

MEETING NOTICE
PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY BOARD

Date: Thursday, February 6, 2025

Time: 12:30 - 2 p.m.

Commissioners, Key staff, Presenters:

Ramsey County Environmental Health | 2785 White Bear Ave. N. | 2nd 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: 604 566 042# | 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 14, 2024) | Action | Page 2 |
| 4. Business | | |
| a. Governing Board Leadership for 2025 | Information | Page 6 |
| 5. Updates and Reports | | |
| a. Wood Waste Management Project Update | | |
| b. Joint Powers Agreement Update | | |
| c. Legislative Session Preview | Information | Page 8 |
| 6. Other | | |
| 7. Adjourn | | |

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 12, 2025 | 1:30 – 3 p.m. | Ramsey County Environmental Health, Maplewood

**PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY BOARD
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024**

A meeting of the Partnership on Waste and Energy Board (Partnership) was held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, November 14, 2024. Commissioners and staff participants met at the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC), 505 N 6th Ave, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Other participants and the public joined remotely.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ATTENDING AT RAMSEY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, MAPLEWOOD

Leigh Behrens, Max Dalton, Dan Donkers, Melissa Finnegan, Adam Gooder, Kelli Hall, Sam Holl, Susan Jamison, Caleb Johnson, Kevin Johnson, Heath Jones, Katherine Jordan, Bill Keegan, Jennifer Klennert, Nate Klett, Cassie Lefeber, Trista Martinson, Andrea McKennan, David McNary, Kathleen Murphy, Marcelo Neblett, Matt Phillips, Mike Phillips, Jim Redmond, Michael Reed, Sam Richie, John Ristad, Rob Vanasek

ATTENDING REMOTELY

Caleb Werth, Tutu Fatukasi, Rae Eden Frank, Filsan Ibrahim, Jamie Giesen, Ken Smith, Leslie D. McCollam, Matthew Phillips, Sam Ferguson, Janelle Walkden

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Reinhardt called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m. Introductions of attendees at the HERC were made.

AGENDA OF NOVEMBER 14, 2024 PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL

Motion by Goettel, seconded by Miron. Motion passed.

Aye: Goettel, Miron, Reinhardt

Nay: None

MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 26, 2024 PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL

Motion by Miron, seconded by Goettel. Motion passed.

Aye: Goettel, Miron, Reinhardt

Nay: None

BUSINESS

2025 Budget Approval

Dave McNary, Hennepin County, presented the proposed 2025 budget, totaling \$214,060. Key allocations include \$29,700 for staffing and administration and \$184,360 for contracts. Equal contributions of \$104,755 each will be provided by the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E) Board and Hennepin County.

Additionally, a one-year, non-renewable contract with Freiburger Law Firm not to exceed \$10,000 was approved to monitor Public Utilities Commission (PUC) dockets related to the 100% clean energy law passed in 2023.

Motion by Goettel, seconded by Miron. Motion passed.

Aye: Reinhardt, Goettel, Miron

Nay: None

Capitol Hill Associates Contract Amendment

McNary requested approval of a \$91,000 amendment to the Capitol Hill Associates lobbying services contract. The amendment reflects increased legislative work anticipated in 2025, including a focus on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and other waste-related policy initiatives.

Motion by Miron, seconded by Goettel. Motion passed.

Aye: Reinhardt, Goettel, Miron

Nay: None

2025 State Legislative Platform

Michael Reed, Ramsey County, presented the proposed 2025 legislative platform, which provides high-level, nonpartisan guidance for legislative priorities related to waste management and energy issues. The platform supports flexibility to adapt to evolving legislative initiatives.

- The board directed staff to update and expand one-page policy briefs to support advocacy efforts.

Motion by Goettel, seconded by Miron. Motion passed.

Aye: Reinhardt, Goettel, Miron

Nay: None

2025 Meeting Schedule

Caleb Johnson, Washington County, presented the proposed 2025 meeting schedule:

- Meeting dates: January 23, June 12, September 25 and November 20
- Start time: 1 p.m.

Meetings will align with the R&E Board's schedule where possible.

Motion by Miron, seconded by Goettel. Motion passed.

Aye: Reinhardt, Goettel, Miron

Nay: None

Review of Joint Powers Agreement (JPA)

Commissioner Reinhardt proposed a review of the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) to reflect updated organizational and operational needs. Staff will present recommended updates at the January 2025 meeting.

Motion by Reinhardt, seconded by Miron. Motion passed.

Aye: Reinhardt, Goettel, Miron

Nay: None

Recognition of Commissioner Reinhardt

Commissioner Miron introduced a resolution recognizing Chair Victoria Reinhardt for her exemplary service and leadership within the Partnership. The resolution highlighted Reinhardt's dedication to advancing the board's objectives, fostering collaboration among counties and ensuring progress in waste management and energy initiatives.

Miron commended Reinhardt’s ability to guide the board effectively and create a positive, impactful legacy through her work.

Commissioner Goettel took a moment to formally recognize Chair Victoria Reinhardt for her leadership, mentorship and contributions to the Partnership. The acknowledgment highlighted Reinhardt’s dedication to advancing the board’s goals and her significant role in fostering collaboration among member counties.

Reinhardt expressed her gratitude for the recognition and reiterated her commitment to the board’s mission.

- The board requested both the R&E and Partnership Boards’ resolutions to be framed and presented to Reinhardt.

Motion by Miron, seconded by Goettel. Motion passed.

Aye: Goettel, Miron

Nay: None

Abstain: Reinhardt

UPDATES AND REPORTS

Introduction to Melissa Finnegan as New Strategic Partnerships Manager

Trista Martinson, R&E executive director, introduced Melissa Finnegan to the board, highlighting Finnegan’s professional background, expertise in waste management and energy policy and her role in supporting the board’s initiatives.

Wood Waste Study

Caleb Johnson, Washington County, presented that phase two of the wood waste study with Cambium Carbon is underway, focusing on both immediate and long-term solutions for managing wood waste.

Hazardous Waste Generator Training

Johnson presented hazardous waste training materials are being translated into Hmong to improve accessibility for non-English speakers.

Commercial Recycling Study

Johnson presented ongoing research to improve methodologies for measuring recycling and reuse in commercial sectors.

The board discussed addressing lithium battery disposal challenges, including implementing battery return policies and enhancing public education on proper disposal.

ADJOURN

Chair Reinhardt declared the meeting adjourned at 3 p.m.

ATTEST:

Fran Miron, Chair
January 23, 2025

January 23, 2025

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------|
| PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING DATE: | February 6, 2025 | AGENDA ITEM: | 4.a |
| SUBJECT: | Governing Board Leadership for 2025 | | |
| TYPE OF ITEM: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION | <input type="checkbox"/> POLICY DISCUSSION | <input type="checkbox"/> ACTION |
| SUBMITTED BY: | 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 2025 R&E Board members on the Partnership Board are Ramsey County Commissioner Mary Jo McGuire and Washington County Commissioner Fran Miron.
- 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. Commissioner Goettel will serve the second year of her term in 2025.
- Since leadership of the Partnership, for Chair and Vice Chair, rotates annually by county name in alphabetical order, the 2025 Partnership Chair is Washington County Commissioner Fran Miron, and the Partnership Vice Chair is Hennepin County Commissioner Debbie Goettel.

The Partnership’s alternate board members serve a two-year term through 2026.

- Alternates from the R&E Board for the 2025-2026 term are Ramsey County Commissioner Kelly Miller and Washington County Commissioner Karla Bigham.
- The alternative for Hennepin County for the 2025-2026 term is Hennepin County Commissioner Heather Edelson.



ATTACHMENTS:

None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

SUBJECT: Governing Board Leadership for 2025

| AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES | | DATE |
|---|--|----------|
| Hennepin County |  | 01/13/25 |
| Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy |  | 01/23/25 |

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------|
| PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING DATE: | February 6, 2025 | AGENDA ITEM: | 5 |
| SUBJECT: | Updates and Reports | | |
| TYPE OF ITEM: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION | <input type="checkbox"/> POLICY DISCUSSION | <input type="checkbox"/> ACTION |
| SUBMITTED BY: | Partnership Lead Staff | | |

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

For information only.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

a. Wood Waste Management Project Update

A project on the management of wood waste was initiated in 2024 as a follow-up analysis to the Partnership’s 2022 report outlining the growing volumes of wood waste within Partnership counties. Both the 2022 analysis and follow-up analysis were prepared by staff at Cambium, a public benefit corporation on a mission to enable a regenerative cycle of urban wood reuse, who will provide a presentation of the 2024 analysis. Partnership staff will provide an update on this project.

b. Joint Powers Agreement Update

Partnership staff have been undertaking a review of the existing Joint Powers Agreement and will provide an update on this effort.

c. Legislative Session Preview

The 2025 regular legislative session began on January 14, 2025. 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 19, 2025. The legislature must agree to a biennial budget by June 30, 2025.



ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2025 Partnership State Legislative Platform

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

SUBJECT: *Updates and Reports*

| AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES | | DATE |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------|
| Hennepin County |  <hr/> | 01/13/25 |
| Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy |  <hr/> | 01/22/25 |

2025 State Legislative Platform

Build on Waste Management Act goals

PWE supports policies that achieve public health and environmental goals, strengthen community resilience and protect the environment.

PWE supports policy and regulatory approaches that align energy and materials management strategies, encourage emerging technologies and promote new markets for waste.

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

Invest in solid waste outcomes

PWE supports policies that create effective incentives and prioritize resources in alignment with policy goals.

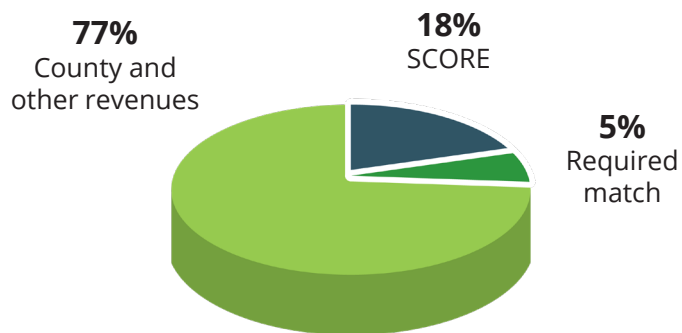
PWE supports state funding at levels that allow local government to carry out statutory responsibilities.

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, 2022



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

Need more information?

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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.