



Agenda

Southeast Minnesota Recyclers' Exchange Technical Committee Meeting

Date: **Friday, September 26, 2025**

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

Location: **Red Wing Solid Waste Campus – 1873 Bench St. Red Wing, MN**

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. SEMREX Historic Price Comparisons, Marketing Contacts, Waste Wizard Price Comparisons	Anthony Wittmer
10:25	4. Survey Results SEMREX Logo Voting 2026 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 – October	
12:00	8. Adjourn	

Notes:

If you cannot attend, please contact Anthony.

SEMREX Tech Committee Meeting

August 22, 2025

Freeborn County Environmental Services

Present: Katie Barden, Paul Pieper, Mark Goskeson, Marcus Thompson, Jeff Schneider, Rita Cole, Tammie Bramer, Taylor Piotter, Scott Martin, Anthony Wittmer, Cathy Hall

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Rita Cole called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve by Paul, 2nd by Tammie. Motion passed.

Cathy's Presentation: All members

- SEMREX tonnages have been dropping for many years.

Semrex Member	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	TOTAL
CITY OF RED WING	2,645	2,373	1,894	1,395	1,182	1,018	696	720	603	105	12,632
COUNTY OF BLUE EARTH	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	61	122
COUNTY OF FREEBORN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COUNTY OF MOWER	220	224	297	221	300	250	219	211	212	662	3,062
COUNTY OF RICE	2,039	1,990	1,815	1,862	1,711	1,663	1,330	1,158	1,131	933	16,041
COUNTY OF STEELE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COUNTY OF WASECA	1,615	1,534	1,496	1,570	115	310	904	859	580	676	9,846
DODGE COUNTY	207	254	203	234	182	230	276	255	217	213	2,340
FENSKE RECYCLING	873	1,092	665	600	695	590	593	575	750	733	7,472
OLMSTED	1,612	1,592	1,458	1,562	1,527	1,341	1,268	1,259	1,086	1,105	14,263

- Revenue from marketing fees has been dropping accordingly.
- Before September's meeting, SEMREX will send a member survey to gather total tonnages of waste processed in each county.
- The group is still dedicated to marketing materials through SEMREX. There is a balance between finding the best price and ensuring materials will move.
- SEMREX will share marketing contacts and historical price comparisons.
- Comment – "SEMREX should leverage influence for grants and should consider inviting neighboring counties to join."

MPCA and Legislative Updates: Ben

- The Greater MN Grant is open for applications now through October 7th.
- <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/grants-and-loans/greater-mn-waste-reduction-reuse-recycling-and-composting-grants>

Member Updates:

- **Olmsted:** Olmsted County sent a test load of material salvaged from the Recycling Center to Dodge County Renovation Reuse (DCRR). Olmsted will host its 2nd Fix-It Clinic on Saturday, September 6th.
- **Dodge:** The roof is getting finished on their new transfer station building. They had their first swap meet and their next Fix-It Clinic is Saturday, September 28th.

- **Waseca:** Waseca will be applying for the Greater MN Reuse Grant and is currently looking for new scale house software.
- **Rice:** A new road is being constructed as part of the landfill construction project. They have seen an increase in self-haulers.
- **Freeborn:** No update
- **Steele:** Steele County is accepting bids for the expansion of the landfill. They are also planning on a future Enviro show.
- **Red Wing: No update**
- **Mower:** Mower received its first disposal/recycling question regarding an EV battery. Mower recently serviced 96 customers in one day and has been looking into grants for solar panel recycling. Additionally, they will be hiring a consultant for a solid waste feasibility study.
- **Blue Earth:** Blue Earth has been working on numerous grant applications and finishing their solid waste management plan.

Next Meeting: Friday, September 26, 2025

Motion to Adjourn: Rita motioned to adjourn and Tammie 2nd.