#### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

#### **MARCH 8, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority was held on March 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Due to the Covid-19 Virus State of Emergency, this meeting was held in person at the MCMUA Office and remotely using conference call software. The necessary notice of this meeting was published according to the law.

Chairwoman Kominos called the meeting to order and read the following:

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, notice 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 stating that this meeting would take place at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 8, 2022. Additional notice regarding remote public access due to the Covid19 emergency is provided at the MCMUA entrance, on its website and in the Daily Record.

Chairwoman Kominos requested a roll call.

<u>PRESENT</u>: Mr. Frank Druetzler, Mr. Gene Feyl, Mr. Michael Guadagno,

Mr. William Hudzik, Ms. Laura Szwak, and Dr. Dorothea Kominos.

Mr. James Barry entered the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

ABSENT: Mr. Christopher Dour and Dr. Arthur Nusbaum.

Also present were Larry Gindoff, Executive Director; Michael McAloon, Suburban Consulting Engineers; Larry Kaletcher, Treasurer; Marilyn Regner, Secretary; Brad Carney, Esq., Maraziti Falcon LLP; James Deacon, Solid Waste Coordinator; Anthony Marrone, District Recycling Coordinator; and Tom Lemanowicz; Alaimo Group.

Chairwoman Kominos asked for the Board's approval of the Minutes of the Reorganization and Regular Meetings and Closed Session Minutes dated February 8, 2022.

MOTION: Mr. Feyl made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the

Reorganization and Regular Meetings and Closed Session

Minutes of February 8, 2022 and Mr. Hudzik seconded the Motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 6 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

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

Mr. Kaletcher presented the Treasurer's Report for the Solid Waste Operating and Water Operating for the month of February 2022. Also included are the Comparative Balance Reports for both Solid Waste and Water Divisions through the month of February 2022 and an Investment Report that shows no new investments were purchased during the month of February 2022. These reports have been incorporated in these Minutes.

Chairwoman Kominos asked if there were any questions on the Treasurer's Report and Ms. Szwak asked in the Comparative Balance Sheet it says there is nothing spent on gas and wondered with gas being so high, where will we get that? She also asked how is that impacting our budget and how are we going to pay those bills. Mr. Kaletcher responded that the gas purchase and gas usage for Morris County M.U.A. vehicles are charged back to us from the County on a quarterly basis and mentioned that we are not in receipt of the fourth quarter of 2021 yet. Mr. Gindoff added that the County has long-term contracts and is not sure how they fluctuate with the current cycles with what we are facing on the street now.

(Mr. James Barry entered the meeting at 7:08 p.m.)

Chairwoman Kominos asked the Board for a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report:

MOTION: Mr. Guadagno made a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report

and Ms. Szwak seconded the Motion.

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

Mr. Kaletcher mentioned that he has the Approval of Vouchers, Bill Resolution No. 22-29 and asked if anyone has any questions.

Ms. Szwak asked what are the fourth quarter recyclable rebates to the towns and Mr. Marrone explained that this has to do with the last recycling contract that we had and we actually got money for our recyclables. These are just rebates due under the last contract. You will see in that fourth quarter, we are paying the towns as we were contractually obligated. Mr. Marrone mentioned that this is likely to be the last time you will see any payments being made out to the towns. Mr. Gindoff clarified that this is only for the towns that do not have all-inclusive contracts with us. Most of our customers now with Curbside have all-inclusive contracts, which means that they didn't get paid when the recycling market was good nor are they going to pay when it goes sour. These are just the few dangling towns that are playing the market themselves and didn't take advantage of our all-inclusive contracts that we offered our municipalities.

Dr. Kominos asked for the Board's approval of the following Resolution:

#### **BILL RESOLUTION NO. 22-29**

**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. 22-29 containing 7 pages for a total of \$2,553,751.67 dated and made a part hereof by reference.

#### **SUMMARY**

#### **CHECK NUMBERS**

		\$ 2,553,751.67
SOLID WASTE OPERATING	12907-12972	\$ 2,527,750.84
WATER OPERATING FUNDS	5817-5836	\$ 26,000.83

#### **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: March 8, 2022			BOARD CHAIRWOMAN APPROVAL	
			Dorothea Kominos, Chairwoman	
SIGNED:			2 010 110 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 1	
	rilyn Regner, S	ecretary		
		TREASURER'S CER	<u>TIFICATION</u>	
			appropriations charged, or accounts listed to F WARRANTS dated: March 8, 2022.	
DATE: March	8, 2022			
			Larry Kaletcher, Treasurer	
	_	le a Motion that the voud nd Mr. Guadagno second	* *	
ROLL CALL:	AYES: 7	NAYES: NONE	ABSTENTIONS: NONE	

Mr. Kaletcher advised the Board that the Audit of the MUA's 2021 financials will commence next Wednesday, March  $16^{th}$ .

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

With regard to the Correspondence report, Mr. Gindoff gave the following updates: (1) The first correspondence was the proposal that Howard Woods sent to the Southeast Morris County MUA for work that he was going to do as a joint project for both entities, and if you read Mike's report, as well as the preliminary agenda, I was hoping that we would have an updated proposal and ready to award this work, not as a joint venture, but as a venture just for the MCMUA to contract with Howard Woods. We are not receipt of that proposal yet and so we are not ready to do that tonight. We anticipate getting a proposal before the next Board meeting.; and (2) The fifth item in correspondence is an article on recycling that I would like to thank Frank for suggesting. This was an article written by Gary Smalley, who is our governmental liaison to Republic Services, and he highlights many of the issues this Board has been facing about both recycling, as well as some of our Mascaro issues. I was glad that Frank brought this to my attention so that I could bring it to the Board's attention.

# **CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:**

## **WATER**

- 1. <u>Proposal</u> dated February 5, 2022 to Larry Gindoff from Howard J. Woods, Jr., P.E., Howard J. Woods, Jr. & Associates, L.L.C. regarding 2022 Professional Engineering Services Related to Joint MCMUA/SMCMUA Water Supply Planning.
- 2. <u>Certified Letter</u> dated February 22, 2022 to Helen C. Thomas & Christine M. Domanksi from Larry Gindoff regarding MCMUA property encroachment in Township of Roxbury, Block 1608, Lot 1 29 Justine Place.

#### **SOLID WASTE**

3. <u>Letter</u> dated March 3, 2022 from James Deacon to JP Mascaro, III regarding ongoing issues with JP Mascaro and Sons fulfilling their contractual obligations at the transfer stations.

#### **RECYCLING**

- 4. <u>Letter</u> dated February 15, 2022 to Larry Gindoff from James G. Revak, Assistant Chief, Office of Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health, advising that the hazards and/or violations identified at the Dover Garage on January 5, 2022 were abated.
- 5. <u>Recycling & Waste Article February 2022</u> entitled "Municipal Recycling & Solid Impacts".

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

Mr. McAloon reported on the following: (1) Through February, MCMUA sold approximately 244.243 MG. This is more than 2021, but slightly less than 2020. There is a few critical notes this month that we would like to highlight in our report. Jefferson exceeded their monthly contractual limit taking approximately 16 MG in February. They had a very normal January and a pretty significant February. They advised on March 3, 2022 they were able to find a significant leak and believe that the water usage shall curtail back to normal. Wharton is going through SCADA updates for their system and had several wells down for an extended period of time and therefore utilized the MUA source. Tony was on board and coordinated with the Wharton operator so all parties where on the same page for that. Finally, the question was brought up at last month's Board meeting on Southeast, and they advise that they too had repaired a few significant leaks within that pressure gradient served by the MUA and therefore their tank turnover and filling times have been significantly reduced, which is resulting in a reduced volume. Another note, we reached out to Mine Hill on the follow-up to the correspondence we previously sent requesting a meeting to discuss their water loss control. He mentioned that it just so happens that in the month of February, Mine Hill utilized the lowest volume of water since October 2019 so it leads us to think that they too have aggressively been finding some leaks.; (2) We were made aware of an encroachment on MUA property immediately adjacent to 29 Justine Place in Succasunna. This is by the Roxbury Ajax Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Alamatong Wellfield. We issued formal correspondence, as well as being in touch with the Roxbury Zoning Officer, and we are hopeful that this matter will be resolved in the near future.; (3) We prepared Notice To Bidders and was advertised for Emergency and On-Call Services for the Water Division. We plan on taking bids on March 31 and hope to have an award at the April Meeting.; (4) Regarding the Mt. Arlington Tank Project, we have been working with PCS Integrators on the final VFD start-up installation and testing. We have been in communication with Roxbury, Mt. Arlington and Jefferson on the proposed work for the tank rehab, as well as performed our Pre-Construction Meeting with US Tank Painting on Monday, February 28. There is a pretty complete report on anticipated schedule and my favorite tracking summary to keep Board Members aware of the progress on that tank. They actually started work yesterday and began installation of the scaffolding.; (5) We did receive a few comments on the Water Supply Agreement that we could discuss with the Board in a closed session or at a Water Committee meeting. Mr. Gindoff suggested that we conduct a Water Committee meeting following this meeting. He will coordinate with Marilyn for scheduling a Water Committee meeting shortly after this meeting.; (6) In accordance with our discussions in closed session, we did circulate a revised Water Supply Agreement to Mt, Arlington for their review and comment on February 25 and we can further discuss that with the Water Committee. Mr. Gindoff added that we should discuss that with the Water Committee before submitting that to DEP. Mr. Feyl asked if he could attend the Water Committee meeting without exceeding the quorum and Mr. Gindoff replied yes.

Mr. Druetzler asked if the tank is out-of-service and Mr. McAloon replied no. The Contractor will be constructing the scaffolding and they have some other prep work to do before we take the tank out-of-service. We've been running simulations. We operated the well pumps on VFDs to simulate the tank being out-of-service, but we did not take the tank out-of-service.

Mr. Gindoff advised the Board that the work regarding the appraisal of the Mendham pipeline is going on and is proceeding nicely. We will give a summary of that project at the Water Committee meeting.

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

#### **PROJECT STATUS**

#### 1. General System:

- A. Through the month of February, MCMUA sold approximately 244.243 MG. This amount is more than the same period in 2021 and less than the volume sold in 2020 respectively. It should be noted that Jefferson utilized approximately 16.0 MG this past month, which exceeds the monthly contractual limit of 14.88 MG. We have reached out and they advised they are actively working to locate a significant leak in the distribution system that they have been tracking for several weeks to no avail. Additionally, Wharton utilized approximately 14.9MG; through discussions with their water superintendent, they are undertaking a system-wide SCADA update and had several wells down for an extended period of time and therefore utilized the MUA source. This was properly coordinated with Tony. Finally, we reached out to SMCMUA with regard to the reduction in utilization the past three (3) months. They advised a few significant leaks were repaired within the pressure gradient served by MCMUA and therefore tank turnover and filling times have been significantly reduced.
- B. SCE reached out to Mine Hill Township as a follow-up to the correspondence previously sent with regard to the Outstanding Balance for water sales and to discuss Water Loss Control. Mine Hill is currently reviewing information internally and possibly taking necessary steps to reduce this Water Loss prior to the meeting. Water utilized by Mine Hill in February was the lowest volume since October of 2019.
- C. The MCMUA was made aware of an apparent encroachment and illegal use of the MCMUA property immediately adjacent to 29 Justine Place in Succasunna. Formal correspondence has been distributed to this property, respectfully requesting these activities immediately cease, cleaned up and surfaces restored with 60-days of the certified mailing. SCE has been in communication with the Roxbury Zoning Officer, as additional pursuits by Roxbury Township are simultaneously pursued.

# 2. <u>Water Division Emergency and On-Call Services Contractor</u>

SCE has prepared the Notice to Bidders for the advertisement for Emergency and On-Call Services – Water Division. This notice will be advertised in the papers on March 3, with submission of the bids on March 31, 2022.

#### 3. Mt. Arlington Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation:

#### **Contract A – Tank Isolation**

John Garcia Construction anticipates returning to complete the Kadel Drive interconnection piping with the Mt. Arlington Water System in early March in preparation for the tank dewatering and construction.

PCS Integrators has completed the VFD installation, startup and testing and are in the process of finalizing the optimization. A system operational test has been scheduled for March 8, 9 and 10 and we will be prepared to discuss the outcome of these efforts at the meeting.

SCE has been in communication with Roxbury, Mt. Arlington, and Jefferson with regard to the proposed schedule for the tank rehabilitation project, as well as the anticipated schedule to perform system testing.

#### Contract B - Tank Rehabilitation

The pre-construction meeting with MCMUA, SCE, *US Tank Painting Inc.*, and representatives of Mt. Arlington was held on Monday February 28 and included a site visit to the tank site following the meeting. During the pre-construction meeting the addition of an exterior MUA logo was mentioned as a potential change order to the contract. The Contractor discussed the following anticipated schedule for the work:

Notice to Proceed and Mobilization – Week of March 7

Exterior Containment and Preparation Work – March to April

Tank Dewatering and Interior Rehab – April to June

Tank Return to Service – June

Final Coating Improvements and Demobilization - July 2022

#### **Project Completion Summary Through March 8, 2022**

Contract Start Date		March 7, 2022
Original Contract Completion Time		120 Calendar Days
Interim Milestone – Tank Out of Service		60 Calendar Days
Days Elapsed:	0	0%
Days Remaining:	120	100%
Original Contract Completion Date		July 5, 2022

#### **Project Financial Summary Through March 8, 2022**

Original Contract Amount	\$1,527,100.00
Total Value of Work Complete	\$0.00
Percent of Work Complete	0%
Payment Application #1	\$0.00
Total Retainage to Date	\$0.00

#### 4. Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (SMCMUA) Coordination

A few comments have been received with regard to the proposed updated agreement that can be further discussed during Closed Session with the Board and/or Water Committee, as decided. Additionally, a February 5, 2022 proposal forwarded by Howard Woods to perform engineering services for both Southeast and the MCMUA supporting implementation contained in the draft agreement with Southeast has been included in correspondence. The mechanism on the best way to retain these engineering services is still be researched. It is likely a resolution will be presented to the Board for consideration authorizing an Engineering professional services contract with Howard J, Woods, Jr. and Associates, LLC.

#### 5. Mt. Arlington Water Supply Agreement

In accordance with discussions in the Closed Session of last month's board meeting, SCE circulated a Revised Water Supply Agreement between Mt. Arlington and MCMUA to the Borough for review and comment on Friday, February 25. SCE will be prepared to further discuss any specific contract related questions during Closed Session with the Board and/or Water Committee, as decided.

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

Mr. Deacon provided the following highlights: (1) The tour of the Mt. Olive Transfer Station went very well. Mountain Lakes seemed very pleased with our station. He thanked the Mt. Olive Transfer Station Managers for handling questions and answers.; (2) The tour for the Montville High School is scheduled for March 21 at the Parsippany Transfer Station and Brett Snyder will be handling that. That involves seven students and two staff members.; (3) EHS through Risk Management will start their annual 2022 inspections of our facilities this Friday in Mt. Olive at our Transfer Station and then to the Parsippany Transfer Station. This will be followed by our Curbside Facility and Water Facilities.; (4) Thank you to Alaimo for working on all the projects mentioned in the highlights this month. An official meeting has been set up with our Operations Staff and Alaimo's architect on Wednesday, March 16, to finalize the emergency evacuation plans for both Transfer Stations. We hope to complete that project by the end of this month.

Mr. Deacon called on Tom Lemanowicz to report on updates on the other projects. Mr. Lemanowicz reported on the following: (1) With regard to the Transfer Station quarterly reports, we submitted our report on February 10 and asked James Deacon if there are any responses to that and Mr. Deacon replied no. He mentioned that it has been a month now and asked if

anything has moved forward there and Mr. Deacon replied no. Mr. Deacon suggested that your best answer would be at our next Operations Meeting with Mascaro next Monday.; (2) The relocation of the Air Pollution Control System is being pushed off to 2023 along with the roof work; (3) Regarding the Noise Study, we contacted the subcontractor we had for that. Now that the Parsippany work is done, we got contracts straightened out and we are working on scheduling now.; (4) Regarding the water and sewer connection, we have established that N.J. American has the water for the Mt. Olive facility and we are now going through on how to make that connection and what else we need as far as agreements with property owners and try to determine what that is going to involve to make that connection. With respect to the sanitary, we are not having as good of luck there. It is taking time to get a response from Mt. Olive with respect to a sewer allocation and if they will be able to accept the flow. Once we get an agreement or an allocation from both utilities, then we will be doing some conceptual plans and deciding best how to go about making those connections.; (5) The Scalehouse and the SEVDOA Systems are not until next year.; (6) The exit plans are pretty much done and we are just waiting for a walk-through with Staff before we make our formal submission.; and (7) We have done some extra work on the Mt. Olive Tipping Floor Improvements Bid to make that bid a little tighter and am looking to get that bid done and out so we can award it at the April meeting.

Mr. Deacon clarified what was mentioned on the APC Project, we are only looking to relocate the intake pipe inside the Transfer Station.

Mr. Deacon continued his report. He reported the following: (1) We did have a small fire at the Mt. Olive Transfer Station on Friday that was caused by lithium batteries. Everything found was pulled from the trash and was properly bagged.; (2) The Vegetative Waste Report shows vegetative waste totals for 2022 are nicely ahead of 2021 year-to-date totals due mainly to the acceptance of more leaves at the start of 2022 compared to 2021. The first grind at Mt. Olive Compost Facility was completed by Warren County Trucking on Thursday, March 3, and it generated about 1200 to 1500 cy of material. We are scheduled to have Warren County Trucking to come back out with their tub grinder for the second grind of the material on Friday, March 11. These are the logs at the Mt. Olive Compost Facility.

Mr. Deacon asked for the Board's approval of the following Resolution:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 22-30**

# RESOLUTION OF THE MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY APPROVING A VENDOR SERVICE CONTRACT ON A 'NON-FAIR AND OPEN' BASIS PURSUANT TO THE 'PAY-TO-PLAY' LAW PERSISTENT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

**WHEREAS**, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority ("MCMUA") has a need to acquire a contractor for façade and wall repair; replacement of blocks, brick ties, fasteners and cement at the, MCMUA Parsippany Transfer Station on a 'non-fair and open' contract pursuant to the provisions of the "New Jersey Local Unit Pay-To-Play" Law, P.L. 2004, Chapter 19 (as amended by P.L. 2005, c.51), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, competitive quotations were solicited in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6.1; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the solicitation of competitive quotations, Persistent Construction Company, having a business address of 58 Industrial Ave. Fairview, NJ 07022 submitted proposal in the amount of \$22,875.00 for the work to be performed; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the solicitation of competitive quotations, D. Panetta Contracting, LLC, having a business address of 7 Dyer Lane Randolph, NJ 07869 submitted proposal in the amount of \$26,700.00 for the work to be performed; and

**WHEREAS,** Persistent Construction Company quote was most advantageous to the MCMUA needs, price and other factors considered; and

**WHEREAS,** the contract to be awarded includes a requirement that the work shall be completed within 120 days from the date of full execution of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the contract to be awarded is further subject to the following:

- 1. The known or estimated cost of the goods or service to be provided will exceed \$17,500.00;
- 2. The required Business Entity Disclosure Certification form has been submitted and will be placed on file.
- 3. The required Political Contribution Disclosure form has been submitted and will be placed on file.
- 4. The contract will prohibit the vendor from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract.
- 5. In lieu of a separate certification of funds, the maximum dollar value of this contract is as set forth in this resolution per N.J.A.C 5:30-5.4 (a) 3.
- 6. The submission of the Public Works Registration Certificate to be placed on file.

**WHEREAS**, the MCMUA Treasurer certifies that sufficient funds are available from Budget account number 01-1-900-000-128 for the work to be performed.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority does hereby award and authorizes the Executive Director to execute the contract for the work in the proposal from Persistent Construction Company, dated February 25, 2022 as most advantageous, price and other factors considered in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6.1 under a 'non-fair and open' basis:

Vendor Name: Persistent Construction Company

Cost of Service: \$22,875.00

Account Number: 01-1-900-000-128

#### BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED as follows:

- 1. The Business Entity Disclosure Certification and Political Contribution Disclosure be placed on file with this resolution.
- 2. The MCMUA's staff and consultants are hereby authorized and directed to take all other actions necessary or desirable to fully effectuate the terms and conditions of this Resolution.
  - 3. This Resolution shall take effect as provided by law.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County

Municipal Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022.

	UTILITIES AUTHORITY	
	Ву:	
	Dorothea Kominos, Chairwoman	
ATTEST:		
Marilyn Regner, Secretary		

MOTION: Mr. Druetzler made a Motion to Approve A Vendor

Service Contract On A 'Non-Fair And Open' Basis Pursuant To The 'Pay-To-Play' Law – Persistent Construction Company and Mr. Hudzik seconded

the Motion.

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

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

#### GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The MCMUA staff hosted a tour for the Borough of Mountain Lakes Administrative staff, the recycling coordinator, their department of public works (DPW), and Morris County Commissioner Stephen H. Shaw on Monday, March 1. Commissioner Shaw is an active Mountain Lakes resident, and serves on the town's Planning Board. Mountain Lakes personnel were provided a detailed overview on both MCMUA transfer stations by our MCMUA Transfer Station Managers, along with a walkthrough of the Mount Olive station and the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility. Parsippany-Troy Hills Transfer Station Manager Brett Snyder is also working with a Transition Supervisor from Community Personnel Services on scheduling a tour of his station for an environmental group that is currently attending Montville High School. Community Personnel Services works with special needs children to help them transition into the workforce. The tour is on the tentative schedule for Monday, March 21.

PEOSH (Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health) Re-Inspection- On Monday, February 11, 2022, Compliance Officer Mr. Paul Stamm from the New Jersey Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH), performed a follow-up inspection at the MCMUA Curbside Maintenance Garage in Dover. This follow-up inspection was a result of the violations documented on January 5, 2022 and the referenced Order to Comply dated January 19. The MCMUA Solid Waste Coordinator, Assistant Operations Manager, and Supervising Diesel Mechanic were all accompanied by Mr. John Letso from EHS Excellence Consulting, though Morris County Risk Management, for this follow-up compliance inspection. Documentation on training and necessary repairs were all provided to Compliance Officer Stamm, with a brief walk around the Curbside vehicles in question. The MCMUA received a formal PEOSH notice on February 15 that the violations have been properly abated by the MCMUA. A copy of this confirmation letter from the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development has been attached as correspondence for the March 8 Board meeting.

Continuing Education- Solid Waste Division- MCMUA District Recycling Coordinator Anthony Marrone has continued with the Clean Communities Coordinator training into March 2022. Anthony has also completed the Rutgers Office of Continuing Professional Education-Recycling Practice and Theory course. MCMUA Transfer Station Managers Brett Snyder and Justin Doyle, Assistant Operations Manager Mike Nunn, and Solid Waste Coordinator James E. Deacon are now graduates of the Association of Environmental Authorities- Environmental Professional Development Academy (AEA-EPDA) completing Track #4- Human Resources on February 23. The Cohort Capstone took place on Wednesday, March 2, where the cohorts were asked to demonstrate applied learning, cite improvements they plan on making but must also include specific details and skills from each academy track that they are using to make those improvements. The cohorts also needed to demonstrate strategic thinking, planning and leadership; verbally showing the use of the planning cycle, "SMART" goals, benchmarking, as well as the new or improved skills that made these improvements obvious or necessary to our organization. This AEA-EPDA "Academy Capstone" was held on a virtual platform, with a formal graduation now scheduled for Wednesday, March 23 in Atlantic City.

#### TRANSFER STATIONS

**Tonnage-** In February 2022, a total of 32,075 tons were delivered by Morris County waste generators to the two (2) MCMUA transfer stations for disposal. The tonnage for February 2022 was just about 27% greater than the tonnage accepted in February 2021, with construction and demolition materials continuing to come in at very high levels. This is the largest quantity of

waste accepted by the transfer stations for disposal for a February since 2008. With two (2) months of 2022 in the books, projections target approximately 463,000 tons to be disposed of in 2022, which continues the upward trend and would represent an 11% increase over last year's very high tonnage disposal quantity for Morris County. Please refer to the attached Transfer Station Disposal Report by Month for additional information.

#### **February Comparison Statistics:**

Mount Olive Transfer Station: Inbound- 11,766 Tons- 2,511 Tons more than 2021 Total Customers- 2,871- 335 more than 2021 Self-Generated/ Residential Customers- 430- 116 more than 2021

Parsippany-Troy Hills Transfer Station: Inbound- 20,308 Tons- 4,301 Tons more than 2021 Total Customers- 4,458- 1,219 more than 2021 Self-Generated/ Residential Customers- 261- 86 more than 2021

Attached as correspondence is a detailed letter from the MCMUA addressed to JP Mascaro III citing ongoing transportation and operational issues at both of the Morris County transfer stations. The MCMUA Operations staff continues to work with the Mascaro Managers to address repairs and issues that don't meet the requirement and obligations documented in the current contract.

Transfer Station Site Improvements- The Mount Olive transfer station office improvements continued during the month of February 2022. Morris County IT and their subcontractor Connectek, LLC. completed the network Cat 6 cable "drops" into all the offices on Tuesday, February 8. Connectek tested all the existing ports, the work included completing the runs to the fire panel in the station's pump room and the fire panel in the HHW office trailer. All the offices, including the J.P. Mascaro and Sons Manager office, the conference room, the office common area, the scale house, and the HHW trailer, now have the County phone system. Due to identified damage on the eastern wall of the Parsippany transfer station by the air pollution control (APC) system, the MCMUA solicited quotations for replacement of blocks, brick ties, fasteners and cement to repair the damaged wall. Persistent Construction Company of Fairview, New Jersey submitted the lowest responsible cost proposal in the amount of \$22,875.00 for the work to be performed. With this said, a resolution authorizing a contract with Persistent Construction Company for the spilt face concrete masonry unit (CMU) wall repair will be presented to the Board at the March 8 meeting for consideration.

**Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services-** The MCMUA staff has been working closely with Alaimo Project Manager/Solid Waste Engineer, Mr. Thomas Lemanowicz, on the following transfer station projects:

- Quarterly Report(s) on Transfer Station Conditions- These formal reports generated by Mr. Lemanowicz were shared with J.P. Mascaro and Sons before the monthly Operations meeting on February 14. They both report the items at each station that need to be addressed and will record a status of the items that may be noted in previous reports. A majority of these repairs are still lingering damages caused during the solid waste emergency in the summer/fall of 2021. Moving forward, these site inspections will be performed on a quarterly basis with the hopes of some progress noted, working with the Mascaro managers to complete in a timely manner.
- <u>Public Water/Sewer Connection Assessment for the Mount Olive Transfer Station-</u>Communication between the MCMUA Operations team and Alamio Senior Project Engineer Jim Hampson continue. Information is provided upon request with the project being researched and moving forward.
- Emergency Action Plans/Emergency Evacuation Plans for both MCMUA Transfer

  Stations- The MCMUA Operations team is working with Alamo Professional Architect
  Colin McLain on finalizing these evacuation plans for both MCMUA transfer stations.
  Pictures, drawings, and measurements were all taken, safety equipment was all
  inventoried (i.e. first aid kits, fire extinguishers, the oxygen cabinet, the AED, fire panels,
  spill kits, emergency exit lighting, etc.) so that official maps can be generated for posting
  throughout both facilities. These emergency exit maps are a PEOSH requirement and

- have been pushed by the MCMUA to be a priority due to the recent inspections of our facilities.
- Parsippany Solid Waste Permit and Noise Study- The MCMUA Operations team is working with Alamo Associate, Environmental Planner Tom Cappetti on the renewal of the MCMUA Parsippany-Troy Hills transfer station general Permit renewal application, which is set to expire on October 17, 2022. The renewal process will include a noise study for the station's air pollution control (APC) system and a formal request to increase the daily capacity from the current Permitted capacity of 1380 tons per day.
- Aerial Photos of the MCMUA Transfer Station- Alaimo Project Manager/Solid Waste Engineer Thomas Lemanowicz is assisting the MCMUA in providing professional aerial photos of the two (2) MCMUA transfer stations for posting in both office common areas. These June 2021 aerial photos will be plotted at a size of 18" by 24" from framing and will add to the newly renovated office in Mount Olive.
- Mount Olive Tipping Floor and Trench Drain Improvement Project- A floor survey was completed on Saturday, February 26 by Alaimo Engineering after operating hours when the tipping floor was cleared from all solid waste. This survey is meant to establish a basic topographical analysis to verify and estimate the material quantities to complete this project. The project will include the repairs to the main tipping floor, repairs to the heavily damaged trench drain system, and some alterations to the observation desk near the loading pits. The MCMUA plans to use the super EUCO-Top by Euclid Chemical Corp. product for the tipping floor replacement. MCMUA staff will continue to work with Alaimo Engineering on finalizing the bid specifications to address the deteriorating tipping floor and drains. The anticipation for award of this project is now targeted for the April 12 Board meeting. The Board will be provided an update by Alaimo at the March 8 meeting.

#### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) MANAGEMENT

Program Participation- In February 2022, the permanent household hazardous waste facility (HHWF) located at the MCMUA Mount Olive transfer station had a total of 132 serviced appointments, which included 121 Morris County residents, 4 VSQG/small businesses, and 7 out-of-County residents. MCMUA's 2022 totals now equal 326 serviced appointments, 285 of those appointments being Morris County residents. As a reminder for the Board, the four (4) 2022 HHW one-day drop-off events are scheduled for: Saturday, May 21, 2022 at the County College of Morris (CCM) Parking Lot #1, 214A Center Grove Road in Randolph, New Jersey 07869; Saturday, June 11, 2022 at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy (MCPSTA), 500 West Hanover Avenue in Parsippany, New Jersey 07054; Saturday, September 24, 2022 at the MCPSTA; and Saturday, October 22, 2022 at Chatham High School, 255 Lafayette Avenue in Chatham Township, New Jersey 07928. Copies of the 2022 MCMUA HHW one-day drop-off Event Flyer have been printed for distribution to our Municipal partners.

Training and Facility Maintenance- All nine (9) of the current MCMUA HHW support staff have completed the annual MXI online safety training modules in February 2022. These trainings are sent free of charge from MXI with records kept at the facility and the main office. The MCMUA will now look into and schedule the required RCRA, DOT, and HAZWOPER trainings for signing manifests at the facility and during the one-day drop off events. The MCMUA has purchased two (2) new propane cages for proper storage of the BBQ sized cylinders that are brought in. When the second cage is received and the weather is favorable, both older cages will be repurposed at our Curbside facility. The HHW facility has also received a new eye wash/safety shower installed by a licensed plumber. Weather events and supply issues have delayed the final steps on the install of this project.

#### **VEGETATIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT**

The MCMUA completed the Volvo manufacture wheel loader training on the new equipment on Thursday, February 17 at the Parsippany compost facility. This included all of the Vegetative Waste facility staff and any MCMUA operational support staff that may operate heavy equipment. The MCMUA has already received multiple calls inquiring about our compost and wood mulch delivery program. Staff has begun gearing up to make these deliveries, working with Kirk Allen Trucking and our site managers based on scheduled vacations and ongoing

normal site maintenance and projects. Additional vegetative waste flow information can be found in the Vegetative Waste Report, to be provided for the March 8 meeting.

Outbound Vegetative Materials Marketing- The MCMUA has received the updated License Certificate for the Seal of Testing Assurance (STA) from Naturcycle, LLC for our Parsippany facility. Naturcycle has also scheduled a conference call with the NJDEP on Thursday, March 24 on the topic of food scrap composting. Naturcycle attended the New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association Trade Show and Conference (NJLCA) on February 23 to assist in identifying any future potential customers. A recent project of note is Steven Dubner Landscaping using screened compost from our Parsippany location for the East Midtown Greenway in New York. This involves approximately 500 cubic yards (CY) of material, pickups have already begun.

#### **RECYCLING REPORT:**

Mr. Marrone reported the following: (1) Regarding the pricing for the single-stream recycling at Republic Services, it should be noted that February 2022 starts the first month under the new, and, unfortunately, less-favorable five-year contract passed at the January MCMUA Board Meeting. The finalized rate for single-stream recycling with Republic Services for the month of February 2022 came in today at -\$12.22/ton at a total of 1,118.70 tons, which comes to a total charge of \$13,674.09 the MUA will pay to Republic Services for single-stream recycling. This is \$44.39/ton less than the +\$32.17/ton which was received in January 2022. If you look at this in a different light, if we were in the new contract last month, single-stream rate would have come out to -\$18.79/ton. To the market for the commodities which make up single-stream recyclables went up +\$6.57/ton than where it was last month if January was under the new contract. This is due to positive gains in commodity values per ton of PET and Aluminum which really helped pull the numbers up. If we are looking at historic values, we would expect the numbers to be higher because of the price of oil going higher and typically plastics always coincide with that.; (2) April 30, 2022 is the deadline for our Morris County Municipalities to submit their 2021 Municipal Tonnage Grant Applications. With that the MCMUA is continuing to work with our partner municipalities to assist them in this goal with data collection and report dissemination before that deadline. Revisions are allowed up to June 15, 2022 and a lot of towns take advantage of that because reports come in late and edits need to be made and we will still help out with that as we move forward.; (3) The 2021 REA Grant Application was received last month and the MCMUA Staff has been diligently working on that submittal. The grant allocation is up from last year's allocation; an increase of \$16,200.00. With that there is always stipulations. We actually have to figure out some projects within that grant amount to increase the recycling rate in our three lowest towns. Victory Gardens, Long Hill Township and Mendham Township. These are based off of 2019 numbers. Mr. Gindoff mentioned that 2019 is before Mendham and Long Hill signed up for MUA curbside collection. Mr. Marrone continued stating we have to be looking at some different ways to increase the recycling rate. One way is to try to use and promote Recycle Coach, that is provided by the State, to use all the free capabilities that we have, such as push notifications that can be sent to residents. This is a great resource and is free to use and there are a lot of people that are signed up for it in each municipality. One of the other things we looked at was focusing on food waste reduction strategies. This is a pilot program we are looking into with Java's Compost. It is a smaller company that does door to door services. They will pick up your food waste for a fee right from your home and drop off a bucket of compost and the other thing is this municipal regional depot sites that they do. They have a municipal depot in Madison that seems to be working quite well. This is something that the State is focusing on in their new REA Grant, which is to increase recycling in the lowest towns and to focus on strategies for food waste reduction. We are looking for five regional sites; one of which will be piloted for Roxbury, as they are on board, if we do decide to go with it. We also looked at Morris Plains. Everything that is delivered to Java actually goes to Ag Choice. Mr. Gindoff mentioned that Ag Choice is a Food Waste Recycling Facility in Sussex County.

Mr. Marrone explained that the following Resolution is for the 2021 REA Grant entitlement in the amount of \$356,400.00 and asked for the Board's approval of same:

# RESOLUTION NO. 22-31 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A SPENDING PLAN FOR A 2021 RECYCLING ENHANCEMENT ACT TAX FUND ENTITLEMENT

WHEREAS, P.L. 2007, c. 311 et seq. provides for the awarding of Recycling Enhancement Tax Fund entitlements by the Department of Environmental Protection to designated solid waste management districts to assist them in the preparation, revision and implementation of comprehensive solid waste management and recycling plans; and

WHEREAS, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority desires such financial assistance to fulfill its responsibilities under the Solid Waste Management Act and the Recycling Enhancement Act.

# NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- 1. That a Spending Plan be submitted to the Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Program for a 2021 Recycling Enhancement Act Tax Fund Entitlement in the amount of \$356,400.00.
- 2. That the Executive Director of the Morris County Municipal Utilities
  Authority is hereby authorized and directed to execute and file such
  spending plan with the Department of Environmental Protection; to provide
  additional information and furnish such documents as may be required; to
  execute such contracts as are required; and to act as the authorized
  correspondent of the Morris County Solid Waste Management District.
- 3. The Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority was designated by the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders as the implementing agency to perform the Recycling Enhancement Tax Entitlements on March 25, 2009.
- 4. The Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority does hereby hold the State of New Jersey and its departments and agencies harmless from any dangers, losses, and claims which may arise directly or indirectly from the execution of the Entitlement.
- The Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority hereby accepts the terms and conditions set forth in the Act and the guidelines promulgated under it.
- 6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County Municipal

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL

Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on March 8, 2022.

	UTILITIES AUTHORITY		
	By:		
	Dorothea Kominos , Chairwoman		
ATTEST:			
Marilyn Regner, Secretary	_		

MOTION: Mr. Guadagno made a Motion to Authorize The Filing Of A

Spending Plan For A 2021 Recycling Enhancement Act Tax Fund Entitlement and Mr. Druetzler seconded the Motion.

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

Dr. Kominos asked Anthony Marrone about recycling of reusable bags and for suggestions where to take them. Mr. Marrone replied that you could look to donate them because there really isn't any recycling programs for them. She is looking for donation possibilities and knows that the MUA has purchased reusable bags for some food banks. Mr. Marrone mentioned that you are going to see a lot of this with the new Bag Ban coming up.

#### **RECYCLING REPORT:**

#### **Recycling Tonnage and Value**

The preliminary per ton rate for single-stream for February 2022 was calculated to be a negative -12.24/ton. This is the first month under the new and less favorable contract compared to last's year's contract. For instance, in January 2022, and the last month under the old contract, the value of single-stream was a positive \$32.13/ton. Fortunately, positive gains in commodity value ton of PET (#1 plastics) and aluminum helped to support numbers in February.

#### **Curbside Contract Proposals & Resolutions**

# Rockaway Borough (Vegetative Waste Recycling)

On February 08, 2022, the MCMUA advised Bill Hopler, Rockaway Borough's MRC and DPW Superintendent, that the curbside department will not want to renew its vegetative waste curbside collection agreement after the December 31, 2022 termination. This collection was done as a pilot several years ago and the MCMUA Recycling staff cited contamination issues, lack of manpower, and increasing costs with the current agreement as reasons for not renewing the contract. Hopler was appreciative of the advanced notice and our work under the existing contract. As the municipality's trash contract is also coming due, Hopler will combine the two services in his request for proposal (RFP).

#### Netcong Borough

On February 14, 2022, Ralph Blakeslee, Municipal Administrator, contacted and requested that the MCMUA advise him of any frozen loads diverted to the transfer station as soon as possible. Typically, this notice is provided at the time of monthly billing. It is important to note that the municipality stated its intention to go out to bid when our 2-year curbside recycling agreement ends on December 31, 2022.

#### 2021 Recycling Enhancement Act (REA) Tax Fund Entitlement Resolution

The MCMUA has received \$356,400.00 in the 2021 REA Grant entitlement and a resolution is needed to execute a spending plan. In 2021, Morris County generated 441,137.13 tons of waste which came out to 4.40% of the total waste of the State of New Jersey. The above grant entitlement allocation is broken down in the form of \$296,881.29 for Solid Waste Activities and \$59,518.80 for public information and education activities. The MCMUA Recycling Staff is currently formulating deliverables to report to the NJDEP before the April 1, 2022 deadline.

## **Recycling Education**

On February 2, 2022, District Recycling Coordinator Anthony Marrone and Assistant District Recycling Coordinator Christine Vidal gave a presentation to the Whippany River Watershed Action Committee, WRWAC, on mandated recyclables and unacceptable materials. The presentation provided examples of the effects contamination pose to Material Recovery Facilities.

On February 7, 2022, MCMUA Executive Director, Larry Gindoff, District Recycling Coordinator Anthony Marrone, and Assistant District Recycling Coordinator Christine Vidal toured the Republic Services Recycling facility with Eric Gabrielson, Operations Manager. Gabrielson pointed out the lines, screens, bails, and contamination issues facing is the facility at present. Gabrielson discussed a problem the facility is facing with propane tanks making their way into the recycling streams coming into the facility. Staff asked for permission from Republic to film the sorting process onsite and provide an educational video for our website. Doing so will not only satisfy the NJDEP's tour requirement for our Morris County Municipal Recycling Coordinators to visit a Class A facility but allow other Counties' coordinators to achieve compliance as well.

On February 8, 2022, Recycling staff created recycling/trash flyers for use within the Chester School District. Evan Morley, Director of Building & Grounds for the District will assist our department with distribution and education. Decals provided to his attention will be placed on all recycling and trash containers in the classrooms as well as on all dumpsters at the schools.

On February 8, 2022, Recycling staff forwarded MCMUA Transfer Station Inspection Action Reports, from our MCMUA database, on L&M Disposal to Stephanie Gorman, Assistant Health Officer of the Morris County Division of Public Health, for a solid waste hearing. The report dates from October 16, 2007, to March 18, 2020, and shows the history and the extent of violations as they pertain to loads of garbage mixed with mandated recyclables. Likewise, Staff forwarded an Action Report on Montella, Inc. for the same purpose from May 23, 2008, to March 30, 2021. Two meetings are scheduled on March 9 and March 11 with the Division of Public Health to train new staff and foster a better working relationship between the two departments.

On February 8 and 15, 2022 follow-up recycling outreach inspections were performed at 1 Medical Drive Morris County Human Services Department. These inspections uncovered that the education of employees during January by this department was not proven to have been effective as employees are still mixing their trash with recyclables in desk-side recycling bins. While all employees are still in possession of desk-side recycling and trash bins, an email link to the MCMUA's webpage for the Morris County Office Recycling Excels or M.O.R.E. Recycling Program was sent to department heads and the MCMUA's single-stream flyers were emailed to each employee. To help reinforce efforts, an updated inspection flyer and hard copies were sent inter-office mail for each employee in the department.

On February 09, 2022 Recycling staff brought single stream no tear posters to The Oaks Seniors Living in Denville and met with Tina Christensen, director of House Keeping at the Oaks to go over how the residents can become better recyclers.

On February 09, 2022 Recycling staff traveled to ShopRite of Wharton to pick up 2,000 reusable bags for distribution for the first scheduled household hazardous waste event scheduled for May 2022. Held at the County College of Morris, educational material will be distributed in the bags to all participants to inform Morris County residents of the NJ Bag Ban. It should be noted that

the first event of the year typically hosts 900 participants and the location of CCM has had the best turnout of residents at an event. The remainder of the other bags will be distributed to organizations that serve people in need.

On February 18, 2022, a recycling presentation was created and presented at Morris County's Head Start Program by Assistant Recycling Specialist Cheryl Birmingham. The objective was to educate both teachers and staff to understand what materials are acceptable and unacceptable in the MCMUA's M.O.R.E. Recycling Program and understand the problems contamination causes in the recycling stream. As a direct result of this presentation, teachers are now able to have students recycle mandated materials in their classrooms; creating skills that transfer to their homes (Head Start focuses on helping students and their families). Several educational materials were provided.

On February 22, 2022, Staff received a phone call from Elizabeth Florio, FCBCure, 5 Sylvan Way, Parsippany. The company has about 400 employees, not all working in the office, and serves as a full-service creative advertising and marketing agency that specializes in healthcare communications. Florio was tasked with reporting on the life cycle of the material they recycle and was advised by Interstate Waste, their hauler, that all waste goes to the MCMUA's transfer station for disposal. Staff explained by phone and email source separation/recycling, NJDEP regulations, and Morris County's Solid Waste Management Plan. A meeting with the MCMUA and Interstate Waste to explain these matters in further detail is pending at this time.

On February 23, 2022, the MCMUA held an MRC, Meeting via WebEx. The guest speakers were as follows:

- Erin Jensen, Environmental Specialist, Division of Solid & Hazardous Waste, Bureau of Planning and Licensing with the NJDEP who presented on how to fill out a Municipal Tonnage Report.
- Alexander Sadat, Environmental Engineer, Division of Solid & Hazardous Waste Management with the NJDEP who presented on Recycling Depots, Convenience Centers, and Recycling Exemptions.
- Kim Stuart, Recycle Coach Customer Success Manager presented the benefits of the Recycle Coach application and how it can be utilized to increase municipal recycling rates of acceptable materials.
- Anthony Marrone, Morris County District Recycling Coordinator who presented program
  updates as they pertain to recycling, vegetative waste, and household hazardous waste
  departments.

The MRCs who attended the meeting fulfilled the NJDEP's 2021 MTG requirement that all MRCs attend at least one County-held meeting in 2022. There were 34 Morris County MRCs in attendance at the meeting.

#### **Recycling Inspections**

On February 14, 2022, during Monday collections, the Recycling staff and the MCMUA Safety Officer performed inspections in both Mendham and Long Hill Townships. MCMUA District Recycling Coordinator Anthony Marrone introduced himself to Nancy Shay, Administrative Assistant to Mendham Township's Department of Public Works who serves as the MCMUA's contact for recycling matters and handed out educational information for distribution with the department. Shay recommended several hotspot areas to investigate which were subsequently followed up on. The staff also labeled MCMUA owned containers, performed inspections of container setouts, and provided customer service with residents in person as they came into the office while onsite reaching out directly to residents in person. In Long Hill Township, staff also met with residents directly and answered recycling questions as they pertained to missed recycling while onsite. As a direct result of inspections performed in Long Hill with multifamily complexes, staff set up a meeting with Al Gallo, Long Hill's MRC, and Zachary Chambers, Taylor Management's Community Manager at the Sunrise Apartment Complex, for March 7, 2022. It was discovered onsite that a large majority of recycling containers observed possessed contamination at unacceptable rates. Materials such as plastic bags, Styrofoam, food waste, and garbage are a few of the items observed. During inspections in both municipalities, contaminated setouts were noted, addresses were documented, and educational materials were sent out in the

mail the same day. In addition to onsite recycling inspections, MCMUA Safety Officer Fred Wilson, performed, unannounced, spot safety inspections on the curbside crews out that day.

On February 16, 2022, Recycling staff met with Mike Smith, Florham Park's MRC, and Alex Ortiz, Maintenance Manager, Avalon at Florham Park condos due to residential complaints that the hauler (Direct Waste) was collecting trash/recycling in the same truck. Staff explained source separation/recycling, tonnage reporting, HHW, and advised Mr. Ortiz of the municipalities recycling depot for supplemental usage. Staff scheduled a conference call for March 4, 2022, with Mike, Mr. Ortiz, and the Direct Waste to drive home the matter at hand and answer any further questions.

On February 18, 2022, Recycling and Curbside staff met with Pamela Weinstein, Taylor Management's Property Manager for Oak Ridge Condos in Whippany. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the current configuration of the waste area as it is a problem for our curbside vehicles to pick up material due to its size/location. Mike Simmons, Curbside Recycling Supervisor, who was present at the meeting, made several suggestions for improvement at that time. One such idea included the expansion of the existing area for which Ms. Weinstein informed staff onsite that the Municipality would not approve the change. As a result of this meeting, Recycling staff reached out to Brian Foran, Hanover's DPW Superintendent, and made an appointment for him to meet with staff onsite on March 14, 2022. Foran will investigate the issue and serve as a conduit to assist in the condominium complex getting approvals from the municipality. In addition, Staff noted contamination in the dumpsters during their site visit. Such items of note included leaving tops on the containers open to allow in moisture, sharps containers, electronic waste, and plastic bags. As a result of this inspection, Staff sent Ms. Weinstein education information and will provide the complex with 50 apartment bags for the residents at the time of the scheduled meeting on March 14, 2022.

# Customer Service/Curbside and Joint MUA Operations Support

On February 4, 2022, Recycling and Curbside staff met with Louis Ullerio, Pritchard Industries' Project Manager for maintenance at Canfield School, Mine Hill. Curbside crews were having trouble with the gate on the waste area. MCMUA staff advised Mr. Ullerio to keep dumpster lids closed, snow away from the gate, and dig out the soil around the gate so it can be opened easily. Staff also instructed Mr. Ullerio about acceptable/unacceptable recyclable materials and gave him a simplified flyer that can be updated with the school's information, as well as, single-stream flyers and signs to post. A meeting with the MCMUA and onsite custodial staff to explain these matters in further detail is pending at this time.

#### **Staff Training and Education**

On February 4, 2022, Recycling and Clean Communities staff held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting to coordinate operations, understand what works, improvement needs, and discuss plans of both departments.

On February 15, 2022, staff attended and took minutes for the Association of New Jersey Recycler's monthly meeting. The market report is that both low and high grades of old corrugated cardboard, OCC, numbers are still stable. As mentioned in the last report, new mills are expected to come online this year. However, the new mills will be fighting over an already scarce supply of OCC and mixed paper on the open market. Export prices are average at present but moving materials overseas presents a current challenge with supply chain inefficiencies still proving to be an issue. Plastics are stable at present but not as high as they were last year at this time. It is expected that markets will be leaning towards an upswing in the coming months.

District Recycling Coordinator Anthony Marrone attended and completed the Recycling Public Policy section which is a part of the New Jersey Recycling Certification Professionals education series at Rutgers University.

#### **Special Projects**

#### Borough of Morris Plains Memorial Day Parade

On February 23, 2022, Recycling staff contacted Steve Welsh, Morris Plains' Parade Chairman, and advised him that the MUA will be participating on 5/28/2022. Details are being worked out internally as to the message for the day of the event and logistics.

#### Recycle Coach

Recycle Coach is an online platform with web-based and smartphone apps. It is funded through the NJDEP and informs people when their recycling and garbage is collected as well as how to prepare materials and recycle properly. The NJDEP currently pays for all NJ counties and municipalities licenses to access Recycle Coach and it is already set up for them to use. Unfortunately, only a fraction of potential towns and users take advantage of this free educational service.

On February 4, 2022, at the MCMUA Recycling Department's team meeting, District Recycling Coordinator Marrone discussed a necessity to integrate the existing unutilized capabilities Recycle Coach has to offer into our recycling program. More importantly, it offers a large benefit to our curbside collection program as it offers both the capability to receive recycling collection issues directly from residents in real-time through its "help" page and the ability to notify residents through "push notifications" of collection date changes due to a snow event or other circumstances in an emergency. Kim Stuart, Customer Success Manager, at Recycle Coach, attended this meeting and as a result, the MCMUA began revising the MCMUA's curbside towns' Recycle Coach data to ensure the single-stream recycling information is correct. Additionally, we are getting local MRCs onboard to access and maintain their information within Recycle Coach.

#### Municipal Food Waste Recycling Pilot Project (Java's Compost)

On February 28, 2022, MCMUA Recycling staff and Executive Director Larry Gindoff met with Java's Compost of West Orange, NJ to further our growing need for the recycling of food waste. The MCMUA looked for possible vendors for food waste recycling services in our area and met with Java's Compost. The company currently operates in the southeastern portion of Morris County and has had positive results from collecting food waste at municipal depots utilizing toters and box-truck. The food waste is collected from these areas and transported to AgChoice in Sussex County for composting. A possible plan was discussed to develop several regional sites (municipal recycling depots) for drop-off. There would be a cost to run such a program and an appropriate fee structure for uses would have to be developed.

#### New Legislation to Consider Positive Future Effect Regarding Pricing

On Tuesday, January 18 Governor Murphy signed New Jersey's recycled content bill into law which established recycled content requirements starting in 2024.

- At that time, rigid plastic containers will need to contain at least 10% postconsumer recycled content, and plastic beverage containers will need to contain at least 15%.
  - o These rates will rise incrementally over the years and cap at 50% by 2036 and 2045, respectively.
- It establishes a 35% standard for recycled content in glass bottles; a 20% standard for plastic carryout bags; a standard of between 20% and 40% for paper carryout bags, depending on size; as well as a range of standards for plastic trash bags based on thickness.
- Polystyrene packing peanuts will be banned in 2024.
- The law directs the NJDEP to establish incentives while also working with the Association of New Jersey Recyclers and the Clean Communities Program to develop and implement education to encourage recycling.
- The law is reported to be the most ambitious recycled content law in the Northeast and possesses the ability to boost the local recycling economy.

# Article on the "Impacts of China Sword and Pandemic on Municipal Recycling & Solid Waste Contracts"

Presented at the 106th Annual League Conference, Gary Smalley, Municipal Services Manager with Republic Services wrote an article on the challenges of municipal waste management. A copy is attached to this report. The issues cited in the article closely mimic many of the challenges that MCMUA has faced over the past several years.

#### **Clean Communities**

#### February Educational Programs

No Clean Communities educational programs were sponsored.

#### February Road Cleanups

No Clean Communities Road cleanups conducted.

#### **General Activities**

Clean Communities staff reached out to and worked with Morris County municipalities to collect and submit outstanding Clean Communities statistical reports on behalf of the NJ Clean Communities Council (NJCCC).

Clean Communities staff reached out to several vendors on the NJ Clean Communities Council (NJCCC) approved list and set up a variety of school presentations, library programs, and outreach opportunities to further spread its motto of preventing litter and keeping Morris County litter-free.

On February 14, 2022, Clean Communities staff wrote and emailed all Morris County schools, both public and private, regarding the MCMUA's sponsored school cleanup programs and litter-free poster contest. Hard copies were subsequently mailed and a press release was created and forwarded for distribution in the County newsletter.

Reusable bags and insulated lunch bags with the Bag Up-NJ logo and message were received during this timeframe. Bags are being prepared and will be distributed with a message regarding the plastic bag ban to all Morris County employees.

During this time, the Whippany River Watershed Action Committee Bio Blitz event was scheduled to take place at Lewis Morris Park on June 4, 2022. Exhibitors were contacted for their availability and are pending confirmation at this event. The MCMUA will be participating with a table to provide educational information for distribution to the public.

The 4-H fair will take place July 24 - 27, 2022, and exhibitors were contacted regarding availability. The MCMUA will be participating with a table to provide educational information for distribution to the public.

During this time, Clean Communities Staff have agreed to participate in the annual Whippany River Cleanup scheduled for March 19, 2022. Staff onsite will participate in the cleanup activities for the day, hand out reusable shopping bags, and spread the message on the NJ Bag Ban.

District Recycling Coordinator Anthony Marrone attended the second module of the New Jersey Clean Communities Council Coordinator training course at Rutgers University.

# **OLD BUSINESS:**

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

# **NEW BUSINESS:**

Marilyn Regner informed the Board to look for an email from Laura Roberts from the County Clerk's Office around the end of March or beginning of April for the Financial Disclosure Statements. Will keep the Board apprised.

There being no further 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.

There being no further business, Chairwoman Kominos asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

7:48 p.m.
-