



THE SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA RECYCLERS' EXCHANGE

cooperative marketing * market development * materials exchange

SEMREX JOINT POWERS BOARD (JPB) MEETING

Friday, June 6, 2025

Conference Room B

Dodge County Government Services Building (not the courthouse)

721 Main Street North (on the west side of Highway 57)

Mantorville, MN

9:30 A.M.

AGENDA

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| 9:30 | Call Meeting to Order – Roll Call and Introductions |
| 9:35 | Approve December 2024 Minutes |
| 9:40 | Director's Report– Sharon Schriever, SEMREX <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Market Update• Budget Report• Regional Projects Opportunities |
| 10:00 | Approve Renewal of Routeware/Waste Wizard Agreement |
| 10:10 | Overview of Solid Waste Management Trip to Germany <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Commissioner Eckstrom, Freeborn County |
| 10:35 | MPCA & Legislative Update – Ben Crowell, MPCA |
| 10:45 | Member Update Report Questions/Discussion – All |
| 10:55 | Set Next Meeting - December 5, 2025 |
| 11:00 | Adjourn |

SEMREX Joint Powers Board Meeting
Held at Dodge County Government Services Building
December 6, 2024

Present: John Allen, Dodge County Commissioner, Nicole Eckstrom, Freeborn County Commissioner; Mike Ankeny, Mower County Commissioner; Gregory Wright, Olmsted County Commissioner; Steve Underdahl, Rice County Commissioner; Donald Kliewer, Red Wing City Council.

Rita Cole, Dodge County; Paul Pieper, Rice County; Tammie Bramer, Waseca County; Jim Kollar, Waseca County; Marcus Thompson, Mower County; Mark Goskeson, Freeborn County; Taylor Piotter, Blue Earth County; Molly Kjellesvig, Blue Earth County; Katie Barden, Steele County; Ben Crowell (MPCA); Sharon Schriever (SEMREX),

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Commissioner Allen called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve by Commissioner Ankeny, 2nd by Commissioner Eckstrom. Motion passed at 9:32 am.

Director's Update:

- Prices are down \$10 for OCC and Mixed Paper again in November, continuing its decline over the past few months.
- Plastic prices were up \$30/ton. Aluminum and Steel prices are up, with Aluminum prices hitting record highs.
- Total marketing revenue up 15% compared to last year in November despite reduced tonnage shipped.

Budget Report:

- Olmsted County budget numbers have been recoded and some have been combined. The “professional services” and “fiscal management agreements” are now combined into line item 6298 - Contracted Services. The line items for “disbursements to other govt” and “disbursements to others” are combined in line item 6288 - Other Services.
- An assessment of uniform procedures (AUP) was conducted for the year ended December 2023. An AUP is equivalent to an audit for operations with smaller budgets and is conducted every five years.
- A deficit of \$7,500 is proposed since LDI no longer spots trailers. The estimated revenue is about \$5,000 in marketing revenue expected this year.
- Current fund balance is \$44,000.
- **2024 Agreements:**

- **Professional Services Agreement:**
 - Increase of \$2,500 requested by Olmsted due to increased staff cost.
 - Motion to approve by Commissioner Eckstrom, 2nd by Commissioner Ankeny. Motion passed.
- **Fiscal Management Agreement:**
 - Payment to SEMREX for fiscal agent cost. Cost remains the same as last year, \$3,000.
 - Motion to approve by Commissioner Underdahl, 2nd by Commissioner Eckstrom. Motion passed.

Approval of Budget: Motion to approve budget by Commissioner Ankeny, 2nd by Commissioner Eckstrom. Motion passed.

Review and Approve SEMREX 2025 Legislative Priorities:

Legislative Priorities detailed by Molly Kjellesvig.

SEMREX members have taken the initiative to be involved in the legislative process via EPR Committee work, providing a voice for Greater MN.

Priorities:

- Staff changed its stance on proposed EPR legislation after it was determined that there will be separate cost/program details between Greater MN and the Metro Area.
- Appropriate management of waste batteries, especially rechargeable, lithium-based, and embedded.
- Reformation of the Minnesota e-waste product stewardship program to include battery management in one piece of legislation.
- More robust opportunities for the end-of-life management of waste mattresses.
 - Many SEMREX members are experiencing issues with current vendors.
- Preserving the Waste Management Hierarchy, thereby retaining incinerators as a reasonable option for waste management.
- Increasing market development for recyclable materials to provide options for recyclables management, especially focusing on glass, film plastic, tires, and emerging materials.
- Implementation of Capital Assistance Funding focused on Greater Minnesota.

Motion to Approve Legislative Priorities: Motion to approve by Nicole Eckstrom, 2nd by Mike Ankeny. Motion passed.

MPCA & Legislative Update:

MPCA Update given by Ben Crowell.

- Unlined C&D landfill rule changes expected to move forward. New rules dictate that all C&D landfills continuing to operate must be lined.

- SCORE Payments: Legislature directed 3% of the Solid Waste Management Tax to SCORE a few years ago, up to date disbursements are now being released. Expect to see higher first payments (Fall) reflective of the increase.
- 2023 SCORE report will be released in January/February.
- No changes to the upcoming year's SCORE reporting expected.
- County-specific training and facility training for SCORE reporting is expected to be offered again in January (dates to come).

Member Discussion with Ben:

- MPCA is expecting future grant opportunities reflective of the State's policy of supporting novel projects for the management and diversion of waste.
- Landfilling is expected to continue providing a disposal opportunity despite changes in waste management policies.

Member Updates:

SEMREX member update reports were included with the meeting invitation.

Next Meeting:

The next Joint Powers Board Meeting is scheduled for June 6th, 2025.

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Gregory Wright, 2nd by Mike Ankeny.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:28 am.

Respectfully submitted by

Taylor Piotter, Blue Earth County