

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 8, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority was held on October 8, 2024 at 7:02 p.m. in the First Floor Conference Room at the MCMUA Offices located at 370 Richard Mine Road, Wharton, New Jersey in person as well as remotely using conference call software.

Chairman Dour called the meeting to order and read the following:

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of the location, date and time of this meeting was made by posting on the MCMUA website, the Morris County Clerk's bulletin board and the officially designated newspapers for the MCMUA. The meeting may be attended in person or through remote communication in conformance with the directives of the State of New Jersey. Additional notice regarding remote public access is provided at the MCMUA entrance, on its website and in the Daily Record.

Mr. Dour requested a roll call.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Frank Druetzler, Ms. Maria Farris, Dr. Dorothea Kominos, Dr. Arthur Nusbaum, Mr. Larry Ragonese, Ms. Szwak and Mr. Christopher Dour

**ABSENT:** Mr. James Barry

Also present were Larry Gindoff, Executive Director; Michael McAloon, Suburban Consulting Engineers; Larry Kaletcher, Treasurer; Marilyn Regner, Secretary; Alexandra Knoth, Esq., Maraziti Falcon LLP; James Deacon, Solid Waste Coordinator; Anthony Marrone, District Recycling Coordinator Michael Kobylarz, P.E., Alaimo Group and Tayfun Selen; Commissioner-liaison.

Chairman Dour asked for the Board's approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 10, 2024.

**MOTION:** Mr. Druetzler made a Motion to approve the Minutes of September 10, 2024 and Ms. Farris seconded the Motion.

**ROLL CALL:** AYES: 7      NAYES: NONE      ABSTENTIONS: Dr. Kominos

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Kaletcher presented the Treasurer's Report for the Solid Waste Division for the month of September 2024. He then presented the Treasurer's Report for the Water Division for September 2024. Also included are the Comparative Balance Reports for both the Solid Waste and Water Divisions year-to-date through September 30, 2024. The September Investment Report is showing two CD's maturing at the end of August and/or beginning of September at First Bank. Both CD's are being renewed for 24 months at the rate of four percent.

Chairman Dour asked the Board for a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

**MOTION:** Mr. Druetzler made a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Mr. Ragonese seconded the Motion.

**ROLL CALL:** AYES: 7      NAYES: NONE      ABSTENTIONS: NONE

Mr. Kaletcher mentioned that tonight we are introducing the 2025 budgets for Solid Waste and Water. In summary, the 2025 Solid Waste budget proposes increase in the tipping fees from \$111.25/ton to \$115.00/ton, which will assist in funding Project Independence and involve hiring

new employees, purchasing new equipment so we are poised to handle transfer station operations. Additionally, we will be purchasing two Curbside trucks and three compactor units. For our Water Division, we will be raising our rate 5.5% in 2025, which will in essence assist us in funding PFAS treatment for our water system, a Pleasant Hill water main and projects down the road.

Mr. Druetzler mentioned that we put a lot of money in for PFAS, but we have to be very cautious because the technology is in the very beginning stages, and we want to make sure we are on the right path before we commit a lot of money.

Ms. Szwak is trying to confirm about the \$7 million dollars for new equipment and is this different because we don't operate the transfer stations now and Mr. Gindoff confirmed. Mr. Kaletcher added that when the deadline comes, we can hit the ground running for when we begin to operate the transfer stations in 2025. Ms. Szwak also asked how did the salaries increase? Mr. Kaletcher replied this is for the new employees that aren't coming on until the last quarter of 2025. Overall, salaries are budgeted to get 5% increases. Regarding Solid Waste, Ms. Szwak asked what is the fund balance usage and Mr. Kaletcher replied that utilizing the fund balance means we are taking money out of our own reserve to fund different projects. Ms. Szwak asked about the \$75,000 in maintenance; is that for the main office building. Mr. Kaletcher replied costs for upgrades to the main office building and cleaning services. Ms. Szwak asked about the operation and maintenance in the transfer station is for Project Independence and Mr. Kaletcher clarified that covers our current contractual costs and day-to-day operations because our contract does not end until December 15, 2025. Under the Water budget, Ms. Szwak asked about the \$25,000 under wages and Mr. Kaletcher replied that last month we amended the budget and took money out of water admin to fund legal fees and now we are bringing it back for our budgetary needs in 2025. Ms. Szwak mentioned about well exploration; is that \$50,000 plus \$25,000 in the budget for it and Mr. Kaletcher replied yes.

Mr. Druetzler mentioned that we used surplus in both water and solid waste. One of the reasons was to keep the rate increase down. He added that expenses have gone up, inflation has gone up and we tried to bring it down the best we could.

Chairman Dour questioned that the County sets the raises and Mr. Kaletcher explained that we have Commissioner list employees that comes from the County, Council 6 and Council 6A, which are unions, and typically five percent is enough to cover both situations.

Mr. Kaletcher asked for the Board's approval of the following Solid Waste Budget Resolution:

**RESOLUTION 2024-074**  
**2025 Authority Budget Resolution**  
**Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority**  
**SOLID WASTE BUDGET INTRODUCTION**

**FISCAL YEAR: FROM January 1, 2025 TO December 31, 2025**

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget and Capital Budget for the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority for the fiscal year beginning, January 1, 2025 and ending, December 31, 2025 has been presented before the governing body of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at its open public meeting of October 8, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget as introduced reflects Total Revenues of \$60,227,644.00, Total Appropriations, including any Accumulated Deficit if any, of \$62,698,875.00 and Total Unrestricted Net Assets utilized of \$2,471,231.00; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget as introduced reflects Total Capital Appropriations of \$3,708,750.00 and Total Unrestricted Net Assets planned to be utilized as funding thereof, of \$0.00; and

WHEREAS, the schedule of rates, fees and other charges in effect will produce sufficient revenues, together with all other anticipated revenues to satisfy all obligations to the holders of bonds of the Authority, to meet operating expenses, capital outlays, debt service requirements,

and to provide for such reserves, all as may be required by law, regulation or terms of contracts and agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget/Program, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:31-2, does not confer any authorization to raise or expend funds; rather it is a document to be used as part of the said Authority's planning and management objectives. Specific authorization to expend funds for the purposes described in this section of the budget, must be granted elsewhere; by bond resolution, by a project financing agreement, by resolution appropriating funds from the Renewal and Replacement Reserve or other means provided by law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority, at an open public meeting held on October 8, 2024 that the Annual Budget, including appended Supplemental Schedules, and the Capital Budget/Program of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority for the fiscal year beginning, January 1, 2025 and ending, December 31, 2025 is hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the anticipated revenues as reflected in the Annual Budget are of sufficient amount to meet all proposed expenditures/expenses and all covenants, terms and provisions as stipulated in the said Authority's outstanding debt obligations, capital lease arrangements, service contracts, and other pledged agreements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority will consider the Annual Budget and Capital Budget/Program for adoption on November 12, 2024.

_____		_____		
Marilyn Regner, Secretary		(Date)		
Governing Body	Recorded Vote:	1 <sup>st</sup> : MR. DRUETZLER	2 <sup>nd</sup> : MS. FARRIS	
Member:	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
MR. BARRY				X
MR. DRUETZLER	X			
MS. FARRIS	X			
DR. KOMINOS	X			
DR. NUSBAUM	X			
MR. RAGONESE	X			
MS. SZWAK	X			
MR. DOUR	X			

Mr. Kaletcher asked for the Board's approval of the following Water Budget Resolution:

**RESOLUTION 2024-075**  
**2025 Authority Budget Resolution**  
**Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority**  
**WATER BUDGET INTRODUCTION**

**FISCAL YEAR: FROM January 1, 2025 TO December 31, 2025**

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget and Capital Budget for the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority for the fiscal year beginning, January 1, 2025 and ending, December 31, 2025 has been presented before the governing body of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at its open public meeting of October 8, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget as introduced reflects Total Revenues of \$5,751,000.00, Total Appropriations, including any Accumulated Deficit if any, of \$7,133,668.00 and Total Unrestricted Net Assets utilized of \$1,382,668.00; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget as introduced reflects Total Capital Appropriations of \$3,700,000.00 and Total Unrestricted Net Assets planned to be utilized as funding thereof, of \$0.00; and

WHEREAS, the schedule of rates, fees and other charges in effect will produce sufficient revenues, together with all other anticipated revenues to satisfy all obligations to the holders of bonds of the Authority, to meet operating expenses, capital outlays, debt service requirements, and to provide for such reserves, all as may be required by law, regulation or terms of contracts and agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget/Program, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:31-2, does not confer any authorization to raise or expend funds; rather it is a document to be used as part of the said Authority's planning and management objectives. Specific authorization to expend funds for the purposes described in this section of the budget, must be granted elsewhere; by bond resolution, by a project financing agreement, by resolution appropriating funds from the Renewal and Replacement Reserve or other means provided by law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority, at an open public meeting held on October 8, 2024 that the Annual Budget, including appended Supplemental Schedules, and the Capital Budget/Program of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority for the fiscal year beginning, January 1, 2025 and ending, December 31, 2025 is hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the anticipated revenues as reflected in the Annual Budget are of sufficient amount to meet all proposed expenditures/expenses and all covenants, terms and provisions as stipulated in the said Authority's outstanding debt obligations, capital lease arrangements, service contracts, and other pledged agreements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority will consider the Annual Budget and Capital Budget/Program for adoption on November 12, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marilyn Regner, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Mr. Kaletcher asked if there is any discussion.

Mr. Ragonese mentioned that he will vote for this increase and had the opportunity to sit in the budget meeting and go through all the factors that are key to what we need to do for water, but is not comfortable with the increase we are implementing and we did cut it to some degree and looking at future year increases, it just seems to be a lot of money for the taxpayers of this County to be paying. We are going to have to pay close attention and he agrees with Frank Druetzler regarding PFAS work that needs to be done and we are not sure what it will entail and it might be more than we budgeted. He added that next year if he knows more about what we are doing, he will pay closer attention, he would expect that we would try to make this increase lower than this year. People in the County like everywhere else in the Country are dealing with a lot of higher expenses these days and it is beholding to us to keep our increases down as much as we can, just as every other County Agency should and does.

Governing Body Member:	Recorded Vote: 1 <sup>st</sup> : MS. SZWAK    2 <sup>nd</sup> : MR. DRUETZLER			
	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
MR. BARRY				X
MR. DRUETZLER	X			
MS. FARRIS	X			
DR. KOMINOS	X			
DR. NUSBAUM	X			
MR. RAGONESE	X			
MS. SZWAK	X			
MR. DOUR	X			

Mr. Gindoff mentioned that he appreciated all the four Board members who participated in the budget discussion and appreciate what Larry said that we do need to minimize our price increases, as we serve the people of the County first and foremost before we serve ourselves. We work well together to look at what investments we need to make for the future to keep our systems running so we can serve the people we need to serve and not fail them. Mr. Gindoff mentioned that we worked well towards this budget and will strive to minimize wherever we can.

Mr. Kaletcher asked for the Board's approval of Bill Resolution No. 2024-076. Chairman Dour asked the Board for a Motion to approve the vouchers.

**BILL RESOLUTION NO. 2024-076**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the bills as shown on the SCHEDULE OF WARRANTS all having been approved by the Board of officials where legally required, be and the same are hereby paid. The SCHEDULE OF WARRANTS designated as Bill Resolution No. 2024-076 containing 7 pages for a total of **\$4,297,387.15** dated and made a part hereof by reference.

**SUMMARY**

**CHECK NUMBERS**

WATER OPERATING FUNDS	6735-6769	\$	300,116.62
SOLID WASTE OPERATING	15349-15417	\$	<u>3,997,270.53</u>
		\$	<b>4,297,387.15</b>

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that all vouchers listed above have been reviewed and found to be in proper form for payment, and I have compared the SCHEDULE OR WARRANTS to the vouchers for payment and have determined it to be correct.

DATE: October 8, 2024

BOARD CHAIRMAN APPROVAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Dour, Chairman

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Marilyn Regner, Secretary

**TREASURER'S CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that there are sufficient funds in the appropriations charged, or accounts listed to cover the expenditures included in the SCHEDULE OF WARRANTS dated: October 8, 2024.

DATE: October 8, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry Kaletcher, Treasurer

**MOTION:** Mr. Ragonese made a Motion that the vouchers be approved for payment and Mr. Druetzler seconded the Motion.

**ROLL CALL:** AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mr. Gindoff mentioned there is one additional correspondence received this morning regarding our PFAS settlement advising that they have all our information in and they are not waiting for anything else for us to furnish them and we are waiting for the settlement pie to be divvied up between amongst the two biggest defendants in this case. In addition, they expect the next two biggest ones to start coming on board and we will be going through the same process with these attorneys again submitting the same information to get reimbursement from those two firms once they come on board.

Regarding the update letter on PFAS, Chairman Dour asked Mr. McAloon about the mention of 1, 4 dioxane. Mr. McAloon replied that the EPA and the State's task is to look for the next contaminant in our drinking water that has health impacts and impacts the Public. About six or seven years ago, a new compound they began screening for was called 1, 4 dioxane. It is very similar to PFAS where it is a forever chemical. It is very common in makeup, but, your skin doesn't absorb it as is not as readily available as it is in your drinking water and processed internally through your organs. This is just another compound that we have to deal with and the treatment for that is something to similar to the PFAS. It's another step that we potentially have to add for treatment. He added that the State and EPA are constantly looking and finding things in our drinking water that are harmful and they are coming out with new standards and regulations that we need to remove and it is going to further compound the complexity of the treatment. He mentioned that we are very fortunate that our water quality in the Alamatong and Flanders Valley Wellfields have been great over the years. The only treatment we have now is disinfection.

Chairman Dour mentioned that as discussed in the budget meeting, we need to make sure that we have enough space physically in the buildings to accommodate any future expansion due to required chemical processing and cleaning up such as this. Mr. McAloon added that this is something that we have to look at for sure.

With regard to the Ajaco correspondence, Mr. Gindoff mentioned that we will be considering a resolution regarding that matter.

### **CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:**

#### **SOLID WASTE**

1. Letter dated September 19, 2024 to Ajaco Towing from Larry Gindoff, Executive Director, regarding termination of lease of Block 770, Lots 17, 18, and 19, Parsippany-Troy Hills, NJ and take necessary steps to vacate and surrender premises to MCMUA as of midnight on September 30, 2025.
2. Letter dated September 26, 2024 to James Deacon, Solid Waste Coordinator, from Jill Aspinwall, Section Chief, NJDEP Bureau of Solid Waste Planning and Licensing, approving Administrative Action for a composting operation at Northeast Products, LLC Class B Recycling Facility, as well as a modification of the Block and Lot designations of the facility.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Mr. McAloon gave the following updates: (1) With regard to water sales, through the month of September we are right where we need to be. Looking at the trends from the past few years, if our October, November and December are normal, we should be right around our budget volume of 1.45 MG. Things are progressing nicely from that standpoint.; (2) SCE has assisting in the preparation of annual and capital project budgets with our meetings last week. Thank you all for passing the Resolution on those budgets. As we all indicated, it is very interesting on the water side and the very big projects that we are undertaking. We are at the forefront and leaders in the water industry for implementing this treatment, not waiting for fines and penalties to come downstream.

Mr. McAloon mentioned that the following Resolution regarding the application for water service for 104 Jenks Road in the Township of Harding. Since this proposed service connection is outside the district of the SMCMUA, consent by the MCMUA is required and Mr. McAloon asked for the Board's approval of same:

#### **Resolution No. 2024-077**

#### **Resolution Consenting To Request Of David Harnois For Service Outside The District Of The Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority**

**WHEREAS**, The Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority ("Authority") has received a request from David Harnois for water service in the Township of Harding which is Outside the District of the Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed extension requires the approval of the Authority's four creating municipalities, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority ("MCMUA") and the Township of Harding; and

**WHEREAS**, the property in question fronts on or has reasonable access to the Authority's system and no "new extension" (as defined in the Service Contract between the Authority and its creating municipalities dated January 20, 1977) is required; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority has determined and advised that the proposed service connection can be made without any adverse effect on the system and that no further extension of the system is foreseen as a result of providing service to this property; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority has requested that the creating municipalities and MCMUA give their consent to the proposed new extension.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that consent is hereby given by the MCMUA to The Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority to provide water services to 104 Jenks Road in the Township of Harding (designated as Block 25, Lot 17.03), County of Morris and State of New Jersey.

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, September 10, 2024.

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL  
UTILITIES AUTHORITY

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Dour, Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marilyn Regner, Secretary

**MOTION:** Mr. Druetzler made a Motion to Consent to Request of David Harnois For Service Outside The District Of The Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority and Ms. Farris seconded the Motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 7            NAYES: NONE    ABSTENTIONS: NONE

(3) Sovereign Consulting has continued the improvements at the Mt. Arlington Booster Station. They continued installation of process piping, received and installed the new variable frequency drive (VFD) for the new swing pump, and continued preparation for the pump and motor arrival in early November. As mentioned at last month's meeting, at the request of SCE and the MUA Staff, the Contractor did propose the installation of a smaller natural gas generator to provide power to SCADA, battery chargers for the large generator, the engine block heater, building lights and building heat. The intent of that generator will maintain SCADA systems and remote operation capabilities during a power failure. The plan is to utilize some unforeseen conditions allowance in the project. We reviewed the price of \$56,000 and find that to be fair and reasonable for the work to be performed. We are working on getting a natural gas service to be installed at that facility. The Contractor has submitted payment request No.3 in the amount of **\$157,780.00**. SCE reviewed the payment request and recommended processing. We are a little behind in terms if you look at the days that have lapsed vs. the percentage of work complete from a dollar standpoint, but there are some large activities coming in the end of October and early November with the installation of that new pump. Contractor is anticipating base bid completion prior to the end of the year.

The small natural gas generator may extend into 2025, but still well within the contract limits.

(4) Dee-En Electric has received the deliveries of the automatic transfer switches for Flanders Valley Wells 1 & 2. The generators currently have a ship date of mid-January. The Contractor is going to connect the automatic transfer switches and get everything prepared for when the generators arrive. (5) Uhl & Associates provided a findings report and circulated that to us. We are reviewing the recommendations for that and we will discuss with the Board the next steps. Their high-level review, they did recommend that we sample the small volume of water that is being able to be pulled from the ground out of those test wells, but am not sure that is a worthy investment. As we previously discussed, we are more focused on volume of water vs. water quality.; (6) At the Mt. Olive Transfer Station, De-En Electric is coordinating MCC gear which is currently in fabrication. We will be working with the facility and Dee-En to schedule the necessary shutdowns.; and (7) SCE is working with James Deacon and crew at the Township of Parsippany to get a minor site plan submission for the proposed digital sign.

Mr. McAloon asked for the Board's approval of the following Resolution Scheduling Public Hearing In November To Amend Water Rate for 2025:

**Resolution No. 2024-078**  
**Resolution Scheduling Public Hearing To Amend Water Rate**  
**Of Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority For 2025**

**WHEREAS**, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority ("the Authority") is authorized by the Municipal and County Utilities Authorities Law (N.J.S.A. 40:14B-1 et seq.) to establish rents, rates, fees and other charges and to amend the same from time to time so that the revenues of the Authority will at all times be adequate to pay the expenses of operation and maintenance of the Authority system including reserves, insurance, extensions and replacements, debt service, and to maintain such reserves or sinking funds therefor as may be required by the terms of any contract or as may be deemed necessary or desirable by the Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority desires to schedule a public hearing to amend the base water rate charged by the Authority; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey on this 8th day of October, 2024 as follows:

1. The base rate to be charged by the Authority for the provision of water is proposed to increase from \$3,299 to \$3,480 per million gallons (MG).
2. A hearing concerning this proposed revision of the rates of the Authority shall be held on November 12, 2024 at the regular public meeting of the Authority commencing at 7:00 p.m. at the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority offices, 370 Richard Mine Road, Wharton, New Jersey 07885.
3. The Executive Director shall cause notice of the aforesaid hearing to be given in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-23 by:
  - a. publishing a copy of this Resolution in two newspapers of general circulation in Morris County at least 20 days prior to the hearing date; and
  - b. mailing a copy of this Resolution to the Clerk of each municipality served by the Authority and to each water utility, whether public or private, served by the Authority, at least 20 days prior to the hearing date.
4. This Resolution shall take effect as provided by law.



**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL  
UTILITIES AUTHORITY

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Dour, Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marilyn Regner, Secretary

**MOTION:** Ms. Szwak made a Motion to Schedule Public Hearing To Amend Water Rate of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority and Mr. Ragonese seconded the Motion.

**ROLL CALL:** AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

**PROJECT STATUS**

1. General System:

- A. Through the month of Sept. 2024, MCMUA sold approximately 1,194.724 MG. This amount is approximately 38.467 MG more than the amount sold in the same time period in 2023 and approximately 60.005 MG less than the amount sold in the same time period in 2022. If water usage is similar to 2023, we are on pace for approximately 1,500 MG which is right on anticipated volumes.
- B. SCE is assisting in the preparation of annual and capital project budgets of which discussions begin this fall with MUA staff and the Board. As a follow-up to these budget discussions, Board members will be sent copies of the proposed budgets by the MUA Treasurer prior to the upcoming meeting. At the meeting, a resolution will be presented for the Board’s consideration introducing the water budget so it can be submitted to the NJ Department of Community Affairs for its initial approval prior to a corresponding resolution being presented at the November meeting which formally adopts the water budget. Likewise, a resolution establishing a water rate hearing to take place at the November meeting will be presented at the October meeting for the Board’s consideration and its corresponding resolution approving such water rates will be presented at the November meeting following the rate hearing.
- C. A resolution will be presented regarding the application for water service for 104 Jenks Road, Township of Harding, designated as Block 25, Lot 17.03. Since the proposed service connections are intended to serve properties outside the district of the SMCMUA, consent by the MCMUA is required.

2. Mt. Arlington Electrical Improvements

***Sovereign Consulting, Inc.*** has continued the installation of process piping, received and installed the new Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) for the proposed swing pump, and continued preparation for the pump and motor arrival in early November. The Contractor anticipates completion of all base bid items prior to December 31.

At the request of SCE and MUA Staff, the Contractor proposed, in the amount of **\$56,683.04** to utilize the unforeseen conditions allowance in the project to add a smaller, natural gas house generator to provide power to the SCADA system, battery chargers for the large generator, engine block heater for the large generator, building lights and heat. The intent is

this generator will maintain the SCADA system and remote operational capabilities during a power failure which occurs when the pumps are not needed to operate. Once the pumps would be called to run, the large generator would then provide facility power. SCE has reviewed the cost for this and recommends proceeding with this work which can be captured under the unforeseen conditions allowance in the project.

The Contractor has submitted payment request No.3 in the amount of **\$157,780.00**. SCE has reviewed the payment request and finds this reflective of the work completed and recommends processing.

**Project Completion Summary Through October 10, 2024**

Contract Start Date		March 28, 2024
Original Contract Completion Time		365 Calendar Days
Days Elapsed:	196	54%
Days Remaining:	169	46%
Original Contract Completion Date		March 28, 2025

**Project Financial Summary Through October 10, 2024**

Original Contract Amount	\$1,105,000.00
Payment Application #1	\$281,666.66
Payment Application #2	\$27,929.70
Payment Application #3	\$157,780.00
Total Value of Work Complete	\$476,914.96
Percent of Work Complete	43%
Total Retainage to Date	\$9,538.30

3. Flanders Valley #1 and #2 Generator Replacements

**Dee-En Electrical Contracting, Inc.** has received the deliveries for the Automatic Transfer Switches for both #1 and #2. The generators currently have a ship date of mid-January 2025.

**Project Completion Summary Through October 10, 2024**

Contract Start Date		May 13, 2024
Original Contract Completion Time		365 Calendar Days
Days Elapsed:	150	41%
Days Remaining:	215	59%
Original Contract Completion Date		May 13, 2025

**Project Financial Summary Through October 10, 2024**

Original Contract Amount	\$520,798.00
Payment Application #1	\$19,230.54
Total Value of Work Complete	\$19,623.00
Percent of Work Complete	26%
Total Retainage to Date	\$392.46

4. Alamatong Wellfield Testing and Sampling Test Wells

**UHL & Associates** will be formalizing the findings in a report which will be submitted to the MUA summarizing the efforts performed to date and the recommended next steps.

**Project Financial Summary Through October 10, 2024**

Original Contract Amount	\$140,260.00
Contract Amendment #1	\$25,000.00
Total Value of Work Complete	\$134,471.00
Percent of Work Complete	81%

5. Mt. Olive Transfer Station Motor Control Center Improvements

*Dee-En Electrical Contracting, Inc.* has advised that the equipment is currently in fabrication. A formal correspondence has been prepared regarding the overall schedule and the remaining contract duration.

**Project Completion Summary Through October 10, 2024**

Contract Start Date		May 13, 2024
Original Contract Completion Time		240 Calendar Days
Days Elapsed:	150	62%
Days Remaining:	90	38%
Original Contract Completion Date		January 8, 2025

**Project Financial Summary Through October 10, 2024**

Original Contract Amount	\$159,900.00
Payment Application #1	\$7,199.08
Payment Application #2	\$1,715.00
Total Value of Work Complete	\$9,096.00
Percent of Work Complete	5%
Total Retainage to Date	\$181.92

6. Parsippany Transfer Station Sign

SCE has submitted a Zoning permit to the Township of Parsippany for the proposed digital sign for the Parsippany Transfer Station. Unfortunately, they have requested that a minor site plan submission is provided, due to a setback variance. SCE will be proceeding with performing a limited Survey and will work to prepare the site plan package.

SCE is working with Operations staff to address minor engineering tasks for both Parsippany and Mt. Olive Transfer stations & compost facilities.

**SOLID, HAZARDOUS AND VEGETATIVE WASTE REPORT:**

Mr. Deacon asked if the Board had any questions on his report.

Mr. Deacon asked for the Board’s approval of the following Resolution Scheduling Public Hearing in November to adjust solid waste fees for 2025:

**Resolution No. 2024-079  
Resolution Scheduling Public Hearing To Amend Rate Schedule Of The Morris County  
Municipal Utilities Authority To Adjust Solid Waste Fees Effective 2025**

**WHEREAS**, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (“the Authority” or “MCMUA”) is authorized by the Municipal and County Utilities Authorities Law (N.J.S.A. 40:14B-1, et seq.) to establish rents, rates, fees and other charges and to amend the same from time to time so that the revenues of the Authority system including reserves, insurance, extensions and replacements, debt service, and to maintain such reserves or sinking funds therefor as may be required by the terms of any contract or as may be deemed necessary or desirable by the Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority owns two transfer stations which are used for the disposal of all waste types 10, 13, 13C, 23, 25 and 27 generated within Morris County, NJ; and

**WHEREAS**, the rates for the disposal of waste types 10, 13, 13C, 23, 25 and 27 generated within Morris County, NJ are set forth in a Tariff, said Tariff having been approved by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority seeks to schedule a public hearing to amend:

1. The rates for the disposal of Waste Types 10, 13, 13C, 23, 25 and 27 generated within Morris County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey on this 8th day of October, 2024 as follows:

The rates of waste types 10, 13, 13C, 23 and 27 is proposed to be amended from the previous tip fee of \$111.25/ton to a tip fee of \$115.00/ton. The rate of waste type 25 is proposed to remain at the previous tip fee of \$101.99/ton, except that in the event that the NJDEP approves a tariff filing or petition proposing to increase the tipping fee for waste type 25 to \$115.00/ton in which case the tipping fee for waste type 25 shall be \$115.00/ton upon the date of such approval from NJDEP.

- 1) A hearing concerning this proposed revision of the aforesaid rates of the MCMUA shall be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at the regular public meeting of the MCMUA commencing at 7:00 p.m. at the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority offices, 370 Richard Mine Road, Wharton, New Jersey 07885.
- 2) The Executive Director shall cause notice of the aforesaid hearing to be given in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-23 by:
  - a. Publishing a copy of this Resolution in two newspapers of general circulation in Morris County at least 20 days prior to the hearing date; and
  - b. Mailing a copy of this Resolution to the Clerk in each municipality served by the MCMUA at least 20 days prior to the hearing date
- 3) This Resolution shall take effect as provided by law.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on October 8, 2024.

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL  
UTILITIES AUTHORITY

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Dour, Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marilyn Regner, Secretary

**MOTION:** Mr. Ragonese made a Motion to Schedule Public Hearing To Amend Solid Waste Fees of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority and Ms. Farris seconded the Motion.

**ROLL CALL:** AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

Mr. Deacon asked for the Board’s approval of the following Resolution recommending to the Commissioners inclusion Of The Stericycle Shred-It Facility in the Plan:

**Resolution No. 2024-080**  
**Recommending Inclusion Of The Stericycle Shred-It Facility**  
**Class “A” Bulk And Shredded Paper Recycling Facility**  
**In The Township Of Parsippany-Troy Hills**  
**Into The Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan**

**WHEREAS**, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority has considered an application submitted by WSP USA, Inc. (WSP) representing the Stericycle Shred-It Facility (Stericycle) for inclusion in the Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan) of a Class “A” recycling facility to store and process source separated recyclable materials to include bulk and shredded paper recyclables and confidential destruction materials in the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills; and

**WHEREAS**, the Stericycle request is eligible to be included as a Class “A” facility in the Plan via the approved “Blanket Inclusion Process”; and

**WHEREAS**, Morris County has a “Blanket Inclusion Process” policy for recycling centers to encourage and facilitate the development of the above referenced facilities by eliminating the more complicated and time-consuming process of including each compost facility and/ or recycling center in the County Plan pursuant to a formal plan amendment process as set forth in N.J.S.A. 13:1E-1 et seq; and,

**WHEREAS**, the MCMUA received Stericycle’s Affidavit of publication in the newspapers and copies of the certified mail receipts for the notices to 200’ feet property owners around the Shred-It (Stericycle) facility with no comments received; and

**WHEREAS**, the MCMUA, has concluded, that the inclusion of the Stericycle facility in the Plan would be in the public interest and would advance the Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority recommends to the Board of Commissioners of Morris County that said board **adopt** an amendment to the Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan which includes said Class “A” source separated recyclable materials to include bulk and shredded paper recyclables and confidential destruction materials in the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills, in the Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan, as described in the application, which is on file at the offices of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority and incorporated herein by reference.

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL  
UTILITIES AUTHORITY

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Dour, Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marilyn Regner, Secretary

**MOTION:** Mr. Druetzler made a Motion to Recommend Inclusion Of The Stericycle Shred-It Facility Class “A” Bulk And Shredded Paper Recycling Facility In The Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills Into The Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan and Ms. Szwak seconded the Motion.

**ROLL CALL:** AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

Mr. Deacon asked for the Board’ approval of the following Resolution regarding the Ajaco Towing lease:

**Resolution No. 2024-081  
Resolution Ratifying Issuance Of  
Notice Of Termination Of  
Lease Agreement To Ajaco Towing**

**WHEREAS**, on September 2, 2015, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (the “MCMUA”) leased property it owns in the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills, Block 770, Lots 17, 18 & 19 (the “Premises”) to Ajaco Towing in accordance with the lease agreement, dated September 2, 2015, for a period of ten (10) years, commencing on October 1, 2015 and expiring on September 30, 2025, after public auction to the highest bidder in accordance with the requirements of the Local Lands and Buildings Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq., and pursuant to Resolution No. 15-24 (the “Lease Agreement”); and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to the Lease Agreement lapsing on September 30, 2025, the MCMUA desires to utilize the Premises for its public use upon the expiration of the Lease Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, written notice of the termination of the Lease Agreement was sent certified mail to Ajaco Towing on September 19, 2024, with an additional copy sent by email, stating, in part: “The MCMUA is hereby serving written notice, pursuant to Paragraph 21 of the Lease Agreement, Termination, that the MCMUA is exercising its rights to terminate the Lease and take possession of the property as needed for a public use. Said Lease Agreement is set to expire at midnight on September 30, 2025, and the MCMUA does not intended to extend the term of the Lease Agreement.” (the “Notice of Termination of Lease Agreement”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Notice of Termination of Lease Agreement further states that Ajaco Towing “shall take the necessary steps to vacate and surrender the Premises to the MCMUA by midnight of September 30, 2025, as set forth herein.”

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority as follows:

1. The issuance of the written Notice of Termination to Ajaco Towing, dated September 19, 2024, is ratified and the MCMUA shall, upon the termination and expiration of the Lease Agreement on September 30, 2025, utilize the Premises for the public use of the MCMUA.
2. The Authority’s staff and consultants are hereby authorized to take all other actions necessary or desirable to effectuate the terms and conditions of this Resolution.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on October 8, 2024.

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL  
UTILITIES AUTHORITY

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Dour, Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marilyn Regner, Secretary

**MOTION:** Mr. Druetzler made a Motion to Ratify Issuance Of Notice Of Termination Of Lease Agreement To Ajaco Towing and Ms. Farris seconded the Motion.

Ms. Szwak asked if their lease up and Mr. Deacon replied in September 2025. She asked is the MUA going to use the land they are vacating or sell it, and Mr. Deacon replied we are looking into this. These are three properties adjacent to the transfer station which we will need for future use. Chairman Dour asked if we have a site plan for Project Independence and Mr. Gindoff replied the site will be the same as it is now and the adjacent lots that Ajaco leased we are going to need at some point, but not sure how we are going to use them.

**ROLL CALL:** AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

Mr. Deacon reported on the following: (1) The HHW Office Facility trailer was delivered this afternoon by Mobilease. Install will start tomorrow and will last into next week. He thanked Operations Staff, Bobby Ross and Mike Nunn and the Mascaro staff, for their hard work in removing the old trailer and preparing the site.

Dr, Nusbaum asked what is happening to the old trailer and Mr. Deacon replied that we are looking to collect information off it and we are going to try and auction it.

(2) Thanks to Harry and Keil at Mt. Olive Compost for installing the new pipe on the log road covered with ¾” stone and larger rip-rap to assist with washouts.; (3) Congratulations to Wyatt Ozdemir and Keil Klaver on their Rutger’s Compost Operator’s Certification.; (4) Line striping was completed at Parsippany.; (5) HHW Event on the September 14 went well; 757 vehicles. The fourth and final event will take place at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy on Saturday, October 26.; (5) Regarding Vegetative Waste, screening is now completed; that includes the screening of the entire site in Parsippany. Staff is working with Parsippany Forestry and their Diamond Z for grinding our tree parts and brush up in Mt. Olive. Brush pile is done and looking to complete the tree parts this week. All this hard work is the Vegetative Waste guys getting their sites ready for leaf season. Vegetative Waste reports were sent out this morning to the Board. We are about \$3,000 behind 2023 revenues year-to-date, thanks to better in-bound revenues in 2024. Outbound we are lagging on both commercial and residential sales, due to using Kirk Allen because of all the on-site projects.

Mr. Kobylarz reported on the following: (1) Update on Mt. Olive Facility water service, we got information for the fire-flow for the application required by New Jersey American and submitted that to the municipality for the Fire Official’s signatures on that and are waiting on that document to be returned. Our next steps are to perform a survey out on Gold Mine Road and site to supplement the existing mapping that we have in order to prepare initially the extension plans for New Jersey American. You need a plan from the existing termination of their main all the way down Gold Mine Road which is about 1,000 feet to our property. The next step would be to prepare plan construction drawings/specs to do the service connections from the main to the facility itself. Once we have the approval from New Jersey American, they will do the construction of the main themselves.; and (2) Regarding Tarp Rack Replacement System at Mt. Olive, project plans are

approximately 80% complete. They will be submitted by mid-October for Staff review so we can get that project out for bid.

## **SOLID, HAZARDOUS AND VEGETATIVE WASTE REPORT:**

### **GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The internal staff level Solid Waste budget meetings for 2025 with the MCMUA Executive Director and Treasurer took place September 26. All Solid Waste Division proposed budgets, which include the transfer stations, our HHW facility (program), the Curbside Recycling program, the Vegetative Waste program, and our Solid Waste Planning department were all gone over in detail. Heavy focus on site improvements at both transfer stations and the five-year budgeting plan were discussed in line with the MCMUA Transfer Station Transportation and Disposal Bid in anticipation of the MCMUA taking over full operations at these stations. The MCMUA staff is scheduled to meet with the Board's budget committee on Thursday, October 3.

Following these Budget discussions, the Board will be presented copies of the proposed budgets from the MCMUA Treasurer prior to the upcoming meeting. At the meeting, Resolution #2024-079 will be presented for the Board's consideration introducing the solid waste budget so it can be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for its initial approval prior to a corresponding resolution being presented at the November 12 meeting, which formally adopts the solid waste budget. Likewise, a resolution establishing the 2025 transfer station tipping fee rate hearing, to take place at the November meeting, will be presented at the October meeting for the Board's consideration and its corresponding resolution approving such tip fee rates will be presented at the November meeting following the rate hearing.

ESCNJ CO-OP contractor Troller Electric, LLC. (Troller) out of Ocean, New Jersey performed repairs and improvements to the MCMUA's new administrative office in Wharton. Troller spent two (2) days on September 24 and 25 installing outlets, LED lighting, 3-way switches, smoke/CO detectors, and required exit/egress lights throughout the three (3) different office floors. These improvements included the necessary adjustments to the buildings three (3) different electrical panels located on each floor.

**MCMUA Leased Property to AJACO Towing and Recovery, Inc.-** Included as correspondence in the October 8 Board packet is a formal courtesy letter from the MCMUA dated September 19, 2024, to AJACO Towing and Recovery, Inc. (AJACO) notifying them that the 10-year lease agreement from September 2, 2015, was set to expire on September 30, 2025, at midnight. This letter provided AJACO with a calendar year to remove all vehicles and equipment from the MCMUA's property and give them ample time to take the necessary steps to vacate and surrender this said property. Resolution #2024-081 will be presented to the Board during the October 8 meeting for consideration, ratifying the September 19 notice of termination.

### **TRANSFER STATIONS**

**Tonnage-** The 39,597 tons accepted at the two (2) MCMUA transfer stations in September 2024 was 0.25% less than the 39,686 tons accepted a year ago in September of 2023. For the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2024, the transfer stations accepted 1% more waste than the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2023. With respect to the projected annual total for 2024, after the first nine (9) months of actual data, it is projected that the two (2) transfer stations will accept 481,201 tons of waste for all of 2024. This would be 2.03% greater than the 471,515 tons accepted in 2023. Please refer to the attached Transfer Station Disposal Report by Month and the comparison statistics below for additional information.

#### **September Monthly Comparison Statistics (2023 to 2024):**

##### **Mount Olive Transfer Station:**

Inbound Tonnage- *About* 15,848- 800 more tons than 2023

Total Customers- 4,162- 350 more than 2023

Self-Generated/Residential Customers- 850- 49 more than 2023

For the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2024, the Mount Olive transfer station had 141,294 inbound tons, which was 8,699 more than 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2023. Total customers- 36,767, 2,777 more than 2023, and self-generated customers- 7,945, 210 more than 2023.





**Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services-** 2024 projects and improvements involving the Alaimo Group (Alaimo), H2M, and Suburban Consulting Engineers (SCE) at the two (2) MCMUA transfer stations and both of our Vegetative Waste locations. Updates will be provided to the Board at the October 8 meeting:

#### Mount Olive Transfer Station

- Mount Olive Public Water Service Project- With Alaimo's proposed Task C: Base Mapping and Task D: Contract Documents now approved by the MCMUA staff, Alaimo is currently preparing the application documents for New Jersey American Water Company (NJAW). The application also requires construction plans to be prepared in accordance with NJAW requirements. Field survey information is being obtained in order to prepare the base map to be used for the water main extension plans.
- Tarp Rack System Replacement- Alaimo's plans are 80% complete and expected for delivery in mid-October to replace the existing tarp rack structure located on both sides of the exit to the loading tunnel. The proposed tarp rack will be approximately 64' feet long, hot-dipped galvanized steel, and painted safety yellow. It will also include the extension of the existing concrete protections on which the tarp racks are placed.
- On Tuesday, September 17, the MCMUA Director and Operations staff met with SCE Micheal McAloon, Brian Duddy, and Joseph Caraccio to go over pending SCE projects. Discussed during the meeting were, but are not reduced to, full-site emergency generators at both transfer stations, updates on the motor control center (MCC) project at Mount Olive, updates on the installation of a new digital sign in Parsippany, water flow information needed at Parsippany for installing the Fire Rover system, status on a updated site plan for the Parsippany Vegetative Waste facility to maximize space for materials, and completing/finalizing the emergency plan maps (EAP's) for both compost sites.

#### Parsippany-Troy Hills Transfer Station

- The Request for Proposals (RFP) #2024-SW07: Professional Services: Engineering that went out on July 31 was awarded to H2M out of Parsippany, New Jersey via Resolution #2024-072 at the September 10 Board meeting. The engineering oversight needed is for the replacement of the existing roof, fascia, wall system, tarp rack, modification to tipping bays, modifications for intermodal rail container use and sprinkler system at the MCMUA Parsippany-Troy Hills transfer station. The professional service contract agreement was sent to H2M for execution followed by a "client kick-off meeting" on September 25. The MCMUA Director and Operations staff got a chance to meet with H2M Registered Senior Architect David Didimamoff and P.E. Project Manager Patrick Cole go over project details, and then walk the Parsippany transfer station to get an assessment of current conditions.

## **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) MANAGEMENT**

MCMUA Operations staff continues to work and coordinate with Mobilease Modular Space, Inc., (Mobilease) and their subcontractor Magic Touch on the installation of a new 10' by 44' office trailer at the HHW facility within the Mount Olive transfer station. The MCMUA staff started the process of cleaning out the current space and planning for the disconnect of utilities (septic, electric, fire panel, and IT equipment) on October 1 and 2. This included a majority of the Solid Waste Operations team spending the entire day moving the old unit to the East side of the transfer station. At the time of generating this report, Mobilease has the MCMUA on their schedule for delivery of the new unit on October 8 or 9, weather permitting. Staff is planning on a future auction of the old trailer at a later date.

**Program Participation-** The third 2024 MCMUA Household Hazardous Waste Program One-Day Drop-Off Event Day occurred on Saturday, September 14, from 9:00AM to 2:00PM at the Morris County Public Safety Academy (MCPSTA) in Parsippany. MCMUA and MXI staff processed a total of 757 vehicles during an overall smooth event with perfect weather. This 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024 one-day drop-off event experienced the highest volume for 2024, with the final event of the year scheduled for Saturday, October 26, at the MCPSTA. As comparison for the Board, the first fall event of 2023 only totaled 588 vehicles, making this past event the largest total since the May 22, 2021, which had 912 cars. Totals for 2024 after three (3) successful one-day events equal 2,024 vehicles.

At the end of September 2024, the permanent Household Hazardous Waste facility serviced 2,119 total customers for the year. Of these customers, 1,924 were Morris County residents, 34 were VSQG/small businesses, and 161 total out-of-County residents. Compared to the end of September 2023, when Morris County serviced a total of 2,132 customers, 1,960 in-County residents, 33 VSQG's, and 139 out-of-County's. As far as September 2024 totals are concerned: 201 total customers, 182 Morris County Residents, 4 VSQG's, and 15 out-of-County residents.

## **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Northeast Products, Inc.** (old Nature's Choice/Stump Factory in Roxbury) class B Recycling Center (PI #133630) in Roxbury Township is interested in modifying its facility to include leaf composting at the site. On August 30, MCMUA staff generated and submitted an Administrative Action (AA) request to the NJDEP which included a copy of Roxbury Township consenting resolution. Included in this month's Correspondence Report is a copy of NJDEP's AA approval letter dated September 26 for Northeast Products. This approval now makes Northeast a class B/C, or a Multi-Class facility.

**WSP USA-** The **Stericycle Shred-It** facility located at 81 Walsh Drive, Parsippany-Troy Hills Township, had approached the MCMUA about inclusion in the County Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan), which is a prerequisite, for its proposed NJDEP class A recycling facility approval. WSP has been performing the actions required for the "Blanket Inclusion Process" to have its facility included in the Plan. The MCMUA received both the Affidavit of Publication in the newspapers and copies of the certified mail receipts for the notices to 200' feet property owners around the Shred-It facility. After receiving no comments, the MCMUA has scheduled with the Morris County Board of County Commissioners to adopt a formal resolution at their October 23 meeting to include the Shred-It facility in the County Plan. Prior to Commissioner consideration of Plan inclusion on October 23, the MCMUA staff has included Resolution #2024-080 for the Board's consideration at the October 8 meeting, providing its consenting recommendation on WSP's request for Plan inclusion to the Commissioners.

## **VEGETATIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT**

MCMUA Solid Waste Utilitarian Wyatt Ozdemir and Heavy Equipment Operator Keil Klaver both attended Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Office of Continuing Professional Education- New Jersey Compost Operator Certification Course on September 19 and 20. This brings the MCMUA up to eleven (11) staff members holding this one-time certification. Program Manager Stephen Adams is making arrangements with Parsippany Forestry through our Shared Services Agreement to schedule the Diamond Z grinder to process the brush and tree parts in Mount Olive in time for leaf season. The joint 2024 Fall screening project through our partnership with Naturcycle has now been completed. Screening at the Mount Olive facility ending on September 6 generated an estimated 3,000 cubic yards (CY) of material. 1,300 CY is slated for 2025 residential deliveries and the remainder for commercial sales. The Commonwealth McCloskey 628 with ½" screen was cleaned and transported to the MCMUA Parsippany Vegetative Waste facility on September 6. Screening started that Monday and lasted till September 27. The entire Parsippany facility was processed generating an estimated 8,840 CY of screened compost. Staff were also able to screen the site's rock barrier(s) used to contain facility stormwater runoff and prevent site washouts. Screening concluded with the machine being cleaned and packed up for pick-up on October 3. Now both Naturcycle and MCMUA will inspect the tailings at both sites prior to disposal. Disposal costs for tailings will be split 50/50 between Naturcycle and MCMUA. Additional vegetative waste flow information can be found in the Vegetative Waste Report provided at the October 8 MCMUA Board meeting.

## **RECYCLING REPORT:**

Mr. Marrone reported on the following:

The September 2024 rate for Single-Stream Recycling at Republic Services has been finalized at a (Negative) -\$44.09/ton. This is a 0.65-cent decrease in pricing from August's finalized rate of —\$43.44/ton, which was presented at the September board meeting.

Before I explain the market conditions for September, I wanted to briefly explain how these numbers are calculated for the recycling department's monthly reports.

- Each month, the MCMUA utilizes an online commodity pricing index, RecyclingMarkets.net, to determine the price we pay Republic Services for recycling, predominantly our single-stream mix.
- Typically, when I am writing the recycling report, which is usually the first week of the month, I provide a preliminary number, which I calculate with the information provided to me at that time.
  - Typically, not all commodity numbers for the month are posted to RecyclingMarkets.net for me to make any final commodity calculations, Republic Services might not have posted their final rate calculations for me to review, and if they did, I may have to dispute their numbers due to rounding issues or missed totals on their end.
- So, by the board meeting date, I work to provide a finalized number that the MCMUA and Republic can agree upon.
- This number always differs from the preliminary number I provide in my reports, usually around a dollar or so.
  - Sometimes, I have that number finalized in time for the report when a board meeting is extended into the month.
- So, what is being reported during the board meeting is usually the final rate unless otherwise noted.
- For example, the -\$44.71 per ton reported in this September's report was only an estimate, while the finalized number today is actually -\$44.09.
- So, the decrease of \$1.27 per ton noted was from September's total estimate subtracted from August's finalized number. Which is now finalized at a decline of only 0.65 per ton for September.
  
- Moving on to September markets, nearly all commodity types maintained steady values for our curbside single-stream mix, as noted over the last few months once again.
- Fiber markets remained strong in September but are starting to decline drastically into October due to lows not seen in over a year for paper and cardboard.
- This is due to an oversaturated market for recycled pulp paper content, and, as reported last month, many mills are already exceeding their planned capacity.
- Market experts are hopeful hope the seasonal holiday box demand will kick in soon to help stabilize these rates, considering current conditions.

**For Projects with the Solid Waste Planning Division, I would like to highlight a few items of note:**

***Solid Waste Planning Overall Education and Support Efforts:***

- In September, the Solid Waste Planning Division was very busy planning for our future contract efforts, attending multiple departmental training sessions, and performing various outreach engagements.
  - From tabling at events or presenting at meetings for eight engagements
  - Conducting four separate inspection engagement days
  - Attending nine distinct educational class opportunities
  - Planning for six separate larger waste reduction projects and event opportunities
  - And preparing for over half of our expiring contracts and updating our efforts to improve them, these are just a few of the efforts of our planning and operations staff conducted in this past month.
  - All in addition to our regular responsibilities, the members of both departments genuinely stood out in September.
  - I would like to take this opportunity to recognize their hard work and efforts, as this month's reports underscore these achievements.

***MCMUA's Fourth and Final MRC Meeting of the 2024 Calendar Year:***

- On September 26, 2024, the Planning Division held its final Municipal Recycling Coordinator meeting of the year at Textile Recycler Helpsy's warehouse in Eatontown, NJ.
- The meeting covered annual reporting requirements, updates from NJDEP, introduction of our new Multi-Family Toolkit, upcoming opportunities from ANJR, and the

MCMUA’s future food waste reduction projects, recycling ambassador program, and efforts to correct the NJDEP’s recycling and waste reporting numbers for Morris County.

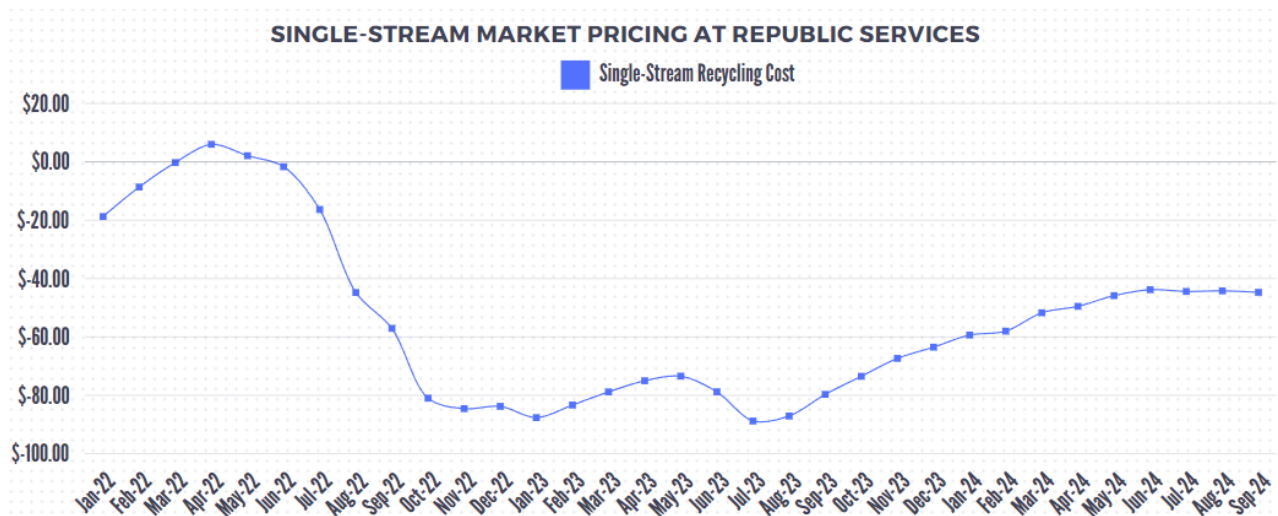
- The Division of Public Health provided updates on completed inspections and joint work with MCDPH to support food waste micro-hauling initiatives as well as regulatory requirements for municipalities.
- The meeting concluded with a hands-on tour of the Helpsy warehouse and education from their staff on the textile recycling process.
- Our MRCs greatly enjoyed this meeting, citing their appreciation for the different venues and topics, which led to an engaging discussion with our coordinators on the structure of next year’s meeting agenda.

**RECYCLING REPORT:**

**Recycling Tonnage and Value**

**September Recycling Markets and Operations Update:**

September's preliminary single-stream recycling rate was calculated at -\$44.71 per ton, showing a \$1.27 decrease from the previous month. September brought similar news as noted for the last few months, with nearly all commodity types maintaining steady values for our curbside single-stream mix. As in previous months, bales of #1 PET and #2 natural HDPE containers continued to increase in value, which is unusually high for this time of year. Midsummer typically marks when prices drop as supply exceeds anticipated post-Labor Day demand for these materials. However, #2 color HDPE decreased in value as its price often reflects housing construction trends. Prices are expected to pick up when projects increase for our Northeast section, as colored HDPE resin is primarily used for construction-related products such as water and sewer pipes because the dyes used to color the resin cannot be removed. Metals also showed weakness and remained unchanged throughout September due to a lack of demand. Fiber markets remain strong despite an average monthly reduction of \$5 per ton. Still, pricing has tripled since the beginning of 2023 to its current value and continues to provide a strong base for MRF revenue. Demand for paper and cardboard is currently high due to the paper packaging industry experiencing a rapid increase in its capacity to use recycled content. With new domestic facilities online in 2024, they compete for supply, driving prices up and forcing them to look for recycled content further away from their mills than average and into our Northeast sector. At the same time, lower paper exports have eased pressure on prices, accounting for this month's decrease. Thus, the supply of recycled fiber is not keeping up with demand because inflation lowered unit sales of most consumer products, leading to fewer boxes needed to transport those products to stores and make them available for recycling. While consumers may have more boxes due to increased e-commerce, there are fewer than anticipated when the new capacity was planned. This is combined with e-commerce companies using fewer and smaller boxes to lower their costs, and supply shortage keeps prices up at least until the seasonal holiday box demand kicks in soon. Following the holiday season, it is now expected that lower market prices will likely occur.



Monthly MCMUA single-stream recycling tip fees at Republic Services.

**Curbside Materials Auction Update**

On September 2, 2024, all items approved through resolution at the August MCMUA board meeting were posted for auction, which took place through the online vendor Municibid. All auctions ended on September 10, 2024, and the following was obtained:

- The (1) 20-cubic-yard barn-style roof container, MUA RE 2-1, and (1) 40-cubic-yard open-top roll-off container, MUA GO4-10, were both sold as a set for \$2,350.00, \$350 over the asking price.
- The (3) 30 cubic yard open-top roll-off containers, MUA GO3-23, MUA GO3-17, and MUA GO3-57, were sold as a set for \$6,000.00 at the asking price.
- The manual roll-off truck, MUA 20-12 International, sold for \$7,600.00, \$1,600.00 over the asking price.
- Lastly, the automatic roll-off truck, MUA 5-11 Sterling, sold for \$20,400.00, \$11,900 over the asking price.

Once the bidding was concluded, all buyers were sent insurance paperwork, methods of payment, and indemnity information. When all items were received, the MCMUA scheduled a time to collect the acquired items. All checks were received and cleared throughout September, and buyers will have picked up all equipment by the end of the month.

### **Shared Service Agreements and Contract Activities**

#### **MCMUA Begins Preparations for Next Year's Collection Service Agreements Renewals:**

Starting in August and continuing into September, Marrone and Toomey began a thorough review of our current collection agreements in preparation for the upcoming renewals. Most of these agreements are set to expire after 2025. Specifically, one school district and twelve municipal collection agreements are up for renewal in 2025, making up almost three-quarters of our contracted services for our curbside division. Additionally, our shared services equipment and personnel agreement with the Township of Parsippany Troy-Hills is up for renewal in the same year. To prepare for these renewals, we have initiated research and outreach activities such as preliminary discussions, assessment of contract specifics for optimization, drafting of agreements, planning for necessary equipment allocations, increasing our presence at municipal events, expanding services, and seeking out new contracts for potential implementation.

The MCMUA aims to use dedicated recycling streams at its partner depots to reduce collection costs and benefit from market incentives instead of costly separation downstream with the recycler. By educating and implementing the separation of specific recyclable streams, most likely corrugated and/or fiber, many municipal depots can be less costly than only collecting single-stream recyclables. The MCMUA is discussing sharing in the cost reductions with the towns. This approach will also lead to proactive discussions regarding contract renewals. Marrone has discussed the switch with Republic Services, which is willing to work with us as we establish programs for dedicated loads of fiber.

#### **Township of Hanover Recycling Inspections and MRC Training:**

Throughout the summer, Marrone and the new MRC Karen Soltis of the Township discussed job responsibilities, recycling education, and role expectations to help her settle into her new position. Eager to get started and passionate about the new role, Marrone arranged several on-site inspections in the Township for MCMUA contracted pickup locations, which Soltis can learn from and further replicate. In preparation, Marrone provided Soltis with educational materials and informed her to become knowledgeable about her recycling ordinance, which she can enforce as the MRC when conducting these inspections.

After the inspections, Soltis emailed the MCMUA to thank them for their time and dedication. She also spoke with the Township regarding our efforts, which were appreciated and valued. This month's Supplemental Recycling Report provides additional details regarding these Hanover Township inspections.



## **Recycling/Clean Communities Education, Inspections, and Customer Service Support**

Fall is a busy time to return to work from the summer season. Below are summaries of Recycling and Clean Communities' projects, public outreach, and education programs during September 2024. This month's correspondence provides details regarding these activities as a separate report.

### **Recycling and Clean Communities Projects, Public Outreach, Education, and Inspections:**

- MCMUA Sponsored Internship with Higher Learning Institutions
- Whippany River Watershed Action Committee, MCMUA Education Efforts
- MCMUA Attends NJDEP/Recycle Coach Outreach Webinar
- SEWA International Outreach and Education Efforts
- MCMUA Attends the Rutgers Certified Recycling Professionals Course
- MCMUA Attends NJCCC Litter Abatement Webinar
- MCMUA Attends the ANJEE Annual Autumn Outdoor Conference
- MCMUA at the Sustainability Fair of the Chatham's
- MCMUA and MCDPH Attend the NJ Clean Communities Professionals Course
- MCMUA Attends the ANJEC Environmental Congress
- MCMUA at the Boonton Day Event in Boonton Town
- MCMUA at the Morristown Festival on the Green
- MCMUA and MCDPH Joint Recycling Education and Compliance Inspections
- Township of Hanover Recycling Inspections and MRC Training
- Morris County Master Composter Program Development
- MCMUA Schedules Class A Recycling Facility Tours for MRCs
- MCMUA Conducts Research on Food Waste and Plans its Future Initiatives
- MCMUA Recycling Public Outreach Educational Materials and Efforts
- MCMUA and MCOC Collaborations

### **Solid Waste Planning Activities and Special Projects**

#### **NJDEP New Jersey Fleet Advisor Fleet Electrification Assistance Grant Program:**

In early June and July 2024, Marrone and the NJDEP discussed an upcoming first-of-its-kind in New Jersey grant program to help address the challenges of transitioning to cleaner fleets. For the 15 grant recipients, a no-cost vehicle fleet survey and cost-benefit analysis will be developed, outlining a replacement timeline for the assessed fleet while providing potential funding sources. The survey is the first step in transitioning towards a cleaner and more sustainable fleet. Upon completion of the survey, candidates are then able to work with the Department again for future grant opportunities as they come down the line in the succeeding year. The MCMUA was notified of the potential of this grant due to our successful application and execution of two prior diesel replacement grants with the Bureau of Mobile Sources and our currently recognized capabilities as a recycling collection entity. It should be noted that as a part of our participation in this program, we are not required to purchase any equipment nor take any steps to move towards electrification and that this would be a 100% free service.

#### **MCMUA and the Association of New Jersey Household Hazardous Waste Coordinators (ANJHHWC) Joint Efforts:**

On September 11, 2024, Marrone and Adams participated in the Fall 2024 Association of Household Hazardous Waste Coordinators meeting in Trenton. The group comprises public and private hazardous waste professionals, and Adams serves as the organization's president. The meeting agenda covered discussions surrounding paint care legislation, membership for the group, the creation of a hazardous waste education panel at the upcoming Sustainability in Motion Conference in 2025, training opportunities for the organization's membership, solar panel recycling updates, battery recycling education, membership spotlights for new and upcoming advancements in the industry, and electronic waste recycling. Additionally, ANJHHWC will have a panel at the SIMS conference, moderated by Adams, which will focus on the benefits of recycling different hazardous waste streams through municipal programs and navigating the regulatory process and any associated hazards. Marrone and Adams hope to drive ANJHHWC and ANJR forward as a collaborative effort, with the interest of capitalizing on the overlapping memberships, responsibilities, and values the two groups share.

## **MCMUA, New Jersey County Recycling Coordinator, and the New Jersey Association of New Jersey Recyclers (ANJR) Joint Efforts:**

### *Morris County at the New Jersey County Recycling Coordinators and the Association of New Jersey Recyclers Meeting:*

On September 17, 2024, Marrone and Toomey attended and participated at the New Jersey County Recycling Coordinator and ANJR Board of Directors Meeting held at the Ocean County Recycling Center. At the Recycling Coordinator Meeting, the agenda covered discussions about a resurgence of the paint care bill, an EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) bill to include additional battery types and a “truth in labeling” recycling bill in the New Jersey Legislature. The “truth in labeling” law would consist of information gathered by the county coordinators on what materials are accepted curbside throughout the state to have more uniform recycling. Another proposed bill in the Legislature would require counties to update their plans to incorporate food waste. This bill would also allow permit waivers for small-scale composting at schools and community gardens. There was also a discussion about recycling solar panels and how the NJDEP classifies them. Marrone volunteered to assist with the new solar panel subcommittee, which he is now the subcommittee chair of, to push along new rules allowing Class D recycling facilities to accept these materials as universal waste instead of their current designation as hazardous waste and being shipped out as such. Additionally, Marrone has reached out to several sites within the County that will take these materials for recycling and is compiling a master list to understand the current recycling and disposal landscape for these items.

Later in the day, Marrone and Toomey attended and participated in the ANJR Board of Directors Meeting following the County Coordinators meeting. In addition to the above topics, the members provided an update on a listing of future events that the organization will participate in and host, successes of past events, legislative updates, upcoming educational events and topics for them, a recycling market report, and finally, updates with the “New Professionals Network” for young and newer professionals.

### *ANJR Project Planning Subcommittee:*

Throughout September 2024, Marrone attended and participated in the group’s monthly ANJR Project Planning subcommittee meetings. During this time, the group conferred on several upcoming projects, including the last webinar of its summer education series, the forthcoming events of the New Professionals Network, and the ANJR Fall Symposium. Marrone will speak at the SIM conference on the MCMUA’s completed and ongoing food waste recycling initiatives and at the Fall NJDEP Waste Wise webinar on our successful boat shrink wrap recycling program.

### *ANJR New Professionals Network Subcommittee:*

On September 16, 2024, Marrone, the chairman of the subcommittee for the ANJR "New Professionals Network," hosted the group's monthly meeting. During the meeting, the group discussed various topics, including evaluating their first public network call, preparing for the group's second public meeting and facility tour scheduled for October 10 at Mazza's recycling facility in Tinton Falls, planning for the Fall Symposium, and organizing their third and final meeting and sustainability panel on December 12 at Helpsy in Eatontown. Additionally, the group discussed potential meeting topics and decided that the first meeting of the new year would focus on a virtual municipal tonnage grant training opportunity, which is essential for newer coordinators. Outside the meetings, Marrone has been working on promotional and educational items for the group, which will be available on the ANJR NPN webpage for our state's recycling professionals.

## **MCMUA’s Fourth and Final MRC Meeting of 2024:**

On September 26, 2024, the MCMUA held its fourth and final Municipal Recycling Coordinator meeting of the 2024 calendar year. The conference occurred offsite at the Textile Recycler Helpsy’s receiving and shipping warehouse in Eatontown, NJ. The meeting was well attended by our coordinators and municipal partners. This was the MCMUA’s first meeting to



utilize Certified Public Works Manager continuing education credits and our regularly approved Certified Recycling Professional and Public Health credit opportunities, which helped increase participation.

The meeting started with Marrone providing introductions and reminders to MRCs regarding their annual requirements. There was education on MRC expectations regarding the NJDEP's data audit for this year's submitted tonnage grant reports, a review of our new Multi-Family Toolkit, and information about ANJR's upcoming opportunities. Alessia Eramo provided updates on the MCMUA's future food waste reduction and awareness projects, information on the MCMUA's new Recycling Ambassador program, and updates on our follow-up work on the municipal tonnage reporting process along with how we are working to help streamline the reporting process for next year. Brianna Rodriguez and Patrick Herrera from the Morris County Department of Public Health provided updates on their completed inspections, future goals for the remainder of the year, statistics on the types and number of inspections they have completed, and our MCMUA/MCDPH joint work to provide help, guidance, and support for food waste micro-hauling initiatives.

The meeting concluded with a hands-on tour of the Helpsy warehouse, where participants helped sort and organize clothing using the company's innovative sorting system. The Helpsy staff explained the textile recycling industry, the inner workings of their program, and how they can assist municipalities in reducing textile waste and turning a profit to support their programs. Overall, the meeting was well received by all in attendance, and the MCMUA received much praise from our MRCs, citing their appreciation for the venue and topic change. After the meeting, the MCMUA provided Helpsy with a letter of appreciation for their hospitality and the education of our coordinators.



### **NJDEP 30-Day Audit for submitted 2022 Municipal Tonnage Grant Data:**

In late August 2024, the MCMUA received notification from the NJDEP that their solid waste team had completed the review and entry of all submitted data from each municipality within the state for the 2022 application with Municipal Tonnage Grants. The next step was for our municipalities to review the compiled data to ensure it matches what they submitted in 2022 with their tonnage grants and forward any discrepancies with supporting documentation to the NJDEP by September 27, 2024. Since that date, the MCMUA has assisted many of our Morris County municipalities with this task and educated them on reviewing their information. This will go a long way to help the towns and our county's overall recycling rates and correctly assess the total grant funding to be allocated in the new year by the state. In addition to collaborating with our municipalities, Eramo communicated with the NJDEP several times to address the 30-day audit for 2022 from a county perspective. This involved examining our overall total disposal and recycling tonnage for 2022.

### **Morris County Clean Communities Program**

### **MCMUA and the New Jersey Clean Communities Coordinator Meeting:**

On September 24, 2024, Marrone attended and participated in the Fall New Jersey Clean Communities Coordinator Meeting held in Monmouth County. The meeting covered upcoming trainings and initiatives planned for the remainder of the year, recertification requirements for

coordinators, statistical reporting requirements and plans for increasing compliance with the mandate, and funding opportunities. The meeting also featured two presentations by TerraCycle and New Jersey Sea Grant. The former focused on preventing cigarette and balloon litter, the hazards they present in the environment, and solutions to stop and help deter these litter types through their program. The latter presentation focused on the New Jersey Sea Grant, their mission, research on microplastics, ocean pollution, the health of habitats with polluted plastic litter, and possible grant opportunities for waterfront communities to benefit.

#### **2024 Morris County School Litter and Artwork Contest Awards Ceremony:**

The Morris County Clean Communities artwork contest winners were chosen in late August. Four winning posters were selected, two from elementary school and two from middle school-aged students. The art teachers of the winning students were notified that their students' posters had won the contest. They were also informed about the awards ceremony scheduled for early December. The location was confirmed in September for the Morris County Library's public meeting room held on Thursday, December 5, 2024, from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM. Each school's winner will receive a customized recycling container with the student's artwork at that time. Additionally, all poster artworks will be featured in personalized Clean Communities calendars provided to each school location along with the winners. The ceremony will cover education on the Clean Communities program, Morris County's achievements and accomplishments, a review of the posters, presentations by the students, and the acceptance of their awards.

#### **2024 Trash and Recycling Clear Stream Loans for Morris County Municipal Events:**

In September 2024, the Morris County Clean Communities Program continued its trash and recycling "Clear Stream" loan program for the 2024 season. The MCMUA offers special event recycling containers to vetted organizations for public events. These containers are easy to transport and set up, have restricted openings, and have clear bags that make them easy for people to use and understand. They encourage proper recycling practices and trash disposal to prevent litter at events and, most of all, are provided at no cost to participants. Popular with many organizations, the following groups utilized this service in September:

- Chester Fall Craft show
- Friends of Jamie

In support of this program, Birmingham and Cumberton have collaborated to create educational signage for these portable waste and recycling event containers to promote proper waste disposal practices at events. Public events often have high recycling contamination rates, leading to collected materials being treated as trash. Litter is also a significant issue; education can help address these problems. The double-sided signage will feature basic recycling materials on one side, commonly found at public events and can be recycled without the issue of contamination, and litter abatement information on the other. The trash-only signs will be utilized for general garbage and emphasize unacceptable recycling items at events. These signs will be produced in a lawn sign style format and can be used for various purposes, including at construction sites, and purchased in bulk for the MCMUA to distribute.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Druetzler commented how the MUA has gotten away from conducting periodic committee meetings and recommended that the MUA start having committee meetings more regularly in the future and the Board concurred.

There being no further Old Business, this portion of the meeting was closed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

There being no New Business, this portion of the meeting was closed.

#### **PUBLIC PORTION:**

There being no comment from the Public, this portion of the meeting was closed.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Executive Director Gindoff asked the Board for a Motion for the meeting to go into closed session at 8:15 p.m. regarding property acquisition.

MOTION: Mr. Ragonese made a Motion for the meeting to go into closed session at 8:15 p.m. and the Motion was seconded by Dr. Kominos.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

Chairman Dour asked the Board for a Motion for the meeting to into open session at 8:37 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Ragonese made a Motion for the meeting to go into open session at 8:37 p.m. and the Motion was seconded by Ms. Szwak.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

There being no further business, Chairman Dour asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

MOTION: Ms. Szwak made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m., seconded by Mr. Ragonese and carried unanimously.

---

Marilyn Regner  
Secretary

/mr