



Mid Michigan Waste Authority
 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
 9:30 am – January 15, 2026
 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, January 15, 2026, 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 9:30 am.

II. Member Attendance Roll

Eight present – quorum achieved.

Members Present

Carrollton Twp/D. Sumption		City of Saginaw/P. Karwat
City of Frankenmuth/B. Smith		Saginaw Twp/M. Comstock
Maple Grover Twp/W. Peterman		Tittabawassee Twp/T. Metiva
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, R. Acheff/Priority Waste, B. Quitiquit/Priority Waste.

III. Public Comment:

None

IV. Review Minutes and Other Information

A. Approve November 20, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by Carrollton Twp/Sumption, to approve the November 20, 2025, Executive Committee meeting minutes as presented.

Passed unanimously.

V. Financial Information Review and/or Approval

A. 2025 YTD Financial Information

Tessin reported that YTD MMWA is on target.

Motion by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by City of Zilwaukee/Bourbina, to approve the 2025 YTD Financials as presented.

Passed unanimously.

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

A. Establishing Guidance for Decision Making Authority

The Executive Committee discussed the timing and escalation of MMWA's letter to Priority Waste regarding financial security. Grose stated the decision to involve MMWA's counsel and send a letter from MMWA counsel directly to Priority should have been reviewed by the Executive Committee prior to action being taken especially as the last information relayed at the Annual Meeting on December 8, 2025, indicated the payment issue disrupting operations had been resolved. Karwat advised that given the payment issue arose again immediately following MMWA's Annual meeting, the condensed timeline during the holiday season and the potentially direct impact to the City's operations the decision was made to move on to addressing the matter via a letter from MMWA's counsel directly to Priority management resulting in the December 17th letter. Tessin added that at both the recycling facility and the landfill there is no advance notice that a truck will be turned away for lack of payment. It simply happens at the scale resulting in trucks that may be too full to return to collection of regular routes. Members agreed that a clearer escalation process is needed to determine the appropriate steps if a similar situation occurs again. The Executive committee also discussed the possibility of establishing a back up account through MMWA to temporarily cover related costs, with the understanding that Priority would reimburse MMWA for any expenses incurred. The Executive committee concluded that legal counsel should be consulted to determine the appropriateness of the proposed backup MMWA account at the landfill and MRF.

B. WM Update

Tessin reported operations are going well.

C. Priority Update

Tessin reported operations are going well.

D. Materials Management Planning Committee/Part 115 Update

Tessin announced the appointment of Commissioner Mark Petrowski as the new MMPC Chair and Sara Archer as the new Vice Chair and noted that Maple Grove Twp/Peterman has been moved into another role among the required slots. The group discussed the need to add an elected official to meet representation requirements. Tessin noted that ongoing frustrations with EGLE remain including details around the reimbursement process and no formal extension of the plan submission deadline. The MMP held a brainstorming session to help identify priorities and possible actions. Tessin advised that it would be helpful to have specifically defined metrics in writing.

VII. Program Items: Information &/or Approval

A. Holiday Light Recycling Drive Update

Thayer stated that the holiday light recycling program ends today and that an email was sent to all municipalities instructing them to take collected lights to Rifkin Scrap Metal. She added that MMWA will be picking up the program containers over the next week.

B. 2026 HSW Drop Off Schedule

Thayer reported that there will be five Household Special Waste (HSW) events in 2026, scheduled for the following dates: Saturday, April 25, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. to noon; Wednesday, May 20, 2026 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Saturday, June 6, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. to noon; Wednesday, July 15, 2026 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and Wednesday, September 2, 2026 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. She also announced two shred event dates: Wednesday, May 6, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Wednesday, September 9, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Thayer stated that she will be updating the event flier soon, posting the information on the MMWA website, and creating event listings in Eventbrite. She added that once the materials are completed, she will email all municipalities to announce the events.

VIII. Closed Session

City of Zilwaukee/Bourbina made a motion to enter into close session as allowed under MCL 15.268 Section 8 1 A to consider the periodic personnel evaluations of MMWA staff.

Motion by City of Zilwaukee/Bourbina, seconded by Richland Twp/Grose

Passed by Roll Call

Carrollton Twp – Yay

City of Frankenmuth – Yay

Maple Grove Twp - Yay

Richland Twp – Yay

City of Saginaw - Yay

Saginaw Twp – Yay

Tittabawassee Twp – Yay

City of Zilwaukee – Yay

Closed session entered into at 9:55 am.

Motion to exit closed session and enter into open session made by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by City of Frankenmuth/Smith

Passed unanimously.

Open session entered into at 10:36 am

*Motion to approve changing Short Term and Long Term Disability eligibility from one year to six months effective immediately, made by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by City of Frankenmuth/Smith.
Passed unanimously.*

Motion to approve the March 20, 2025, Closed Session meeting minutes and the November 20, 2025 Closed Session meeting minutes made by Richland Twp/Grose, seconded by City of Frankenmuth/Smith.

Passed unanimously.

IX: Next Scheduled MMWA Meetings

A. Next Board Meeting: 9:30 am on Monday, February 9, 2026 @ Thomas Twp Public Safety Bldg

B. Next Executive Committee Meeting: 9:30 am on Thursday, March 19, 2026 @ MMWA

X. Adjourn

Motion by Maple Grove Twp/Peterman, seconded by Carrollton Twp/Sumption to adjourn the meeting at 10:38 am.

Passed unanimously.

Submitted by: Katharine Tessin/Administrative Director _____