

**Manistee-Missaukee-Wexford Multi-County
Materials Management Planning Committee Minutes
August 27, 2025 at 10:00 AM
Wexford County Government Center
415 3rd St, Manistee, MI 49660**

MMPC Member Attendance			
Chris Gee, GFL <i>rep. of a solid waste disposal facility</i>	P	Nikki Koons, Manistee County <i>elected official of the county</i>	P
Todd Harland, Republic Services <i>rep. of a hauler</i>	P	Larry Paquette, Cedar Creek Township <i>elected official of a township</i>	P
Rita Meech, Ms. Green <i>rep. of a materials recovery facility</i>	P	Joe Gryzbowski, City of Manton <i>elected official of a city or village</i>	P
Jason Murphy, Waste Management <i>rep. of a composting facility</i>	P	Cory Brown, Northern Disposal <i>business rep. generating material</i>	E
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 - representing Renee Mallison <i>rep. of an environmental interest group,</i>	P	Sherry Blaszak, Missaukee County Planning Commission <i>Member of General Public</i>	P
Jason Baughan, Wexford County <i>multi-county appointment</i>	E		
TO BE APPOINTED <i>Multi-County Elected Official (Wexford)</i>	-	Attendance Key: A – Absent	P – Present E - Excused Absence
Staff in Attendance: Lisa Sagala (Manistee County), Joe Porterfield (Wexford County), Jessica Nielsen (Missaukee County), Gary Taylor (Wexford County), Tracy Tomaszewski (EGLE), Mathew Cooke (DPA-Networks Northwest)			

1. Call to Order

Larry Paquette, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Review Proposed Agenda

Motion by Karla Kasten-Smith, supported by Joe Gryzbowski, to approve the August 27, 2025 MMPC agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of April 23, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Karla Kasten-Smith, supported by Mike Szokola, to approve the July 23, 2025 MMPC Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Materials Management Planning

a. Fiscal Year 2026 Work Program

Mathew Cooke explained that the draft 2026 Fiscal Year Work Program was developed using the FY 2025 framework. He highlighted changes to the task notes, meeting dates, and adding FY26 Quarter 1 to the Data Collection and Analysis task. There was consensus to move the November 2025 and December 2025 back a week for holidays.

Motion by Todd Harland, supported by Kirk Miller, to approve the Manistee-Missaukee-Wexford Multi-County Materials Management Plan Work Program for Fiscal Year 2026 as presented, and send to the respective County Approval Agencies for consideration of approval. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Process Update

Mathew Cooke noted that there are 75 responses from Manistee, 25 from Missaukee, and 23 from Wexford from 313 total responses from residents. DPA staff will continue to look for community events over the next couple of months, send out renewed press releases, and other ways to promote the survey. A local unit of government MMP newsletter was sent out to municipalities. He mentioned that they would like to close the surveys at the end of the year. A survey analysis will be done after October and updated after December. They will look to jump into local unit winter tax bills to increase the awareness of the resident survey opportunity.

c. Landfilling Data Review

Committee members reviewed and discussed the landfilling data for Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford compiled by RRS from the Annual Landfill reports and their modeling.

d. MMP Facilities Map

Mathew Cooke presented the MMP Facilities Map in Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford Counties for their review. It composed of recycling and solid waste facilities and local drop-off sites.

e. Facilitated MMP Discussion

Mathew Cooke led the committee members through a brief facilitation looking at the vision of the County's MMP in the next 10 years and challenges and opportunities that can be considered. The following is a brief description of those discussions

Visioning	Challenges and Opportunities
• How do waste streams from other counties that come into landfills change with increased recycling • Recyclable materials diverted from municipal solid waste streams. • Increased composting opportunities beyond yard waste • Business food waste and agricultural opportunities • Data recording • Manistee County to expand what can be recycled	• Carbon Sequester/Capture coming to counties • Cost and ease of access • Centralized drop-offs in Missaukee County • Drop-off site security • PA69 continued education in Manistee County • What do we do when landfills reach capacity? • Availability and education of recycled food waste or byproducts of businesses • Explore funding mechanisms that may be pursued • Negative news coverage of recycling

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Committee Comments

None.

8. Adjourn

The August 27, 2025 MMPC meeting adjourned at 11:34 am.