ready to go. MMWA and WM also held their regular quarterly meeting.

B. Priority Update

Tessin stated that operations are running smoothly and call volumes are steady. Quitquit/Priority made several announcements: A mixed recycling facility has opened in Flint off Dort Highway which is a replicable system and can be established in a quick amount of time. The facility covers 7 acres and is fully funded by Priority. It will also act as a transfer station and create approximately 100 new jobs. Additionally, Priority is partnering with the Detroit Tigers and for the game on April 19th, Priority is offering up to 12 tickets to MMWA. Regarding fleet operations, Priority is currently sticking with diesel and has just launched eight new trucks.

C. Saginaw County Solid Waste Management Planning Committee/Part 115 Update

Tessin reported forward progress on the work plan. A draft of the plan has been completed and sent to the County. C Klawuhn/SCHD & DPA, will attend that County Services meeting for review and questions. Once the County Services Committee approves the Work Plan it will be sent to the full Board of Commissioners (BoC) for approval. Once the BoC approves the plan, it will be sent to EGLE for approval. After EGLE signs off, the grant contract can be completed, and funding will be accessible. The timing requirements have not changed, and the plan draft is still expected to be completed in 13 months.

Regarding funding, \$150K will be allocated to pay for the majority of the consultant's contract, with the remainder being spent on County personnel.

VII. Program Items: Information &/or Approval

A. 2025 HSW Drop Off Update

Thayer stated that the first event is scheduled for April 19, 2025, and MMWA has 290 residents signed up already, with little to no marketing. With the other four events combined, a total of 448 residents have signed up. The first shred date is set for June 10, 2025, with 59 residents already signed up.

City of Saginaw/Karwat inquired about the availability of dumpster bags. Tessin responded that there are

plenty currently available. Karwat requested that another email be sent to all municipalities to remind them of the program. Thayer added that she had recently posted about the program on social media.

VIII. Closed Session

Brant Twp/Cooper made a motion to enter into close session in accordance with section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act, Michigan Compiled Law 15.268, which provides for consideration of privileged material specifically exempt from public discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute. The statutory basis for the closed session is section 13(1)(g) of the Freedom of Information Act, which exempts from public disclosure "[i]nformation or records subject to the attorney-client privilege." In this case, during the closed session we be discussing the attorney-client privileged legal advice presented in a written legal opinion by Mid Michigan Waste Authority's attorney.

Motion by Brant Twp/Cooper, seconded by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva.

Passed unanimously.

Closed session entered into at 10:17 am.

Motion to exit closed session and enter into open session made by Richland Twp/Gross, seconded by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva.

Passed unanimously.

Open session entered into at 11:19 am

Motion to approve MMWA's recommend policy changes to comply with the State of Michigan's Earned Sick Time Act made by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva, seconded by Richland Twp/Gross

Passed unanimously.

Motion to approve wage & salary increases for MMWA by four percent and increase MERS employer contributions to ten percent made by Richland Twp/Gross, seconded by City of Zilwaukee/Bourbina.

IX: Next Scheduled MMWA Meetings

A. Next Board Meeting: 9:30 am on Monday, April 14, 2025 @ Thomas Twp Public Safety Bldg

B. Next Executive Committee Meeting: 9:30 am on Thursday, May 15, 2025 @ MMWA

X. Adjourn

Motion by Brant Twp/Cooper, seconded by Tittabawassee Twp/Metiva to adjourn the meeting at 11:21 am.

Passed unanimously

Submitted by: Katharine Tessin/Administrative Director _____