



Regional Development Commission

October 6, 2025 - 10:00 AM – Newaygo County
Newaygo County Building, Board of Commissioners Room
1087 Newell Street, White Cloud, MI 49349

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		Debbie Russell	Lake County, Business
	X	Michael Seroczynski	Lake County, Elected County Official
	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 Leverence	Muskegon County, Solid Waste Disposal Facility
	X	Darrell Page	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
		Vacant	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
	X	Vaughn White	Oceana County, Valley City Metals
	X	Mark Kinney	WMSRDC Regional Planning Agency
X		Stephen Carlson	WMSRDC Staff
X		Erin Kuhn	WMSRDC Staff
GUESTS:		Chris Wren	Newaygo County
		Sydney Shaw	Fruitland Township
		Brian Kolk	Newaygo County

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Chuck Trapp and supported by Howard Lodholtz to approve the agenda for September 8, 2025. Motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Lynn Cavasos and supported by Chuck Trapp to approve September 8, 2025, MMPC meeting minutes. Motion carried.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments.

VI. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

A. Survey & County MTA Meeting Update

Stephen gave an update on the engagement efforts and survey results. Over the last month, WMSRDC attended meetings of Oceana and Newaygo townships, as well as a gathering of Muskegon County cities. Staff met a few new contacts who could be added to the MMP Interested database. Staff will attend the Mason County townships meeting on October 16 and the Lake County townships meeting on October 23.

As of today, 59 responses have come through for the survey. Stephen presented some of the survey results stating that these lists are not expected to be 100% accurate but are there for education and improvement over time. At this time, WMSRDC will move forward in the process. The survey will remain open but mainly to educate and inform rather than gather information. There should be no surprises when we go out for the review process.

There was a discussion regarding mailing letters to jurisdictions that have not responded to inform them of the process.

VII. DRAFT MMP OUTLINE – Erin went through the information that EGLE sent out and created an outline of the sections of the plan that we are working on.

Materials Management Outline

- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Population: Planning Area Profiles
- Sources of the Generation
- Materials Management Infrastructure
- Regional Recycling Rate
- Materials Management Goals & Objectives
- Mechanisms: Funding and Enforcement
- Siting Process
- Administration
- Appendix

VIII. GOALS & OBJECTIVES DEVELOPMENT

Stephen passed out a handout to get everyone on the same page as to why and what we are doing.

- Per PA 115, the intent is to change the focus of planning toward Materials Management, reducing overall waste, providing for innovative re-use of materials
- It is important to extend the life of our landfills and divert materials away from them
- The overarching goals are ongoing education, increasing support, engaging community stakeholders, sustainable funding mechanisms, collaboration with service providers

Stephen presented a chart called the MMP Process and showed where the committee is currently at in the process, which is creating goals. This chart should be referenced regularly so we can see the progress being made.

The Materials Management goals should be measurable objectives and specific in order to meet the benchmark recycling standards. This is all outlined and detailed within the Implementation Strategy. The Implementation Strategy is essential for each of the counties to be able to

demonstrate progress and continue receiving funding as long as funding is appropriated. The Strategy shall include:

- Minimum access requirements – benchmark recycling standards outlined in the chart
- Demonstrating that progress toward reducing the amount of organic material and reducing the amount of recycling material being disposed of
- Planning for environmental planning, disaster debris construction/demolition waste may also be included or added to the plan in the future
- Resources, education and outreach programs, timetables and responsible parties must be identified

The solid waste goals and objectives identifiers are:

- Health and environment
- Public service (utilities concept)
- Materials management infrastructure education
- Reducing landfilling
- Data collection
- Sustainable funding

Stephen asked the committee how they would like to proceed and if they felt comfortable with these areas hitting the overarching goals. Is anything missing? Does anything need to be removed? Discussion ensued. We need to define availability and define jurisdiction or service area. Amount of reduced disposal and increased recycling/composting. Suggestion of adding to the objective statement, "working with the township to..."

Stephen asked how everyone would like to address the next step. It was agreed that Erin and Stephen would draft goals for all to review before the next meeting.

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY DISCUSSION

The new quarter is approaching, so WMSRDC will be creating a new fact sheet. This will be available for the next meeting. Feedback will be appreciated.

X. NEW / OLD BUSINESS – There was discussion regarding county ordinances and how they are able to be enforced – Emmet and Kent counties have a solid waste ordinance.

XI. NEXT MEETING FOCUS: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Stephen shared that EGLE's Material Management Planning Department is down to one, from two.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Sharon Edgar and supported by Chuck Trapp to adjourn at 11:30 AM. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: November 3, 2025 – Muskegon County

Connie Cargill

Connie Cargill, Chairperson

11/31/2025

Date

E. K.

Erin Kuhn, WMSRDC Executive Director

11-18-2025

Date