

Antrim County
Materials Management Planning Committee Minutes
July 24, 2025 at 2:00 PM
Antrim County Government Center
203 E. Cayuga St., Bellaire, MI 49615

MMPC Member Attendance			
Andre Grobaski, GFL <i>rep. of a solid waste disposal facility</i>	<i>E</i>	Bill Hefferan, Antrim County <i>elected official of the county</i>	<i>P</i>
Melissa Zelenak, Sunshine Recycling <i>rep. of a hauler</i>	<i>P</i>	Mark Byard, Central Lake Township <i>elected official of a township</i>	<i>P</i>
Mark Bevelhymer, GFL <i>rep. of a materials recovery facility (MRF)</i>	<i>E</i>	Michelle Fox, Village of Central Lake <i>elected official of a city or village</i>	<i>P</i>
Vacancy <i>rep. of a composting facility</i>	-	Vacancy business rep. generating material	-
Vacancy <i>rep. of waste diversion, reuse, or reduction</i>	-	Isha Pithwa, Networks Northwest <i>rep. of the regional planning area</i>	<i>E</i>
Lindsey Mason, ECT <i>rep. of an environmental interest group</i>	<i>P</i>	<div>Attendance Key:</div> <div><i>A – Absent</i></div> <div><i>P – Present</i></div> <div><i>E - Excused Absence</i></div>	
Others in Attendance: Joe Renis (Milton Township), Mathew Cooke (DPA Representative), Tracy Tomaszewski (EGLE)			

I. Welcome and Introductions

Melissa Zelenak, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Members introduced themselves to members of the public and EGLE staff.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Review Proposed Agenda

Motion by Mark Byard, supported by Michelle Fox, to approve the July 24, 2025 MMPC agenda.

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Approval of April 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Michelle Fox, supported by Lindsay Mason, to approve the April 24, 2025 MMPC meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

V. MMP Discussion

Mathew Cooke informed the MMPC that the Resident MMPC Survey (22 responses from Antrim), Local Units of Government MMP Survey (30 responses from 102 LUG's), and MMP Business Survey (11 responses). We will continue to push the survey via social media (tagging local organizations), community events, and press releases. If you would like to get some survey business cards or flyers, please let Mathew Cooke know. Michelle Fox asked about the number of responses for statistical accuracy on the survey. Mathew Cooke noted that it is difficult to achieve 3-5% of 25,000 people on surveys so we focus on promotion of the opportunity to respond.

Mathew Cooke will be meeting with RRS on data collection and Isha Pithwa in regards to GIS mapping of infrastructure and InDesign document of the Materials Management Plan. He also noted that Isha Pithwa was appointed to replace Janie McNabb as the RPA representative which offers cross-over of internal staff. Mathew Cooke noted that he is working on hauler/operator survey scripts to hold conversations with the businesses. In addition, the community engagement events will continue to take place over the next months. The FY 26 Work Program draft will be presented to the members at the August meeting.

Mathew Cooke presented the draft Antrim County Community Profile and previous planning documents. Joe Renis mentioned that the population swells during summer months and impacts on community infrastructure, and will be referenced in the plan through the Northwest Michigan Seasonal Population Study. The previous planning documents included the Antrim County Materials Management County Engagement Grant, Antrim County Materials Management Profile, SEEDs Organic Waste Diversion in Antrim County, and the existing Solid Waste Plan goals and

objectives. It was discussed that Mathew Cooke will work with staff on review of the previous goals and objectives.

Melissa Zelenak noted that the recycling bins are being picked up more frequently throughout Antrim County because they are consistently full. Discussion led to an emphasis on the importance of education and outreach and the need for transparent contracts for communities. The prospect of the Central Lake area being a hub for future possibilities with recycling and organics was discussed.

Mathew Cooke and Melissa Zelenak will work on a facilitated discussion at the August meeting.

The remaining discussion that took place included:

- Flow Control - Emmet County example discussed
- Finding a comprehensive drop-off site in the County
- The effects of contamination
- Need for continued education and outreach
- Sound contracts
 - Must report contamination, totals, etc.
- Separate glass collection from plastics/carboards
- Connecting end-users for materials
- Organics waste drop-off
- Curbside recycling in Villages
- Food waste to farms
 - From schools, residents, etc.
- Organic-Composting outlets

VI. Committee Member Comments

None.

VII. Public Comment

None.

VIII. Adjourn

Melissa Zelenak, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

DRAFT