

Unity Area Recycling Center

95 Leonard Road
Thorndike, Maine 04986
email: uarrc@uninets.net

Phone: 207-568-3117
Fax: 207-568-3319

February 17, 2022

1. Bring Meeting to Order: Meeting brought to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Board Members and Alternates Present:

Paige Ziegler (Montville)

Diana Hauser (Unity)

Phil Bloomstein (Freedom)

Michael Berry (Thorndike)

Ross Nason (Dixmont)

Greg Falzetta (ALT Thorndike)

Don Pendleton (ALT Dixmont)

Kip Penney (Knox)

Beth Soucie (Unity)

Jeff Reynolds (UARRC Manager)

Steve Wright (UARRC Co-Manager)

Board Members and Alternates Absent:

Robert Hogg (Troy)

George Faulkner (Jackson)

Sharon Hibbard (ALT Montville)

3. Approve January' Minutes:

Motion to Accept, Seconded, Approved

Kip Penney & Michael Berry abstained

4. Agenda Adjustments:

none

5. Manager's Report:

glass plate on the glass crusher failed; a new one was installed by Jeff. Company gave us the new plate so as to test it and provide feedback

* old plate failed around the 20,000 piece mark, which is what the stated service life for a plate should be. New plate is made of a denser material.

Steve is keeping track of how many pieces/items are crushed

Steve is keeping track of how many work hours spent

shipped tin & mixed plastics

trucks are hard to come by with double or triple the price

discussion of 'our broker' and brokers in general

3rd or 4th busiest week ever at the UARRC with 185 +/- visits

Board received copies of the Manager's Report, UARRC's 2022-23 Budget,

Budget vs. Actual report, a copy of a town's recycling 'bill' and letter

6. General Discussion:

The Board is continuing our Strategic Planning Discussion

Greg began with options: scrap metal, running our own truck, attracting new towns
general thoughts are that those 3 options are long-term and would have at
least a 1 to 2 year start-up process. Let's start with some shorter-term ideas/
options, but keep them simmering on the back burner

Glass-Crusher consensus is talk of a larger crusher with a vertical feed and

applying for a new grant for it

discussion of current supply of crushed glass; no new concrete info from
interested parties (namely CellBlock company). Talk of storing it
outside under tarps or moving barrels outside. The facility needs inside
space that the crushed glass barrels are taking up.

suggestion that a skidsteer may be needed for use to move glass outside
Glass (now) is in barrels. If we dump it on the ground, will that cause
contamination?

a 'projection' should be ready for March's meeting

Question of attracting new towns to our facility

everything revolves around infrastructure (space, equipment), manpower
and how we serve our customers

We could add a smaller town. Our contract is meant to be able to serve so
many customers. To add many, many more customers requires expanded
infrastructure, additional manpower and access to grants for additions,
machinery, manpower etc.

We should not plan to serve more than 10,000 customers. We are currently
(according to town populations) at around 8,500

Comment - Montville (as of Dec. 1) stopped using their transfer station.
Because of a lack of a truck, more customers are coming individually to
the Center - seems that we aren't in a good position to add more towns
right now and to 'add' a town would involve contracts etc. ie. long-term
start-up process.

As of 2 1/2 years ago - there has been an enormous increase of customers.
Infrastructure would 'have to' expand if more business comes. It would
also mean adding more employees.

Ross's observations (as a consultant) - building could be enlarged without much trouble, but staff would definitely have to be added

In answer to the question - can we add more towns? We could add 1 - 2 small towns But a study based on infrastructure and manpower should be done.

Paint - no information as of yet

Consensus: Glass crushing is a 1st priority

New short-term and long-term ideas/projects/questions must be addressed with facility, equipment, manpower and customers as biggest areas to consider.

7. Wrap and Assignments:

Greg is presenting a 'straw man' (a rough outline with editorial notes) at next month's meeting concerning strategic planning

Phil is working on adding notes to our website concerning ZOOM meetings; decided on listing towns and their contact info

8. Adjournment:

Motion to accept, Seconded, Approved to adjourn at 8:45

*next Board Meeting is Thursday, March 17, 2022

9. Minutes Submitted: Diana Hauser (Unity) UARRC Secretary