**Michigan Recycling Coalition**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Monday, February 13, 2023**

| ***Mission:***  *The Michigan Recycling Coalition fosters sustainability by leading, educating, and mobilizing business, government, non-profit, and individuals to advance their own and collective resource use and recovery initiatives in Michigan.* |
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***Attendance:*** *Dave Smith, Nick Carlson, Jeff Krcmarik, Libby Rice, Amy Freeman, Bill Whitley, Kath Melby, Lindsey Walker, Natalie Jakub, Rebecca Andrews, Tim Botzau, Tracy Purrenhage, Brad Austin, Rick Lombardo, Justin Jungman, Kerrin O’Brien, Kelly Schalter*

***Absent:*** *Steve Kent*

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10:30 am

1. Call Board Meeting to Order – N Carlson
	1. Called to order at 10:33
2. Public Comment
	1. USCC Debrief & agreement
	2. Presentation from A Freeman, L Walker, K Schalter
3. Consent Agenda - PLEASE REVIEW ALL MATERIALS PRIOR TO MEETING - ACTION
	1. Additions to Agenda, Approval
		1. Additions (red in original agenda) - all new stuff.
		2. Motion to approve - Dave Smith
			1. Seconded by Jeff
				1. No opposition, amended agenda passed
	2. Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting
		1. This didn’t happen, they did agenda again? Dave & Jeff moved & seconded?
	3. Monthly Financial Report for January
		1. $150,000 invested in a 3 month CD. Chose 3 month CD because it’s yielding high right now. Will keep going with that until market declines, then lock it in for a higher rate.
	4. Committee Reports
	5. Membership Update
4. Staff Updates
	1. EPA Grant
		1. Due Wednesday, should hear by August, if we get grant, it won’t start until fall
	2. Policy Priorities
		1. Product stewardship, Stove for 5%-Topsoil
	3. USCC Debrief & agreement - K O’Brien
		1. There is no challenge with the agreement. USCC wants to have some impact on what the MOC does, but they recognize that these small organizations need to be fiscally sponsored, so they’ve developed a path for composting councils that are their own entities to have direct relationships, and also fiscally sponsored affiliates. We fiscally sponsor the MOC. The Agreement is with the MOC, but USCC has to make sure that we have an explicit agreement with the MOC. We’ve come to an agreement, and we are going to collectively recommend to the MOC that we sign this agreement, which compels us to have composters, not staff, lead the organization. Staff role will be supporting those composters.
		2. Meeting on this at the end of February.
		3. N Carlson - risks to MRC?
			1. K O’Brien - USCC benefit is the Compost Operator Training Course. No real risk to the MRC, and it’s in both organizations’ best interest to maintain the relationship.
	4. Marketing work update
		1. Communications plan - now that we have Lauren, we can invest more in social media outreach, since it’s an effective tool for providing information regularly. We have identified some specific goals, trying to get a handle on our audience, post more regularly with specific messages.
		2. Surveys - before and during conference.
	5. Membership Highlights & Prospects
		1. Raise member rates?
		2. T Botzau - budgets, need grace period
		3. D Smith - maybe small yearly increases like $5-10 per year? Rather than a huge increase?
		4. Focusing on haulers for new members. If you run into people interested in Part 115 or want to know their role, suggest that they join the MRC. There will be a Part 115 track at the Conference.
5. Strategic Priorities
	1. N Carlson, K O’Brien - conversations and progress happening, but no update currently. With passage of Part 115 and conference coming up, it’s been all around those things.
6. Committee Reports
	1. Executive Committee – N Carlson
		1. [Nominating Committee](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hvbcFjR1r1HSznbU89tsz-gC9660F0tE/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=114871112605256460670&rtpof=true&sd=true) - Need to fill 3 open seats G-25, B-26, A-26
			1. 1 open seat – G-22-25 (board to appoint?)
			2. 2 open seats for elections – 2 B, 2G, 1A
			3. Bill Whitley running B, Tracy Purrenhage running G, Tim Botzau running G
	2. Policy Committee – N Jakub
		1. Elected different voting members, new participation. Welcomed Emmet County and Recycle Ann Arbor. Took some time to reflect on what’s happening and Part 115. Discussion around energy to put toward different priorities.
		2. Product stewardship - batteries, paint, organics
		3. Bottle bill expansion - universal redemption
		4. Landfill tipping fee sunsetting, how to be proactive about that.
		5. Right to repair, recycled content mandates.
		6. Some policy priorities will be informed by what happens - updating as policies iron themselves out
		7. N Carlson - priority order of the focus items?
			1. N Jakub - not yet. Just collecting interest right now. Have list, next step might be what to do with that information, what objectives to set.
			2. N Carlson - batteries causing major problems for Goodwill - compactor fires.
			3. J Jungman - Mark Steadman still with Battery Solutions (Cirba) - N Jakub - Good, and will try Danielle as well.
	3. Conference Committee – K O’Brien
		1. Generated about $86,000 in sponsorship so far. Still more to go. Goal is $150,000. $20,000 more than budget goal 💪
		2. Could use help, focused on grant, need to wrap up sponsors.
		3. Goal to complete and deliver program first and second week of March. Once that’s done, freed up for other policy priorities, surveys, etc.
		4. Good response for call for speakers – 33 proposals. In addition to 5 Part 115 sessions, the sessions will be very good this year. High quality sessions coming in and a good foundation with Part 115.
		5. Struggling to identify a site for next year’s conference. Hoping to zero in on something. Would like some feedback about whether we should think about moving to a conference center type arrangement where a hotel is separated to allow for more capacity? It’ll cost a lot more. Or do we keep conference the size that it has been and really focus on the hotels connected to the conference center?
	4. Committee Forum
		1. K Melby - education committee - it’s a huge time to educate about Part 115. And communities are required to do education. So it’s big to support staff around that. With the grant, an extensive conversation around that.
		2. K O’Brien - In close contact with Christina Miller who is engaged in writing up all of EGLE’s communications around Part 115 to help people understand what’s going to be required of them. Letting EGLE lead on communication around Part 115. Speaking a lot in March an April (even at EGLE event) about Part 115, but letting EGLE determine timeline, not getting ahead of them. Our strategy is going to be around conveying information and what it means to people. EGLE will be focused on regulated community, so planning to focus on all others who will be involved in planning activities to be sure they reach their goals.
		3. J Krcmarik - all-division meeting coming up in March, will be in touch after that to be sure everyone is on the same page.
		4. B Austin - difficult to get decision-makers to conference, so helping folks communicate with those decision-makers would be great.
7. Board of Directors Updates
	1. None
8. Wrap-up and Call to Action
	1. Board nomination ideas - reach out to Libby or Kerrin
	2. Ideas for future conference locations
	3. Reminder that March meeting is in-person.
9. Close Meeting
	1. Motion to adjourn - D Smith
		1. Seconded - L Rice
			1. Unanimous

1:00 pm