

RAM Board Agenda
August 21, 2014 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Rock Tenn Facility
 (Recycling Association of MN - Offices)
 2250 Wabash Ave - Saint Paul - Board Room

Conference Call Details: 1-605-562-3000, Pass code: 591335#

Agenda item	<i>Discussion lead</i>	Action Requested	Time allotted
Call to Order/Roll Call	<i>Zbinden</i>		11:30-11:35
Meeting Agenda & July 17 Minutes	<i>Zbinden</i>	Approval	11:35-11:40
Treasurer's Report & Dashboard & Accounting/Staffing Update	<i>Wollschlager/ Mattacola</i>	Approval	11:40-11:50
Proposal for endowment fund	<i>Wollschlager/ Mattacola</i>	Approval	11:50-12:00
Break for Dishing up Lunch			12:00-12:10
Conference Update	<i>Mattacola/Sailer</i>	Discussion	12:10-12:20
Greencorp & Free Conf. Passes	<i>Mattacola</i>	Approval	12:20-12:30
Maggie's Program Updates	<i>Mattacola</i>	Discussion	12:30-12:45
Website/Signs Update	<i>Sailer/Mattacola</i>	Discussion	12:45-12:50
Brita's Program Updates	<i>Sailer</i>	Discussion	12:50-1:10
RAM Board Elections/RAM Awards	<i>Mattacola</i>	Discussion	1:10-1:15
Other Business	<i>Zbinden</i>	Discussion	1:15-1:30
Adjourn	<i>Zbinden</i>	Approval	1:30

Next board meeting **September 18, 2014**

Recycling Association of Minnesota

Minutes of the Board of Director's Meeting – July 17th, 2014

Meeting Location: Board Room at the RockTenn Facility, St. Paul, MN

Board Members Present: Doug Lien, Bill Keegan, Spencer Best, Mark Rust, Michael Reed, Spencer Best, Marcus Zbinden, Nathan Reinbold; by *phone*: Jim Wollschlager, Tim Goodman, Michael Whitt, Sandy Gunderson, Julie Mooney, Mary Chamberlain.

Board Members Excused: Lori Blais, Amy Ulbricht, Greg Nelson, John Crudo, Anne Ludvik, Mike Larson.

Staff Present: Maggie Mattacola, Brita Sailer, Graham McCall

Others Present: Wayne Gjerde - MPCA

Call to order

Marcus Zbinden called the meeting to order at 11:34 a.m.

Agenda and Minutes

Review of the July agenda and April and June minutes. Quorum was established at the July meeting so approval of the previous minutes and agenda was completed by Bill Keegan making a motion and seconded by Doug Lien.

Treasurer's Report/Dashboard

Treasurer update. Wollschlager did a quick walk-through of the revenue spreadsheet. He noted that the Carton Council grant is shown in the receivables until the funds actually are in hand by RAM. Maggie mentioned that two new memberships were sold in June – totaling 296 RAM members. Graham is in the process of updating invoices and other items. He is following up with reporting from the vocational centers as some of them have not reported data in over a year. Per the agreement between RAM and the vocational centers, regular reporting of materials accepted and recycled is required. Due to quorum being established at the July meeting, several items could be approved. For the June Dashboard, a motion was made by Mark Rust to approve that month's dashboard and seconded by Doug Lien. Motion was also made to approve the July dashboard by Mark Rust, seconded by Doug Lien.

John Maattala Bin Grant

Sailer discussed the grantees that were awarded bin grants. The Bin Grant Committee was pleased to award a grant to all who applied for bins except one grant applicant that later found out size constraints/needs didn't match bins available from the grant.

RAM Large Purchase Contracts

Some discussion ensued about the bin distribution issues that RAM had with the transport company. The bin vendor agreed to offset some of RAM's losses from logistics with transporting bins in the amount of \$1,581.00. The amount did not cover all of RAM's losses. In the future, it was determined to utilize RFP and formal contract with specified deadlines for transporting items like rain barrels and other large ticket items that RAM purchases in the future. The Policy Committee will come up with a recommendation with a RFP/contract template for RAM to use for large purchases over a certain dollar amount.

Market Development

Wayne Gjerde, from the MPCA was the guest speaker to the board at the July Board Meeting. He discussed various market development items of concern and upcoming events that the agency is working on. Wayne discussed the recycling and solid waste portion of the Eco Experience exhibit at the State Fair. The theme will be 'paper' and the world's largest spitball will be created. Some development is occurring with #3-#7 plastics and plastic 'residuals' processing through a mini MRF at Rational Energies. In regards to boat/ag plastics; Master Mark is interested in ag plastics to use in their recycled plastic products as is Delta [Plastics]. Wayne went on to say that the recycling commodity market for cartons has been weak. Wayne continues to work with paper mills throughout the state to see if they are interested in cartons for processing. He met with New Page – Duluth and discussed with plant officials what it would take to retrofit the plant to accept cartons. They approximate investment would require 8-9 million to slightly modify the plant pulping process. Blandin and Sappi plants continue to make recycled paper off and on, but need good market commodity prices.

Wayne concluded by stating that the MPCA is possibly looking at hiring one FTE for market development. It was discussed amongst the Board that a letter of support be developed by the Policy Committee to be sent to the MPCA for support of hiring a person at the MPCA for market development.

-----Break for Dishing Up Lunch -----

Conference Update

Brita and Maggie briefly discussed conference details including confirmed sponsorships, 34 registrants thus far, and 2 vendors thus far. Maggie mentioned the need for conference volunteers and will be sending a sign-up sheet to RAM and SWANA board members.

ReSeat Program Changes

Brita discussed that the ReSeat program has been temporarily suspended due to a glut of car seats to have recycled at ATHC and a difficulty recycling the plastics. Brita will be meeting with the MN Product Stewardship Group to discuss including child car seats as a product stewardship issue.

Maggie's Program Updates

Refer to Maggie's update emailed and handed out at the Board Meeting for more clarification.

Website/Signs/SWMCB Update

The contract is in place with the Nerderly for web development. Brita also commented that the interactive recycling sign element that will be paid for with assistance from the SWMCB is estimated at \$25,000. Work is under way to reduce that estimated amount with the Nerderly and continue to move forward with the project.

Brita's Program Updates

Refer to Brita's update emailed and handed out at the Board Meeting for more clarification.

RAM Board Elections/RAM Awards

The RAM Board usually consists of 20 members. 11 Board members were elected in 2013 and 9 Board members were elected in 2012. Tim Pratt resigned his Board position (he was elected in 2012) shortly after changing jobs. It was also noted that John Crudo and Anne Ludvik won't be running again for RAM Board elections. This leaves 3 completely open Board seats for the 2014 RAM Board Elections and 6 positions running potentially opposed.

Other Business

Marcus mentioned that the Compost Rule Making decision was being reviewed and response by MPCA is pending.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Mark Rust and seconded by Michael Reed to adjourn the meeting. Adjourned at 1:34 p.m.