



Agenda

Southeast Minnesota Recyclers' Exchange Technical Committee Meeting

Date: **Friday, October 24, 2025**

Time: **10:00 a.m.**

Location: **Waseca County Public Works – 1495 5th Street SE, Waseca, MN 56093**

Chairperson: **Rita Cole**

Note Keeper: **Anthony Wittmer**

Time	Information Items	Presenter
10:00	1. Call to Order	Rita Cole
10:05	2. Approve Minutes	Rita Cole
10:10	3. Market Updates	Anthony Wittmer
10:25	4. Survey Results Professional Services Contract	Cathy Hall & Anthony Wittmer
11:35	5. MPCA Update	Ben Crowell
11:40	6. Member Updates	All Staff
11:55	7. Next Technical Committee Meeting – November	
12:00	8. Adjourn	

Notes:

If you cannot attend, please contact Anthony.

SEMREX Tech Committee Meeting

September 26, 2025

Red Wing Solid Waste Campus

Present: Katie Barden (Steele - virtual), Mark Goskeson (Freeborn - virtual), Marcus Thompson (Mower), Jeff Schneider (City of Red Wing), Rita Cole (Dodge), Tammie Bramer (Waseca), Taylor Piotter (Blue Earth), Scott Martin (Olmsted), Anthony Wittmer (SEMREX), Cathy Hall (SEMREX)

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Rita Cole called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

Approval of Minutes: Marcus motioned to make a change in his previous updates regarding the recycling of solar panels clarifying that Mower is not currently recycling them. Tammie motioned to accept the changes and Jeff Seconded.

Market Updates: The discussion centered on procedural matters and pricing strategies for the Waste Wizard subscription. Anthony led discussion, ensuring all members were aligned. He highlighted that SEMREX members benefit from a lower subscription cost per year compared to other counties.

Anthony provided SEMREX's list of 2025 commodity prices along with contact information for different commodity markets.

2025									
Commodity	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
OCC/ton - LP	\$ 95.00	\$ 95.00	\$ 95.00	\$ 95.00	\$90	\$ 85.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00	\$80.00
OCC/ton - GP Mower	\$ 102.50	\$102.5	\$ 102.50	\$ 105.00	\$100				
OCC/ton - GP Blue Earth						\$ 95.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00	\$90.00
OCC/ton - Pioneer			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00					
OCC/ton - MDK (BE, Mower, Olmsted)								\$ 92.50	\$92.50
OCC/ton - Cardinal						\$ 85.00			
Quincy -						\$ 90.00			
ONP (News)									
News/Mags - Republic									
MP/ton - GP	\$ 70.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 85.00	\$60	\$ 55.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 50.00	\$50.00
MP/ton - Pioneer			\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00					
ONP/ton - Blackbridge Investments									
Sorted Office Paper/ton (GP)	\$ 160.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 185.00	\$185.00	\$ 185.00	\$ 175.00	\$175.00	\$170.00	\$170.00
Sorted Office Paper/ton (Pioneer)			\$ 190.00	\$190.00	\$ 185.00				
Tin/net ton GP	\$ 169.64	\$ 169.64	\$ 183.03			\$ 102.67		\$107.14	
Tin/net ton AMG	\$ 169.64		\$209.82				149.1		
Tin/net ton Cardinal			\$214.28		\$ 160.71	\$ 169.00			\$170.00
Tin/net ton Alter Metal	\$ 155.00								
Aluminum UBC (baled)/lb. MDK								\$0.92	\$0.93
Aluminum UBC (baled)/lb. GP	\$1.05	\$1.11				\$ 0.98	\$0.94		
Aluminum UBC (baled)/lb. Cardinal			\$1.12		\$ 0.970				
Mixed PLS (Quincy)								\$ 20.00	
Mix PLS 1-2 -5 Olmsted,Mower,Waseca (Republic)	\$ 185.00	\$ 195.00	\$205	\$ 215.00	\$190	\$ 150.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 50.00	\$50.00
Clear Glass/t									
Amber Glass/t									
MIXED Glass Strategic	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00			\$ 25.00			\$25.00
#1 Plastic - PET/ton			\$ 240.00			\$ 235.00	\$100.00		\$40.00
#2 HDPE Natural/ton			\$ 1,500.00			\$ 1,150.00	\$600.00		\$750.00
#2 HDPE Mixed/PIG/ton			\$ 80.00			\$ 35.00	\$45.00		\$20.00
#5 PP/ton			\$ 150.00			\$ 115.00	\$100.00		\$100.00

Anthony will send out the entire spreadsheet on prices for 2025 and provide historical data in a more palatable format.

Anthony will double-check the notes on Waste Wizard price comparisons and ensure the correct prices are documented.

Anthony will invite John Beavers from Georgia Pacific to explain their operations and pricing during a future meeting.

Cathy's Presentation:

- Revenue continues to fall; Olmsted will evaluate staffing costs in preparation for the 2026 professional services contract.
- Once the MRF opens in 2027, a full-time employee will be hired to evaluate markets and move material. Olmsted plans to break ground on its materials recovery facility next spring 2026.
- Ramsey Washington has a dedicated staff member to coordinate logistics.
- SEMREX will be updating its website.
- SEMREX will reach out to neighboring counties to gauge interest in SEMREX.

MPCA and Legislative Updates: Ben

- The Greater MN Grant is open for applications now through October 7th.
- The Market Development Grant is coming out soon.
- \$120 million in bonding for C&D waste and the PCA is open to discussion to expanding C&D landfill cells.
- Changes are coming to RETRAC; they are looking to include units instead of having everything in tons.
- A comingled recycling category for commercial haulers will be added for SCORE reporting.

Member Updates:

- **Red Wing:** Operations are business-as-usual. They're generating approximately 3,000 tons of RDF every month. They do have some issues with garbage leaking out of the county. Jeff has been working with Goodhue County to fix this. Red Wing will be drafting a contract with Excel as it's looking like an increase in tipping fees will be coming in 2027. \$128/ton is the estimate.
- **Olmsted:** Hired a new employee to take over the scale house. They started working with Dodge County to salvage items for Dodge County's Reuse Center. Olmsted is reusing approximately one ton of materials per month. Scott attended the NAHMMA Conference where PFAS were discussed heavily. The list of PFAS has increased from 9,000 to over 12,000 and they are working on a hazard index.
- **Waseca:** Waseca County is working with a new scale software—Paradigm. There was a \$24,000 implementation fee but has better annual rates. The system can work as a cash register and pull reports as needed from one system.

- **Mower:** Marcus attended SWAA. He finds the networking opportunities with other solid waste professionals to be as valuable as the conference topics. He spoke with Steve Verchota who is interested in collaborating with SEMREX.
- **Blue Earth:** Blue Earth is currently building a new landfill cell. The liner should be done within the next couple weeks. Molly is working on mobile-collection data tracking through Survey 1, 2, 3. DEM-CON is now charging individual fees for recycling contamination.
- **Steele:** The landfill is working to backfill a position in the office. HHW is done for the year and the "Enviroshow" planning is underway. Steele County is also looking into new scale house software.
- **Dodge:** Dodge filled an open position at their transfer station. Sales at the Reuse Center have been going well. Their next Fix-It Clinic will be held this upcoming Sunday. Crews are burning alongside the road to get to the Reuse Center. The road should be done by November 15th. Rita recently visited Triton High School to promote recycling and reuse. A MN Greencorps staff member should be starting October 13th.
- **Freeborn:** No update; he was disconnected from the meeting early, due to technical difficulties.

Next Meeting: Friday, October 24, 2025, in Waseca

Motion to Adjourn: Marcus motioned to adjourn and Tammie 2nd at 12:01 pm.