



MEETING NOTICE
PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY BOARD

Date: Wednesday, October 9, 2019
Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Location: Ramsey County White Bear Lake Library | 2150 2nd Street | White Bear Lake, MN 55110

AGENDA

- | | | |
|---|-------------|---------|
| 1. Introductions | | |
| 2. Approval of Agenda | Action | Page 1 |
| 3. Approval of Minutes of June 12, 2019 | Action | Page 2 |
| 4. Business | | |
| a. Wood Waste Policy Work | Information | Page 5 |
| Ken Smith, Saint Paul District Energy | | |
| b. Update on Anaerobic Digestion Work | Information | Page 9 |
| Great Plains Institute | | |
| c. Update on E-Waste | Information | Page 11 |
| Mallory Anderson, Hennepin County | | |
| 5. Legislative Platform Review | Discussion | Page 12 |
| 6. Other | | |
| 7. Adjourn | | |

Next Meeting: December 13, 2019, 10:00 a.m.
Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT)
100 Empire Drive, Saint Paul, MN 55103

Addendum: Ever-Green Energy Presentation - SPC Flow Diagram Page 14



THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2019
PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY BOARD MINUTES

A meeting of the Partnership on Waste and Energy (PWE) was held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at the Ramsey County Environmental Health Office, 2785 White Bear Avenue N. #350, Maplewood, Minnesota.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Debbie Goettel – Hennepin County
Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt – Ramsey County
Commissioner Fran Miron – Washington County

ALSO ATTENDING

Leigh Behrens, Dan Donkers, Zack Hansen, Sam Hanson, Sam Holl, John Jaimez, Brendan Jordan, Andrea McKennan, Dave McNary, Michael Reed, Katie Shaw, Nikki Stewart, Jeff Travis, Rob Vanasek, Kevin Walli, Sam Walseth, Kris Wehlage

Introductions were made.

CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Miron called the meeting to order. Commissioner Reinhardt moved, seconded by Commissioner Goettel, to approve the agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2018 MINUTES

Commissioner Reinhardt moved, seconded by Commissioner Miron, to approve the September 27, 2018 minutes.

Roll Call: Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.

REPORTS

Legislative Session Review

Sam Walli, Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A., reported on the legislative session.

Sam Walseth, Capitol Hill Associates, reported on the legislative update on waste issues, SCORE recycling grants (enacted), food waste grant program (enacted), recycling market development (enacted), Emerald Ash Borer (enacted), carpet product stewardship (not enacted).

Update on Anaerobic Digestion Project

Brendan Jordan, Great Plains Institute (GPI), gave a brief update on the second phase of the anaerobic digestion project. A broader presentation will be presented at a future meeting.

BUSINESS

PWE Budget Update

Kris Wehlage reported on the PWE budget.

Amendment to Agreement with GPI

Zack Hansen reviewed the amendment to the agreement with GPI.

Commissioner Reinhardt moved, seconded by Commissioner Goettel, that the Governing Board hereby approves the amendment to the agreement with Great Plains Institute with a term of June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000. The Governing Board hereby authorizes the Chair to execute the agreement upon approval as to form by the county attorney. The Governing Board hereby authorizes the Administration Agent to adjust the 2019 PWE budget to fund this amendment.

Roll Call: Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.

Commercial Recycling Recovery Rate Study

David McNary reported on the commercial recycling recovery rate study.

Commissioner Reinhardt moved, seconded by Commissioner Goettel, that the Governing Board hereby authorizes the Administrative Agent to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to conduct the commercial recycling recovery rate study and to select a consultant to complete a commercial recycling recovery rate study. The Governing Board hereby authorizes the Chair to execute the agreement upon approval as to form by the county attorney. The Governing Board hereby authorizes the Administrative Agent to adjust the 2019 PWE budget to fund the commercial recycling rate recovery project in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Miron moved, seconded by Commissioner Goettel, that the Governing Board hereby amends the motion to include the following resolved:

The Governing Board hereby directs that a letter be sent to the MPCA to inform about the project, including definitions and alternative measurement methods.

Roll Call: Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.

2019 Meeting Schedule

Commissioner Goettel moved, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, that the Governing Board hereby sets the 2019 meeting schedule to include Thursday, September 26 at 12:00 p.m. and Friday, December 13 at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Miron adjourned the meeting.

ATTESTED TO:

Approved: _____
October 9, 2019

Approved: _____
October 9, 2019



**PARTNERSHIP ON
WASTE AND ENERGY**
HENNEPIN | RAMSEY | WASHINGTON

PARTNERSHIP MEETING DATE:			October 9, 2019		AGENDA ITEM:		4.a.	
SUBJECT:		Wood Waste Policy Work						
TYPE OF ITEM:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	POLICY DISCUSSION		<input type="checkbox"/>	ACTION
ACTION REQUESTED:		Discuss and provide direction for the 2020 PWE legislative platform						

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Partnership on Waste and Energy has a legislative position that prioritizes biomass energy recovery for wood waste, particularly as emerald ash borer begins to generate increasing amounts of waste wood. In practical terms, this means supporting legislation and other efforts to recognize the importance of maintaining operations of St. Paul Cogeneration as an outlet for waste wood used as biomass fuel. Without this biomass project, there is no reliable place to dispose of wood waste in the region. In 2018 St. Paul Cogeneration processed over 222,000 tons of tree waste into biomass fuel, which was used to provide combined heat and power energy.

As the local governmental units held responsible by the state for waste management, counties have a key interest in assuring that St. Paul Cogeneration continues to operate and accept wood waste. The attached fact sheet, previously used during the 2019 legislative session, describes the policy issue at a high level.

Ken Smith from St. Paul Cogeneration will attend the meeting and provide an update.

ATTACHMENT:

1. 2019 wood waste fact sheet
2. Waste volumes delivered to St. Paul Cogeneration in 2018

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

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PARTNERSHIP ON
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AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES	DATE
	10/1/2019
<p data-bbox="233 667 440 701">Hennepin County</p>  <p data-bbox="233 856 456 890">Recycling & Energy</p>	

Support Renewable Energy and Processing Services for Wood Waste Resulting from Emerald Ash Borer Infestation

The Partnership on Waste and Energy supports legislation to recognize the importance of maintaining operation of St. Paul Cogeneration as an outlet for waste wood used as biomass fuel particularly as emerald ash borer begins to generate increasing amounts of waste wood.

A staggering amount of wood waste

- Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) kills ash trees. All ash trees are susceptible to EAB, and EAB has infested trees in 17 Minnesota counties, resulting in quarantines being placed on the management of wood waste. According to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Minnesota has the highest volume of ash trees in the U.S. with almost a billion forestland and urban wood ash trees.
- We know that the volume of woody waste will increase as the infestation of trees with Emerald Ash Borer continues to accelerate. Preliminary analysis has shown that there are at least **2.95 million ash trees** in the seven county metropolitan area, all of which will at some time succumb to EAB. Those trees will result in over **1.67 million tons** of wood waste requiring disposal. The potential economic and environmental impacts of losing these trees is substantial. The cost of removing and replacing a single tree can range from hundreds to thousands of dollars

Ensuring the responsible use of wood waste – Renewable Energy

- Almost all EAB-related wood waste from the metro area is delivered for use as a fuel by Saint Paul Cogen, which generates steam for heating and cooling in Saint Paul, and electricity. Saint Paul Cogen is integral to the metropolitan area's wood waste processing infrastructure. ***Beyond Saint Paul Cogen, other reliable markets sized to handle this material to not exist.***
- This material, by law, cannot be landfilled. It cannot be placed in the trash for delivery to a resource recovery facility. Nor is open burning allowed. One option is very limited, as markets for use as a landscape mulch are nearly at capacity. Without Saint Paul Cogen, piles of wood waste will build throughout the region. Based on past experience with wood waste from Dutch Elm Disease, these pile spontaneously combust and smolder for long periods, creating air pollution.
- Wood waste generated by local units of government, municipalities, tree services, residents and businesses needs to be managed, and that expected significant increases in volumes due to EAB will need to be handled in a way that protects health and the environment.
- This is an issue that needs to be addressed now, *before* the volumes of wood waste grow with the advancing ash disease epidemic.

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Tons of Tree Waste Processed into Biomass Fuel for St. Paul Cogen <i>(Counties averaging greater than 1500 tons annually)</i>		
County	Tons of Tree Waste	
	2018	4 Year Avg (2015-2018)
Hennepin	56,188	50,963
Ramsey *	51,878	47,418
Dakota	29,766	21,918
Washington	15,048	11,011
Olmsted	10,252	8,179
Wright	21,362	8,800
Goodhue	8,580	5,176
Anoka	3,278	3,812
Scott	3,234	3,757
Rice	2,376	3,020
Carver	7,150	3,328
Chisago	1,078	3,069
Aitkin	4,334	2,635
Wabasha	1,738	1,821
Total	216,262	174,903
* Includes brush and logs dropped off at City of St. Paul's Pigs Eye Wood Yard (approximately 22,000 tons in 2018)		





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PARTNERSHIP MEETING DATE:			October 9, 2019		AGENDA ITEM:		4.b.	
SUBJECT:		Update on Anaerobic Digestion Work						
TYPE OF ITEM:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	POLICY DISCUSSION		<input type="checkbox"/>	ACTION
ACTION REQUESTED:		None						

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At its June 7, 2018 meeting, the Partnership approved a contract with the Great Plains Institute (GPI) to study anaerobic digestion (AD). This project includes gathering information on the technology and building consensus in order to move AD forward in Minnesota. The work began with a first phase to identify the related environmental, economic, energy, and regulatory issues to assist policy-makers in advancing the use of AD technology in Minnesota. GPI prepared and presented a report, entitled [Anaerobic Digestion Evaluation Study](#).

A second phase began in 2018 and continues into 2019-20, following an amendment to the agreement with GPI. This work includes convening key stakeholders to seek consensus on the role of the technology going forward. The audience is state agencies, counties, and other public sectors involved in waste management; universities and private sector companies conducting research; and current and potential private sector AD developers.

GPI will be present at the October 9 Governing Board meeting to review its work and provide updates.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:



None.

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SUBJECT: Update on Anaerobic Digestion Work



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES	DATE
	10/1/2019
Hennepin County	
	
Recycling & Energy	

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PARTNERSHIP MEETING DATE:		October 9, 2019		AGENDA ITEM:		4.c.	
SUBJECT:		Update on E-Waste					
TYPE OF ITEM:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	POLICY DISCUSSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	ACTION
ACTION REQUESTED:		None					

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Minnesota Electronics Recycling Act was signed into law in 2007. It is one of the first product stewardship laws enacted in Minnesota. In its current form, the law targets the collection and recycling of "video display devices" sold to households/consumers, including "televisions" and "computer monitors." Counties across the state have expressed concerns with the law in its current form and have sought to make improvements to the law to maximize e-waste recycling and seek full reimbursement by manufacturers for county collection efforts.

Discussions continue. Mallory Anderson, Hennepin County staff, will provide an update.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES	DATE
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10/1/2019

Hennepin County



Recycling & Energy

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PARTNERSHIP MEETING DATE:		October 9, 2019		AGENDA ITEM:		5.	
SUBJECT:		Legislative Platform Review					
TYPE OF ITEM:		<input type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	POLICY DISCUSSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	ACTION
ACTION REQUESTED:		Discuss and provide direction for the 2020 PWE legislative platform					

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:




The 2020 Legislative Session will convene in February 2020. As the session approaches, PWE will be finalizing the Partnership platform. The Governing Board will be requested to approve the 2020 PWE platform at its December 13, 2019 meeting. At this meeting commissioners are requested to review the 2019 platform and discuss changes for the next session.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2019 PWE Legislative Platform

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES	DATE
 Hennepin County	10/1/2019
	
 Recycling & Energy	

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2019 Partnership Legislative Platform

Topic	Policy Position
Waste Management Act Goals	The Partnership supports the waste management goal of the state and the integrity of the order of preferred waste management practices, known as the solid waste management hierarchy.
Waste Hierarchy Goals and Measurement	The Partnership supports implementation of a waste hierarchy goal that identifies progress in meeting solid waste system performance by measuring the volume and characteristics of waste managed by land disposal, and also monitoring the policy goals of the Waste Management Act such as reducing the toxicity of waste, separating materials and energy, reducing greenhouse gases, promoting beneficial use, and orderly development of the system.
Solid Waste Roles and Responsibilities	<p>The Partnership supports the Waste Management Act, under which counties are the entities accountable for meeting state goals and requirements related to solid waste. Locally elected officials are in the best position to make decisions for their counties, within broad guidance from the state. This role is appropriate since elected county commissioners make decisions locally.</p> <p>The Partnership supports a robust public engagement process for developing county solid waste plans.</p>
Legislative Solid Waste Committee	The Partnership supports the establishment of a bi-partisan, bicameral committee to address solid waste related issues.
Solid Waste Management Tax	The Partnership supports allocating all of the revenue generated by the Solid Waste Management Tax (SWMT) to waste management activities and increasing SCORE funding.
Solid Waste as a Renewable Fuel	The Partnership supports continued state and federal recognition of solid waste as a renewable fuel, as well as state and federal financial support for waste and energy industries to use public and private solid waste facilities as a part of their sustainable, renewable energy resource programs, including production of biofuels.
New Technologies for Waste Processing	The Partnership supports financial incentives by the state, as well as reduced barriers, for the development and permitting of new or alternative technologies for waste reduction, reuse, recycling, beneficial reuse, and waste processing, including use of new technology and methods to recover materials, energy and biofuels from waste.
Opposing preemption of local control	The Partnership opposes legislation that limits, prohibits or interferes with a local government's ability to implement any component of its solid waste master plan as required by Minnesota Statutes Chapters 115a and 473. It further opposes preemption of local control and unfunded mandates that would restrict, hinder, or impair a local unit of government's ability to implement its solid waste plans.
Market Development	<p>The Partnership supports a public/private partnership to identify the key steps to be taken by the public and private sectors to assure markets for recyclables that are local, reliable, economically viable, and protective of Minnesota's resources.</p> <p>The Partnership supports state funding to support market development and businesses that use recycled materials. The Partnership supports an interagency stakeholder group of state and local entities to champion and develop market development efforts.</p>

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Product Stewardship	<p>The Partnership supports product stewardship programs, with an emphasis on an Extended Producer Responsibility framework approach, to provide environmental protection, county cost recovery, indemnification of counties from product liability, and measurable and enforceable goals.</p> <p>The Partnership supports manufacturer incentives that would reduce the amount of waste packaging associated with consumer products.</p> <p>The Partnership supports maximizing the collection and safe disposal of unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medicines through an internalized pharmaceutical manufacturer financing mechanism that covers the costs of collection, transportation and hazardous waste disposal, and that does not rely on state and local government funding.</p> <p>The Partnership supports maximizing the collection and safe disposal of sharps through manufacturer financing mechanisms that cover the cost of safe disposal, collection, and transportation.</p>
Electronic Waste	The Partnership supports efforts to make improvements that would maximize the e-waste recycling program, and the use of manufacturer payments to fully reimburse county collection efforts, and make progress toward a more complete product stewardship program.
Inverse Condemnation	The Partnership opposes “inverse condemnation” legislation which would restrict, hinder, or impair a local unit of government’s ability to carry out waste management responsibilities.
Solid Waste Financing	<p>The Partnership supports increased capital assistance project funding.</p> <p>The Partnership supports reasonable state oversight for capital improvement projects in cases where state funds are passed through the Pollution Control Agency or other state entity.</p>
Incentives for Waste Processing Services	The Partnership supports additional state funding or incentives, such as waste processing credits, to counties that are providing or financially supporting waste processing.
Sales Tax Rebates for Processing Facilities	The Partnership supports aligning solid waste management tax rebates to those entities that recover, recycle, or reuse material.
Biomass from Tree Waste	Waste from diseased or damaged trees should be a priority for biomass energy.

