



## Recycling Committee

Thursday, February 24, 2011 – 1:30 p.m.  
225 W. Main Street, Room 100  
Gaylord, MI 49735

### MINUTES

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Beachnau called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

Members Present: Paul Beachnau, John Burt, Janice Lampert, Dave Smethurst, Dave Matelski, Beth Dipzinski, Diane House, Diane Franckowiak

Others Present: Jessica Kane, Patricia Osburn, Rachel Koleda, Mark Bevelhymmer, Jim Akans, Frances Long, Erma Backenstose, Linda Renhardt, Mike Reling, Bill Marshall, Debbie Dunham, Mary Sanders, Wayne Tyler, Kelly Ignace

#### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Dipzinski to “accept the Recycling Committee minutes of January 12, 2011 as presented”. Motion carried unanimously.

#### III. OLD BUSINESS

None

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. Recycling Homework Response

People were asked at the last Committee meeting to prepare a list of up to 10 goals for their ideal recycling program. Mr. Burt received approximately ten responses, which he summarized on a spreadsheet. He passed out the spreadsheet and summarized the results. The most common goal was for a 24/7 recycling drop off, followed by curbside recycling, 3 or more drop off locations, clearly marked bins with appropriate signage, recycle a variety of materials, and recycling education.

##### B. Goodwill Recycling Update

Jessica McDowell from Goodwill was unable to attend to update the Committee on Goodwill’s recycling efforts. She will be rescheduled for another meeting.

##### C. Recycling Plan

The Committee discussed the direction of the Committee and whether people were interested in pursuing a more program separate from Arrow Sanitation’s program. Township representatives in attendance indicated that they did not think the majority of their constituents would be supportive of a household fee or a millage for countywide recycling, but the Townships would be willing to consider any plans presented to them. They also felt that people did know about recycling opportunities in the area. There was discussion that non-resident homes should not be included in the program.

Ms. Osborne indicated that the current agreement with Otsego County for recycling education ends in April, but she is hopeful they will get financial support from the Otsego County Community Foundation to continue the education.

Mr. Marshall informed the Committee that Patti DuBois used to provide a school recycling education program through Cross Roads industries, but that stopped once funding was no longer available through the DNR Trust Fund.

Ms. Ignace indicated that ease and convenience are the most important things with a recycling program. She updated the Committee on the MRF (Materials Recovery Facility) plant that American Waste is building in Traverse City. The facility will mechanically remove recycled materials from the waste stream. The facility should be up and running in June. Waste picked up by Arrow Sanitation, which is owned by American Waste, will be brought to the facility. She did indicate that having a separate recycling program makes sense since it results in high quality recycled materials due to the materials being cleaner. The trash from Otsego Lake Township is being hand sorted for recycled materials at a Kalkaska facility currently, which results in approximately 25-30% of the recycled materials being removed. Once the materials are brought to the new MRF facility that could go up to 50-60%.

The Committee decided to form a subcommittee with Dave Smethurst, Jessica Kane, John Burt, Janice Lampert, Jim Akans, and Mary Sanders. The subcommittee will create a few different plans and have American Waste put costs to those plans. The plans should include an educational component, and a household hazardous waste program. The plan should also exempt any out-of-county residents. The subcommittee will return with plans and costs in 90 days.

### **III. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Beachnau at 2:50 PM.