

**Manistee-Missaukee-Wexford Multi-County
Materials Management Planning Committee Minutes
February 25, 2026 at 10:00 AM
Wexford County Courthouse**

MMPC Member Attendance			
Chris Gee, GFL <i>rep. of a solid waste disposal facility</i>	E	Nikki Koons, Manistee County <i>elected official of the county</i>	P
Todd Harland, Republic Services <i>rep. of a hauler</i>	E	Larry Paquette, Cedar Creek Township <i>elected official of a township</i>	E
Rita Meech, Ms. Green <i>rep. of a materials recovery facility</i>	E	Joe Gryzbowski, City of Manton <i>elected official of a city or village</i>	E
Jason Murphy, Waste Management <i>rep. of a composting facility</i>	P	Cory Brown, Northern Disposal <i>business rep. generating material</i>	P
Karla Kasten-Smith, BARC <i>rep. of a diversion, reuse, or reduction</i>	P	Mike Szokola, Networks Northwest <i>rep. of the regional planning area</i>	P
Tyler Dula, Manistee Conservation District - Represented by David Wallace, Board Chair <i>rep. of an environmental interest group,</i>	P	Sherry Blaszak, Missaukee County Planning Commission <i>Member of General Public</i>	P
Micheal Bush, Wexford County <i>multi-county appointment</i>	P		
TO BE APPOINTED <i>Multi-County Elected Official (Wexford)</i>	-	<i>Attendance Key:</i> <i>A – Absent</i>	<i>P – Present</i> <i>E - Excused Absence</i>
Staff in Attendance: Lisa Sagala (Manistee County), Bill Gamble (City of Manistee), Christina Miller (EGLE), Aubree Carlisle (EGLE) Tracy Tomaszewski (EGLE), Kaitlyn Kikstra (SEEDs), Mathew Cooke (DPA-Networks Northwest)			

1. Call to Order

Karla Kasten-Smith, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Review Proposed Agenda

Motion by Jason Murphy, supported by Cory Brown, to approve the March 25, 2026 MMPC agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of October 22, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Approval of the February 25, 2026 meeting minutes was postponed to the following meeting.

5. Materials Management Planning

a. Process Update

Mathew Cooke distributed and reviewed the draft language for Existing Conditions, Community Input, and Previous Planning. Comments included:

- Pleasanton Recycling Drop-off (Manistee)
- PCA Trailer no longer available
 - Still one in Kaleva and Bethren
- What the MMP can do towards cardboard recycling
- Consider Food Banks - Feeding America
 - Cadillac Food Bank off Boon Road takes cardboard
- Missaukee Recycling Center
- Reference to MMP facilities in region
- Add: Missaukee Recycling Millage at .25 mills
- Utilizing food pantries to rescue and recover food from businesses
- How to utilize technology in reducing waste
- Polystyrene (styrofoam) recycling in dark containers
- NextCycle grant considerations
- Battery recycling
- Education and Outreach contracting with organizations like Conservation Districts to carry out
- Stainless steel recycling

- Recycling Guidebook for counties
- Manufacturer responsibility for lifespan of products created
- Mattress Recycling

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Committee Comments

None.

8. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2026 in Lake City.

The February 25, 2025 MMPC meeting adjourned at 11:01 am.