

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEELANAU COUNTY SOLID WASTE COUNCIL WAS HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024 AT THE LEELANAU COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER.**

**Proceedings of the meeting were recorded and are not the official record of the meeting. The formally approved written copy of the minutes will be the official record of the meeting.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Lois Bahle. The meeting was held at the Leelanau County Government Center, 8527 E. Government Center Dr., Suttons Bay MI.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** L. Bahle, K. Cavanaugh, A. Gale, J. Fletcher, M. Harris, T. MacDonald, T. Petersen, C. Sharp, K. Ross

**Members Absent:** None

**Ex-officio Members Present:** None

**Ex-officio Members Absent:** M. Bevelhymer, J. Palmer  
**(prior notice)**

**Staff:** G. Myer, Interim Planning Director, J. Herman, Planning Secretary

**Public:** D. Allen

Bahle introduced new member Marcia Harris. She started with the SWC since 2012 and has years of experience. Harris said it was good to be back.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-** None.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Allen gave a brief background of herself to members. She thanked members for their work in the county. She said the Materials Management Plan (MMP) is a mandate from the State and when completed will replace the Solid Waste Management Plan. She said if they choose to be independent, they will get \$60,000.00 towards the MMP or if they choose to work with neighboring counties, then they will get \$70,000.00. Allen and Myer will be meeting with Benzie County and Grand Traverse County to have a more in-depth discussion to see what the benefits are of working together. Bahle suggested it would be beneficial to work in a tri-county regional approach.

Myer asked Gale if he had any proposed times set for the Electronics Collection dates. Gale said they will be from 10AM-2PM with the possibility of evening collections. He will work on official times and let Planning staff know for advertising. Gale said he is looking into creating a sign-up link on his website to get an idea of how many participants they are expecting per collection. Myer said there will be no shredding this year.

**CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA**

Ross said someone came to her that doesn't like the name Solid Waste Council. Myer will need to look

into whether they can change the name or not.

Discussion ensued

*Agenda approved the agenda as presented by consensus.*

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST-** None.

## **ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS**

### **Election of Officers**

#### Chairman

*Motion by Bahle, seconded by Gale, to nominate Harris as Chairman.*

*Nominations were closed.*

*Motion carried 9-0.*

#### Vice-Chairman

*Motion by Ross, seconded by Sharp, to nominate Gale as Vice-Chairman.*

*Nominations were closed.*

*Motion carried 9-0.*

#### Chairman Pro-Tem

*Motion by Ross, seconded by Sharp, to nominate Fletcher as Chairman Pro-Tem.*

*Nominations were closed.*

*Motion carried 9-0.*

#### Review and Adoption of Rules of Procedure

Harris reviewed the document and stated that there were no changes made.

*Motion by MacDonald, seconded by Fletcher, to adopt the Rules of Procedure as presented. Motion carried 9-0.*

#### Consideration of 2024 Meeting Schedule

Discussion ensued on possibly adding more meeting dates. Myer noted that it depends on the room availability to host the meetings and that the reason they cut back on their meetings was because there were no action items.

*Motion by MacDonald, seconded by Ross, to adopt the 2024 meeting schedule as presented. Motion carried 9-0.*

#### 2024 Goals

Cavanaugh suggested they pursue more public outreach in the communities, community events and online. Fletcher has agreed to post informational content posted on the Overheard in Leelanau Facebook page with approval. Petersen would like to keep goal #3 because they are not done with the project. Sharp brought up presence at events and will let members know when events are. Bahle has gathered a list of

Suttons Bay short term rentals for outreach on recycling. Gale mentioned putting together a free gift bag with recycling information, placards, stickers, etc.

Discussion on goals continued.

Members agreed to the following goals for 2024.

1. Increase public outreach on recycling
2. Continue exploring and supporting Composting
3. Pursue drinking fountain conversion kits
4. Increase presence at community events
5. Pilot a short-term rental program to improve recycling efforts

### **CONSIDERATION OF NOVEMBER 7, 2023 MINUTES**

*Motion by Cavanaugh, seconded by Ross, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried 9-0.*

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS-** None.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Approve Mailing for 2024

(Sharp left meeting)

Cavanaugh would like items that can be recycled on the post card. Bahle suggested the front of the postcard be positive and, on the backside, have the items that are not recyclable and also include recycling site locations. Ross showed members a flyer that GFL provided and is not county approved for distribution.

Discussion ensued

Planning staff will work on the postcard and present to members at the next meeting for approval.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS-** None.

### **COMMUNICATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

HHW Collection volumes/Recycling volumes

Ross was impressed with the information and that it now includes mattress recycling. Petersen said the Empire recycling site had a mattress, six tires, and several cans of paint. At the Glen Lake School, there were mechanic parts from an engine. He said the Cedar site needs a fence. Myer said GFL can invoice the County at any time for picking up the unaccepted materials. They have put more effort in cleaning up the sites. Gale is happy to volunteer at the Cedar location. Bill Perkins cleans Suttons Bay and Peshawbestown recycling sites. The Lions Club cleans the Northport site and Fletcher cleans the Governmental Center site. Harris would like to discuss a volunteer sign up for site clean up for the next meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS-** None.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Fletcher said GFL has switched their trash bags from the red bags to now green bags. The issue is that the thickness of the green bags are thinner than the red bags and the red bags were slightly larger. Cavanaugh said there are a lot of complaints on Facebook on the cost of GFL services. Harris said it is not an issue they can deal with because it is a contractor. Gale asked if maybe the green bags are bio-degradable? He will ask Mark Bevelhimer and get back with members.

**MEMBER/CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS**

Gale expressed his gratitude for Planning staff and said if there was any way he could help to let him know.

**ADJOIURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned by consensus at 2:22 p.m.