



**WEST MI
SHORELINE**
Regional Development Commission

February 2, 2026 - 10:00 AM – Lake County

I. CALL TO ORDER

10:00 AM by Connie Cargill, Chairperson

II. ROLL CALL QUORUM: Yes

Present	Absent	Name	Representing
X		Howard Lodholtz	Lake County, Elected County Official
X		Phillip Lodholtz	Lake County, Elected Township Official
	X	Michael Seroczynski	Lake County, Elected County Official
		Vacant	Lake County, Business
X		Sharon Edgar	Mason County, Environmental Interest Group
X		Jody Hartley	Mason County, Elected County Official
X		Jamie Healy	Mason Co., Waste Diversion, Reuse/Reduction Facility
X		Michael Smith	Mason County, Business
	X	William Crabtree	Muskegon County, Business
X		Joe Kuerth	Muskegon County, Waste Hauling
X		Greg Leverage	Muskegon County, Solid Waste Disposal Facility
		Vacant	Muskegon County, Elected County Official
	X	Leon Scott	Newaygo Co., Composting Facility/Anaerobic Digester
	X	Jake Thompson	Newaygo County, Materials Recovery Facility
X		Chuck Trapp	Newaygo County, Elected County Official
X		Gary Anderson	Newaygo County, Business
X		Connie Cargill	Oceana County, Elected County Official
X		Lynn Cavazos	Oceana County, Elected City/Village Official
X		James Niemiec	Oceana County, Arbre Farms
		Vacant	Oceana County, Business
X		Mark Kinney	WMSRDC Regional Planning Agency
X		Stephen Carlson	WMSRDC Staff
X		Erin Kuhn	WMSRDC Staff
GUESTS:			
Sara Cooper, Muskegon County			
Tobi Lake, Lake County			

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

#3 (action item): Moved by Lynn Cavazos; seconded by Chuck Trapp. Motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#4 (action item): Moved by Howard Lodholtz; seconded by Jamie Healy. Motion carried.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

VI. ASSESSMENT OF ORGANICS WASTE DIVERSION IN WEST MICHIGAN, ANNIKA GACNIK, ERC FELLOW

- Agricultural waste is a consistent theme within the planning region, for example, unharvested crops, processing byproducts, and wastewater.
- Annika and WMSRDC are organizing the West MI Agriculture Coalition to support the agriculture industries at a regional level. Food waste is included in the topics of discussion.
- Food waste is the greatest portion of all landfilled organic waste in Michigan.
- Food waste in Michigan is valued at \$36 million.
- Annika's presentation slides will be distributed to the committee.

VII. MMP CHAPTER 2: REGIONAL PROFILE

- MMP development process remains "on track" and that we are squarely in the middle of the plan development spectrum compared to other counties and regions across the state.
- Thank you to all of the MMPC members that participated in the county-level meetings. They were very productive and helped refine the profile data. This process will continue.
- Presentation: Recap of profile information gathered to-date.
 - o WMSRDC will continue to gather information and refine the profile inventory over time.

VIII. MMP CHAPTER 3: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- a. Update of changes resulting from county-level meetings
- b. Timeline for implementation
- c. Sharon Edgar provided comments regarding the goals and objectives

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

- a. MMP Local Government Survey
 - i. Survey will remain open, though it will no longer be a priority to solicit feedback. Interested local government representatives will be directed to the survey on a case-by-case basis.
- b. Summer Tax Mailing Insert
 - i. Consider utilizing summer tax mailings to distribute information regarding the upcoming draft MMP and what to expect from the review process near the end of summer. Perhaps providing a QR code that refers to the WMSRDC MMP website for additional information.
- c. Environmental Community Contacts
- d. Local Meetings
 - i. Attended – Lake County Townships, January 29
 - ii. Upcoming – Oceana County Townships, February 5; Mason County, April (tbd); Newaygo County Townships, March 4; Muskegon County Townships, March 30.

X. NEW / OLD BUSINESS

- a. MMPC Meeting Schedule Change: DPA staff suggested moving MMPC meetings to bi-monthly, with county-level meetings in between. Monthly meetings are time consuming and reducing capacity to develop the draft MMP document.
 - i. #10 (action item): Motion for the MMPC to meet every other month instead of monthly. Moved by Jody Hartly, seconded by Jamie Healy. Motion carried.
- b. County level meetings to be referred to as "county level work sessions"
 - i. County level work sessions to be offered as virtual meetings.
 - ii. County commissioners should be welcomed to join meetings to listen in but not engage in discussions.
- c. MRC Annual Conference: May 11-13 in Kalamazoo

XI. NEXT MEETING FOCUS Chapter 4 Mechanisms/Funding & Enforcement/Siting Process

a. DPA Expectations:

- i. WMSRDC will distribute Annika's presentation slides, Stephen's presentation slides, and a revised map of MM facilities
- ii. Produce a winter MMP FactSheet...include QR code
 1. Send to MMPC for review in March
 2. Post to WMSRDC social media
- iii. Draft language for summer tax mailings or newsletter communication
 1. Send communication to distribution list to gauge interest in including this message with tax mailings or other communications
- iv. Send to MMPC a list of environmental contacts
- v. Update the meeting schedule: send to MMPC, outlook calendar update, and post to website
- vi. Send to MMPC a link to the MRC Annual Conference
- vii. Schedule March county level work session meetings
- viii. Share Ottawa County letter to EGLE on behalf of DPA's statewide
- ix. Engage with EGLE to clarify requirements of the siting process in a regional MMP

b. MMPC Expectations:

- i. Participate in county-level meetings in months that MMPC meetings do not occur.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Tobi Lake commented on biodigesters: those facilities face complex financial situations and there is currently a federal pause on funding them due to the high rate of financial default.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

#13 (action item): Moved by Sharon Edgar; seconded Greg Leverence. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING:
April 6, 2026 – Newaygo County



Connie Cargill, Chairperson



Erin Kuhn, WMSRDC Executive Director

4-13-26
Date

4-13-26
Date