



## Recycling Committee

February 27, 2014 – 5:30 p.m.  
225 W. Main Street, Room 100  
Gaylord, MI 49735

### MINUTES

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Beachnau called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Members Present: Paul Beachnau, Richard Sumerix, John Burt, Judge Pat Morse, Janice Lampert, Erma Backenstose, Dave Smethurst, Diane Franckowiak, Beth Dipzinski

Others Present: Jessica Kane, Patricia Osburn, Julie Marlette, Jack Marlette, Judy Wagley, Erica Wescoat-Large, Arnie Morse, Kaitlyn Kiessling

#### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Sumerix, seconded by Lampert, to “approve the minutes of September 16, 2013.” Motion carried.

#### III. OLD BUSINESS

None

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. Recycling Budget

Burt reviewed the 2014 – 2016 Recycling Budgets. There is potentially \$20,000 per year that could be used for expanded recycling activities, if no major unexpected expenditures occur.

##### B. Recycling Millage

The Committee discussed the recycling millage which is for three years and goes through 2014. The Committee is looking at asking for a renewal in August since there would be no cost for the millage request due going as part of the Primary Election, while it would cost approximately \$11,000 to wait until 2015 to seek renewal. The Committee discussed going for a longer millage. The Committee decided it was best to stay with a 3 year request, which will allow for use of the word renewal in the ballot language. Motion by Smethurst to “recommend to the Budget & Finance Committee to seek renewal the existing recycling millage for three years at the current .25 rate on the August 2014 Primary ballot”. Motion Carried.

##### C. Open Discussion

Dipzinski asked why there are plastic bags in both type (container and paper) bins. Wescoat-Large responded that more education is needed since the bags should be going into the paper bin. There has been confusion as to why you would put plastic bags in the paper bin. Representatives of Emmet County had told her to think of the container bin as the “wet bin” since many items get rinsed off, and the paper bin as the “dry bin”.

The Conservation District was asked whether they are still actively monitoring the recycling sites. Wescoat-Large responded that they visit each site a minimum of twice per week, and often more.

Beachnau asked Wescoat-Large to check with the Lions Club to see whether they are still receiving much newspaper at their Gaylord trailer.

Osburn introduced Kaitlyn Kiessling as the new AmeriCorps Volunteer.

The Conservation District is working with the schools to become 'Green Schools'.

Lampert indicated that Sojourn has recycling bins in the rooms and are encourage vendors at special events to recycle. They are also working with other local hotels to recycle.

Wescoat-Large informed the group about a grant received that provided recycling bins at the County Parks and the Conservation District Demonstration Garden.

Wescoat-Large gave an end of the year report for the Conservation District's recycling efforts.

Wescoat-Large distributed a new Recycling Guide.

## **V. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned by Beachnau at 6:30 PM. The next meeting will be called as needed.

Nexus