

**MEETING NOTICE**  
**PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY BOARD**

**Date:** Thursday, January 25, 2024

**Time:** 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Commissioners, Key staff, Presenters:**

Ramsey County Environmental Health | 2785 White Bear Ave. N. | 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Maplewood, Minnesota | [Map](#)

**Public:** Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely or may attend at the Maplewood address.  
[Microsoft TEAMS](#) | Phone Conference ID: 416 007 375# | Call in (audio only) +1 323-792-6297

**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order, Introductions**

**2. Approval of Agenda** Action Page 1

**3. Approval of Minutes of November 30, 2023** Action Page 2

**4. Business**

a. Governing Board Leadership for 2024 Information Page 5

**5. Updates and Reports** Information Page 7

a. Wood Waste Management Project  
Update

b. Legislative Session Preview

**6. Other**

**7. Adjourn**

**NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, June 6, 2024 | 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. | Ramsey County Environmental Health, Maplewood

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023**  
**PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY BOARD**

A meeting of the Partnership on Waste and Energy Board (PWE) was held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, November 30, 2023. Commissioners and staff participants met at Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC), 505 N. 6th Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Other participants and the public joined remotely.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Commissioner Debbie Goettel – Hennepin County  
Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt – Ramsey County  
Commissioner Karla Bigham (Alternate) – Washington County

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Commissioner Fran Miron – Washington County

**ATTENDING AT HENNEPIN ENERGY RECOVERY CENTER, MINNEAPOLIS**

Mallory Anderson, Carolyn Collopy, Max Dalton, Dan Donkers, Melissa Finnegan, Caleb Johnson, Randy Kiser, Ben Knudson, Cassie Lefeber, Dave McNary, Shannon Mitchell, Marcelo Neblett, Michael Reed, John Ristad, Jody Tharp, Darren Tobolt, Rob Vanasek, Enrique Vinas, Sam Walseth, Mark Zaban

**ATTENDING REMOTELY**

Ahmet Baysal, Leigh Behrens, Alison Cameron, Shannon Conk, Tutu Fatukasi, Jamie Giesen, Abigail Hencheck, Filsan Ibrahim, Katie Keller, Jennefer Klennert, Juna Ly, Leslie Duling McCollam, Andrea McKennan, Jeff Miller, Jennifer Nguyễn Moore, Evan Mulholland, Matt Phillips, Jim Redmond, Sam Richie, Daniel Schmidt, John Springman, Uriel Rosales Tlatenchi, Ryan Tritz, Caleb Werth

**CALL TO ORDER AND COMMISSIONER ROLL CALL**

Chair Goettel called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. Introductions of attendees in Minneapolis were made.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Bigham moved, seconded by Reinhardt, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion passed 3-0. Ayes: Bigham, Goettel, Reinhardt Nays: None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Goettel moved, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to approve the minutes of October 11, 2023, as presented.

Motion passed 3-0. Ayes: Bigham, Goettel, Reinhardt Nays: None

**BUSINESS**

**2024 Budget Approval**

Dave McNary, Hennepin County and PWE lead staff, provided an overview of the proposed budget. Staff adjusted the budget as a result of discussion with commissioners at the October 11, 2023, meeting.

Highlights include:

- Increased funding for a wood waste management study in 2024
- Secured new funding for a Bioeconomy Coalition of Minnesota membership
- Allocated \$25k for commercial recycling study, including hiring a consultant to assist

- Secured funding to add two to three languages beyond English and Spanish for online hazardous waste training
- Increased funding to support two Zero Waste Challenge in 2024

Commissioner Goettel recommended the decision on which languages to include in the online hazardous waste training should be informed by an assessment of the languages commonly used by industry professionals.

Commissioner Bigham suggested working with community outreach organizations to determine additional languages.

Commissioner Reinhardt moved, seconded by Bigham, to approve Resolution PWEB-2023-03, 2024 Budget Approval. The PWE Board approves the 2024 Partnership on Waste and Energy Budget.

Motion passed 3-0. Ayes: Bigham, Goettel, Reinhardt Nays: None

### **2024 State Legislative Platform**

Michael Reed, Ramsey County and PWE lead staff, presented an overview of the proposed legislative platform that was discussed at the October 11, 2023, PWE Board meeting. Staff have since refreshed and expanded the platform for 2024, focusing on higher-level position statements to allow for more maneuverability. Seven policy position statements, which go into more detail than the one-page platform document, are available on the PWE website.

Chair Goettel asked whether plastics certification is included in the platform. Dan Donkers, Ramsey County, said the concept of plastics certification would be an example of a specific policy issue that the broader policy direction of the platform document gives PWE the ability to work on, such as the direction found in the section on creating a more sustainable, climate resilient economy, rather than being specifically called out in the platform document.

Commissioner Bigham stated that a reconstituted solid waste management commission is needed at the state.

Commissioner Reinhardt said the issue is about both solid waste management and energy. A more encompassing commission would hopefully be something legislators would like to see.

Michael Reed said staff feel the platform covers this issue. PWE can develop a position statement and fact sheet to be added to the PWE website in support of a commission on solid waste management and energy.

Rob Vanasek, Capitol Hill Associates, agreed that the platform encompasses the possibility of reconstituting a council or commission on solid waste management and energy. Commissioner Reinhardt proposed that a line be added to the platform regarding the concept of a legislative commission that would focus on waste, energy and climate change issues. She proposed amended language to be included: "PWE supports a legislative commission on waste management, energy and climate change issues."

Chair Goettel moved, seconded by Bigham, to approve Resolution PWEB-2023-04, 2024 State Legislative Platform. The PWE Board approves the 2024 State Legislative Platform, as amended.

Motion passed 3-0. Ayes: Bigham, Goettel, Reinhardt Nays: None

**2024 Meeting Schedule**

Caleb Johnson, Washington County and PWE lead staff, presented the proposed meeting schedule for 2024. The January, June and September meetings are scheduled to be held at the office of Ramsey County Environmental Health in Maplewood, and the December meeting is scheduled be held at Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC) in Minneapolis.

Commissioner Reinhardt moved, seconded by Bigham, to approve Resolution PWEB-2023-05, 2024 Meeting Schedule. The PWE Board approves the 2024 meeting schedule.

Motion passed 3-0. Ayes: Bigham, Goettel, Reinhardt Nays: None

**ADJOURN**

Chair Goettel adjourned the meeting at 1:34 p.m.

Commissioners and attendees toured the HERC facility. No business was conducted.

ATTEST:

---

Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt, Chair  
January 25, 2024

---

January 25, 2024

<b>PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING DATE:</b>		January 25, 2024		<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b>		4.a	
<b>SUBJECT:</b>		Governing Board Leadership for 2024					
<b>TYPE OF ITEM:</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	POLICY DISCUSSION		<input type="checkbox"/>	ACTION
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>		Partnership Lead Staff					

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

For information only.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) of the Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) states the Governing Board shall include the Chair and Vice Chair of the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E) Board and a commissioner appointed by Hennepin County, resulting in a representative commissioner from each of Ramsey, Washington and Hennepin counties. Partnership Board members serve two-year terms.

- The 2024 R&E Board members on the Partnership Board are R&E Chair Commissioner Fran Miron (Washington County), and R&E Vice Chair Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County). Both are serving the first year of the 2024-2025 Partnership Board term.
- Commissioner Debbie Goettel was appointed by the Hennepin County Board at their organizational meeting on January 2, 2024, for the first year of the 2024-2025 Partnership Board term.
- Since leadership of the Partnership, for Chair and Vice Chair, rotates annually by county name in alphabetical order, the 2024 Partnership Chair is Ramsey County Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt, and the Partnership Vice Chair is Washington County Commissioner Fran Miron.

The Partnership's alternate board members serve a two-year term through 2024.

- Alternates from the R&E Board for the second year of the 2023-2024 term are Ramsey County Commissioner Trista Martinson and Washington County Commissioner Karla Bigham.
- In 2023, the Hennepin County Board appointed Commissioner Chris LaTondresse as the alternate for the Partnership Board for 2023. Commissioner LaTondresse resigned from the Hennepin County Board and was replaced on the Partnership Board in November 2023 by Commissioner Jeff Lunde. At its organizational meeting on January 2, 2024, the Hennepin County Board appointed Commissioner Lunde as alternate to the Partnership Board for 2024.





**ATTACHMENTS:**

None.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

None.

**SUBJECT:** *Governing Board Leadership for 2024*

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES		DATE
Hennepin County		1/13/2024
Recycling & Energy		1/16/2024
		1/12/2024
Washington County Attorney		1/16/2024
Approved as to form:		1/16/2024
Ramsey County Attorney		

<b>PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING DATE:</b>	January 25, 2024		<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b>	5.	
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Updates & Reports				
<b>TYPE OF ITEM:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	POLICY DISCUSSION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACTION
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Partnership Lead Staff				

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

For information only.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

**Wood Waste Management Project Update**

In 2022, the Partnership on Waste and Energy sponsored the Twin Cities Metro Area Emerald Ash Borer Wood Waste Study, which identified a growing gap between the amount of wood waste generated and the capacity to dispose of it. This study was influential during the 2023 legislative session and aided in the creation of state financial support for continued operations at District Energy and St. Paul Cogeneration. The 2024 Partnership budget includes funding to continue identifying opportunities to increase and better align wood waste disposal capacities to meet the goals of the Partnership counties. Partnership staff will provide an update on the activities and learnings of the 2024 wood waste management project team.

**Legislative Session Preview**

The 2024 regular legislative session will begin on February 12, 2024. Partnership staff will provide an update on activities and issues that may be addressed in the months ahead. The State Constitution requires the legislature to conclude business by May 20, 2024.




**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. 2024 Partnership State Legislative Platform
2. Summary – Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act (sc0629-6)

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

None.

**SUBJECT:** *Updates & Reports*

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES		DATE
Hennepin County		1/13/24
Recycling & Energy		1/16/24
		1/12/24

---



# 2024 State Legislative Platform

## Build on Waste Management Act goals

PWE supports policies that reach beyond current public health and environmental goals and advance equity and climate resilience.

PWE supports forward-looking policy and regulatory design to align energy and materials management strategies, encourage emerging technologies and support new markets for waste.

PWE supports maintaining Minnesota's hierarchy of waste management practices.

PWE supports a legislative commission on waste management, energy and climate change issues.

## Enhance solid waste financing

PWE supports tax and finance policies that create effective incentives and distribute resources in alignment with policy goals.

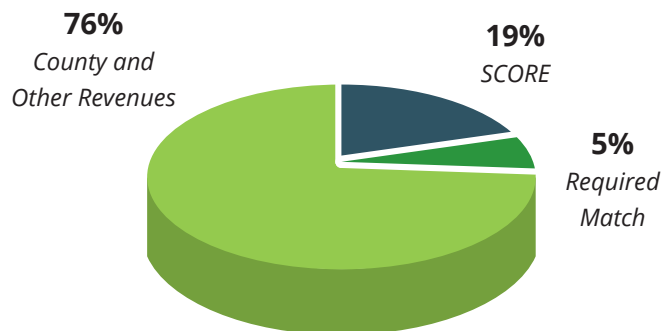
PWE supports robust state funding for local government to carry out statutory responsibilities.

## Create a more sustainable, climate resilient economy

PWE supports measures to design waste, toxicity and pollution out of the marketplace and keep products and resources in use for a more equitable circular economy.

PWE supports strong, innovative partnerships between the state, local government and private entities to use waste as a resource and maximize the benefits of action on waste, energy and climate initiatives.

**County Recycling Spending and SCORE Grants, 2021**



*State grants cover only 1/5 of county spending for recycling.*

### Need more information?

**Rob Vanasek**  
Capitol Hill Associates  
612-964-4876  
rob@capitolhillassoc.com

**Sam Richie**  
Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A.  
218-301-9758  
srichie@fryberger.com



**The Partnership on Waste and Energy**—a collaboration between Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington counties—seeks to end waste, promote renewable energy and enhance the health and resiliency of communities we serve while advancing equity and responding to the challenges of a changing climate.