

Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Board Members – Phil Mooney (Chair), Guy Surette, Carl Deveau, Yvon LeBlanc, George Manzer, Gerard LeBlanc, Mike Bartlett, Cliff Hood

Municipal CAO's/Support Staff/Other – Jeff Sunderland, Victoria Brooks

Waste Check Staff – Gus Green, Amy Hillyard, Nicole Hazlett (Recorder)

Regrets – Linda Gregory, Leland Anthony, Danny Harvieux

The meeting was held via video conference. The locations were the Municipality of Digby office and the Municipality of Yarmouth office.

1. **Approval of Agenda** – Both the Chair, Leland Anthony and Vice Chair, Linda Gregory were unable to attend the meeting and gave their regrets. Mr. Mooney was appointed Chair pro tem at the meeting. (moved by Cliff Hood, seconded by Carl Deveau) M/C . Gasification of plastics was added to the agenda under New Business (moved by Guy Surette, seconded by Yvon LeBlanc) M/C
2. **Approval of Minutes** – October 22, 2018 (moved by Mike Bartlett, seconded by George Manzer) M/C
3. **Business arising from minutes** – The GM explained that work on the report on cart breakages is ongoing. The database was set up prior without knowing that this information would be required so staff has to go through each delivery/repair sheet manually to pull the data and it is taking considerable time. A report will be available at a future meeting.
4. **Acceptance of the Review of Expenditures** - dated January 14, 2019 (moved by Carl Deveau, seconded by Guy Surette) M/C
5. **Staff Reports (Waste Check Connections)** – The GM explained that the staff worked with the RCMP to set up a traffic stop to hand out litter bags and information explaining the effects of litter. He is hoping to see this expanded to include other areas in the Region. Cart rejections discussed, higher in the Municipality of Argyle. The GM noted that rejections were taking place due to the use of biodegradable/compostable plastic bags. In the Municipality of Argyle, some residents put their garbage and recycling in with the organics and haulers were rejecting for that as well so this would increase the number of rejections in that area. Councillor Bourque from the Municipality of Argyle has set up an information session in one of those areas impacted by this for January 30th. The WRC noted that Staff are always available to provide this service to any area if requested.
6. **Regional Chairs Update** – The last meeting was held on November 30th. Mr. Hood recommended reading the article in the Chronicle Herald this morning on the banning of plastic bags. The Regional Chairs Committee sent a letter to the Minister requesting a meeting on the topic. The Minister responded but no date has been set. The next Chairs meeting is scheduled for February 22nd.
7. **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)** – The GM reported that the next meeting of the Priorities Committee is January 18th. He noted that the NSFM supported EPR at their Fall conference but they are not moving forward until their new director is in place and then you will see things move forward.
8. **Policy Committee Update** – A meeting has been scheduled with the Committee on January 22nd.
9. **New Business** – Gasification of Plastics – Mr. Manzer noted that this topic came up at the last Municipality of Digby Council meeting. The GM noted that there is one facility in operation with this technology in the

Province. Environment regulations forbid the use of materials that can be recycled to be included in the gasification or other alternative energy process and the Department hasn't backed away from this. There was a discussion on this topic. The GM reported that a summit is being planned on alternative energy technologies and staff will forward the information when it is available. There are usually limited seats available for these summits held by Divert Nova Scotia. Mr. Surette noted he will bring this topic to the NSFM for discussion at the Spring or Fall conference.

10. **Next Meeting – Monday February 11th, 2019 at 10:00** – This meeting will be by video conference. Locations will be in Yarmouth and Digby. Meeting locations will be the same.

11. **Adjournment**