



MEETING NOTICE

**RAMSEY/WASHINGTON COUNTY
RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT BOARD MEETING**

DATE: May 27, 2010
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: Resource Recovery Project
2785 White Bear Avenue, Suite 350
Maplewood, MN 55109

AGENDA:

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JULY 30, 2009**
- IV. BUSINESS**

- A. Administration
 - 1. 2009 & 2010 Monthly Report of Budget Activity Information
 - 2. 2010 Work Plan Action
- B. Policy
 - 1. 2009 Resource Recovery Project Results Report Information
 - 2. Current events in waste processing Information
 - a. RRT update – Mark Williamson, RRT
 - b. GRE – Representative of GRE
 - c. Minnesota Resource Recovery Assn. Update, Trudy Richter, MRRA
 - 3. Current events in waste management policy development Information
 - 4. Organic Waste Management Information
 - a. Updates on organic waste management
 - b. Commercial Organic Waste Availability – Foth Environmental and J.L. Taitt and Associates
 - c. Anaerobic Digestion – Pete Klein Saint Paul Port Auth.

- V. OTHER BUSINESS**

**RAMSEY/WASHINGTON COUNTY
RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT BOARD
JULY 30, 2009
MINUTES**

A meeting of the Ramsey/Washington County Resource Recovery Project was held at 8:30 a.m., July 30, 2009 at the St. Paul - Ramsey County Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Section, Maplewood, Minnesota.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioners Toni Carter, Rafael Ortega, Jan Parker, Victoria Reinhardt – Ramsey County
Commissioners Gary Kriesel, Lisa Weik – Washington County

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioner Janice Rettman – Ramsey County
Commissioner Bill Pulkrabek – Washington County
Basil Loveland, City of Newport Representative

ALSO ATTENDING:

Gary Bruns, Deborah Carter McCoy, Kim Erickson, Zack Hansen, Curt Hartog, Judy Hunter, Kevin Johnson, Susan Kuss, Harry McPeak, Katie Shaw, MJ Sheehan, Warren Shuros

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 29, 2009 MINUTES:

Commissioner Ortega moved, seconded by Commissioner Parker, to approve the minutes.

Roll Call: Ayes – 6 Nays – 0 Motion Carried.

SECTION A: ADMINISTRATION

2008 - 2009 Monthly Report of Budget Activity:

Susan Kuss said the 2008 – 2009 monthly disbursements are routine. There were no questions.

SECTION B: POLICY

2010 – 2011 Resource Recovery Project Budget:

Commissioner Ortega moved, seconded by Commissioner Parker, to approve and recommend that the Ramsey and Washington County Boards approve the 2010 and 2011 Resource Recovery Project Budget as recommended by the Resource Recovery Project Board Budget Committee.

Roll Call: Ayes – 6 Nays – 0 Motion Carried.

Update from RRT – President Kim Erickson

Kim Erickson updated the Project Board on the Newport Facility and Elk River Facility. He then presented an overview on engineered solid fuel from Municipal Solid Waste.

Feasibility Study: Anaerobic Digestion

Curt Hartog, Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC, presented to the Project Board a brief overview of the Solid Separated Organic Materials Anaerobic Digestion feasibility study. The presentation focused on Solid Separated Organic Materials supply, anaerobic digestion facility design, permitting and environmental considerations and the economics of a project.

Status of Waste Processing in the Metropolitan Area

Zack Hansen reviewed the current operations at RRT's Newport Facility and Elk River Facility.


ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Reinhardt adjourned the meeting.

Approved:

Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt

RAMSEY/WASHINGTON COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

BOARD MEETING DATE: <u>May 27, 2010</u> DATE SUBMITTED: <u>May 17, 2010</u>	
FROM: <u>Joint Staff Committee</u>	
<u>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:</u>	Report of Budget Activity 1) 2009 & 2010 Budget Condition Reports
<u>BACKGROUND:</u> The Resource Recovery Project Board requires that all payments be submitted for review.	
<u>PROJECT BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:</u> For information only.	
<u>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION:</u>	
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:</u>	
<u>REVIEWED BY:</u>	
<u>Ramsey County Attorney</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>Washington County Attorney</u>	<u>Date</u>
	<u>5.17.10</u>
Budgeting & Accounting	Date



Ramsey County ASPEN
ORGANIZATION BUDGET STATUS
By Fiscal Year & Accounting Period

Business Unit: RC Fund: 35101 Ramsey/Wash Co Res Recov Brd
Budget Period: BY2009 To Fiscal Year: 2010 To Accounting Period: 12 % of Fiscal Year Elapsed: 100.00

Organization	Program	Account	Tracking Budget	Adjusted Budget Amount	Pre-Encumbered Amount	Encumbered Amount	Expended Amount	% Expended	Remaining Spending Authority
140101	All Programs	State Auditor							
140101	00000	421102	Y	3,252.00	0.00	0.00	5,802.95	178.44	-2,550.95
140101	All Programs	Legal Services							
140101	00000	421201	Y	75,000.00	0.00	0.00	18,312.80	24.42	56,687.20
140101	All Programs	County Attorney Services							
140101	00000	421208	Y	12,976.00	0.00	0.00	3,175.28	24.47	9,800.72
140101	All Programs	Consulting Services							
140101	00000	421501	Y	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00
140101	All Programs	Engineering Service							
140101	00000	421502	Y	80,000.00	0.00	0.00	99,818.02	124.77	-19,818.02
140101	All Programs	Co Project Management Svcs							
140101	00000	421511	Y	256,867.00	0.00	0.00	251,038.54	97.73	5,828.46
140101	All Programs	Advertising & Promotion							
140101	00000	421602	Y	309,000.00	0.00	3,732.06	136,681.25	44.23	168,586.69
140101	All Programs	Equipment & Machinery Repairs							
140101	00000	422601	Y	500.00	0.00	0.00	372.71	74.54	127.29
140101	All Programs	Records Storage/Retriev Fees							
140101	00000	423309	Y	500.00	0.00	0.00	390.00	78.00	110.00
140101	All Programs	Liability & Property Damage							
140101	00000	424107	Y	22,400.00	0.00	0.00	25,312.00	113.00	-2,912.00



Ramsey County ASPEN
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Organization	Program	Account	Tracking Budget	Adjusted Budget Amount	Pre-Encumbered Amount	Encumbered Amount	Expended Amount	% Expended	Remaining Spending Authority
	All Programs	Membership & Dues							
140101	00000	424302	Y	750.00	0.00	0.00	750.00	100.00	0.00
	All Programs	Other Travel							
140101	00000	424304	Y	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00
	All Programs	County Manager Meeting Expense							
140101	00000	424306	Y	300.00	0.00	0.00	97.67	32.56	202.33
	All Programs	Other Services							
140101	00000	424601	Y	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	60,056.83	60.06	39,943.17
Total for Organization: 140101				874,045.00	0.00	3,732.06	601,808.05	68.85	268,504.89
		Ramsey/Wash Res Recov-Adm							
	All Programs	Resource Recovery Service Fee							
140102	00000	422306	Y	11,550,000.00	0.00	0.00	10,445,827.84	90.44	1,104,172.16
	All Programs	Rebates-Res Rec Tipping Fees							
140102	00000	424623	Y	4,200,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,800,939.04	90.50	399,060.96
Total for Organization: 140102				15,750,000.00	0.00	0.00	14,246,766.88	90.46	1,503,233.12
		Ramsey/Wash Res Recov-Srv Fee							
Total for Fund: 35101				16,624,045.00	0.00	3,732.06	14,848,574.93	89.32	1,771,738.01



Report ID: RMGL101

Ramsey County ASPEN
ORGANIZATION BUDGET STATUS
By Fiscal Year & Accounting Period

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Run Date 26.Feb.2010
Run Time 3:48:14 PM

Business Unit: RC *Fund:* 35101 Ramsey/Wash Co Res Recov Brd
Budget Period: BY2009 *To Fiscal Year:* 2010 *To Accounting Period:* 12 *% of Fiscal Year Elapsed:* 100.00

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Tracking Budget</u>	<u>Adjusted Budget Amount</u>	<u>Pre-Encumbered Amount</u>	<u>Encumbered Amount</u>	<u>Expended Amount</u>	<u>% Expended</u>	<u>Remaining Spending Authority</u>
<i>Report Total:</i>				16,624,045.00	0.00	3,732.06	14,848,574.93	89.32	1,771,738.01



Report ID: RMGL101

Ramsey County ASPEN
ORGANIZATION BUDGET STATUS
By Fiscal Year & Accounting Period

Page No. 1
Run Date 17.May.2010
Run Time 7:40:31 AM

Business Unit: RC
Budget Period: BY2010

Fund: 35101
To Fiscal Year: 2010

Ramsey/Wash Co Res Recov Brd
To Accounting Period: 12

% of Fiscal Year Elapsed: 100.00

Organization	Program	Account	Tracking Budget	Adjusted Budget Amount	Pre-Encumbered Amount	Encumbered Amount	Expended Amount	% Expended	Remaining Spending Authority
140101	All Programs	State Auditor							
140101	00000	421102	Y	5,360.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,360.00
140101	All Programs	Legal Services							
140101	00000	421201	Y	40,000.00	0.00	40,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
140101	All Programs	County Attorney Services							
140101	00000	421208	Y	13,457.00	0.00	0.00	370.00	2.75	13,087.00
140101	All Programs	Consulting Services							
140101	00000	421501	Y	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
140101	All Programs	Engineering Service							
140101	00000	421502	Y	95,000.00	0.00	30,493.39	64,506.61	67.90	0.00
140101	All Programs	Co Project Management Svcs							
140101	00000	421511	Y	262,301.00	0.00	0.00	7,778.72	2.97	254,522.28
140101	All Programs	Advertising & Promotion							
140101	00000	421602	Y	298,000.00	0.00	0.00	84,308.11	28.29	213,691.89
140101	All Programs	Records Storage/Retriev Fees							
140101	00000	423309	Y	500.00	0.00	240.00	120.00	24.00	140.00
140101	All Programs	Liability & Property Damage							
140101	00000	424107	Y	25,664.00	0.00	0.00	23,218.00	90.47	2,446.00
140101	All Programs	Membership & Dues							
140101	00000	424302	Y	750.00	0.00	0.00	750.00	100.00	0.00



Ramsey County ASPEN
ORGANIZATION BUDGET STATUS
By Fiscal Year & Accounting Period

Business Unit: RC
Budget Period: BY2010

Fund: 35101
To Fiscal Year: 2010

Ramsey/Wash Co Res Recov Brd
To Accounting Period: 12

% of Fiscal Year Elapsed: 100.00

Organization	Program	Account	Tracking Budget	Adjusted Budget Amount	Pre-Encumbered Amount	Encumbered Amount	Expended Amount	% Expended	Remaining Spending Authority
	All Programs	Other Travel							
140101	00000	424304	Y	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
	All Programs	County Manager Meeting Expense							
140101	00000	424306	Y	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
	All Programs	Other Services							
140101	00000	424601	Y	100,000.00	0.00	38,332.50	21,667.50	21.67	40,000.00
Total for Organization: 140101				845,832.00	0.00	110,565.89	202,718.94	23.97	532,547.17
Ramsey/Wash Res Recov-Adm									
	All Programs	Resource Recovery Service Fee							
140102	00000	422306	Y	7,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,856,070.20	26.52	5,143,929.80
	All Programs	Rebates-Res Rec Tipping Fees							
140102	00000	424623	Y	4,200,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,007,322.96	23.98	3,192,677.04
	All Programs	Subsidies to Other Entities							
140102	00000	425102	Y	50,000.00	0.00	41,615.89	8,384.11	16.77	0.00
Total for Organization: 140102				11,250,000.00	0.00	41,615.89	2,871,777.27	25.53	8,336,606.84
Ramsey/Wash Res Recov-Srv Fee									
Total for Fund: 35101				12,095,832.00	0.00	152,181.78	3,074,496.21	25.42	8,869,154.01



Report ID: RMGL101

Ramsey County ASPEN
ORGANIZATION BUDGET STATUS
By Fiscal Year & Accounting Period

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Business Unit: RC
Budget Period: BY2010

Fund: 35101
To Fiscal Year: 2010

Ramsey/Wash Co Res Recov Brd
To Accounting Period: 12

% of Fiscal Year Elapsed: 100.00

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Tracking Budget</u>	<u>Adjusted Budget Amount</u>	<u>Pre-Encumbered Amount</u>	<u>Encumbered Amount</u>	<u>Expended Amount</u>	<u>% Expended</u>	<u>Remaining Spending Authority</u>
<i>Report Total:</i>				12,095,832.00	0.00	152,181.78	3,074,496.21	25.42	8,869,154.01

**RAMSEY/WASHINGTON COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT
REQUEST FOR PROJECT BOARD ACTION**

BOARD MEETING DATE: <u>May 27, 2010</u>		DATE SUBMITTED: <u>May 14, 2010</u>	
FROM: <u>Joint Staff Committee</u>			
<u>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:</u>		2010 Project Work Plan	
		1) Work Plan	
		2) Meeting Schedule	
<u>BACKGROUND:</u>			
<p>Staff have prepared a 2010 work plan for the Project. This describes the major work activities for the Resource Recovery Project in 2010. It is expected that the Board will have at least one more meeting, on September 23, 2010. Additional meetings may be scheduled if issues arise.</p>			
<u>PROJECT BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:</u>			
The Project Board is requested to accept the proposed work plan.			
<u>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION:</u>			
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:</u>			
<u>REVIEWED BY:</u>			
_____ Ramsey County Attorney		_____ Date	
_____ Washington County Attorney		_____ Date	
		_____ Budgeting & Accounting	
		_____ Date	

**Ramsey/Washington County
Resource Recovery Project
2010 Work Plan**

Administration

- RRT Processing Agreement & Facility Operations
 - Monitor waste delivery status at Facility
 - Monitor any changes to Alternative Facility Collection Points (St. Paul Transfer Station)
 - Monitoring performance standards
 - Verify public entity pricing
 - Receive, verify and pay invoices
- CEC/Hauler Rebates/Olsen-Thielen Hauler Reviewing
 - Meet to confer, assure coordination and revise procedures and responsibilities as necessary
 - Receive and process rebate applications
- Consultant Contracts
 - Renewals Fall 2011 (Executive Committee)
- Budget
 - 2010 budget monitoring and billing to Counties
 - Assess Project Fund Balance level and use
 - 2010 – 2011 budget Review and Changes necessary for 2011
 - Review insurance and risk management for Project
- Engineering
 - Operations monitoring, periodic visits to Facility and annual inspection
 - Combustion facility status
 - Continued research focus on emerging processing technologies and issues, including research on anaerobic digestion

Planning and Policy Development

- Schedule and Prepare for Project Board meetings
- Regional Processing – Monitor SWMCB work and status of Elk River Facility
- Plans for post-2012 processing
- Monitor waste assurance work, such as waste designation, organized collection
- Monitor Market based processing system and system costs
- Regional Policy Plan Revision and County Master Plan Revisions
- Monitor Research on impacts to processing and greenhouse gas and carbon emissions

Schools, including ISD 622 Project

- ISD 622 – Resources for Recycling Needs
- Develop a strategic plan with priority list of outreach services to the selected K-12 public schools related to recycling and food waste through 2012
- Monitor changes to tours at the Resource Recovery Facility, continuing to fund school bus costs for field trips

Anaerobic Digestion Project and Organic Waste Management

- Prepare response to SPPA request for County participation
- Prepare policy discussion for Project Board, including examining and exploring counties joint role in organics management
- Continue research on sources of organic waste
 - Residue
 - Commercially available sources
- Research and provide updates on other industry plans in organics management
- Evaluate food reuse efforts with Second Harvest Heartland

Outreach and Education

- Mailings and Social Media (see table next page)
- Distribution of trash trunks

2010 Resource Recovery Project Outreach and Education Work Plan "Trash Today"			
Month	Item	Audience	Topic
February - March	Green Guide	Ramsey County Residents	How to manage waste and where
April (Earth Day)	Post Card	Ramsey/Washington Businesses	Recycling awareness; Savings possible by recycling
April (Earth Day)	Pioneer press on-line ads	On-line readers in Ramsey/Washington Counties	Recycle cans and bottles to save energy and reduce GHG
May	Post Card	Ramsey/Washington Residents	Residential recycling consistent with SWMCB theme
June- July	Pioneer Press on-line ads	On-line readers in Ramsey/Washington Counties	Recycle away from home
July - August	Pioneer Press on-line ads	Ramsey/Washington County Residents	Recycle away from home
September	Post Card	Ramsey/Washington Businesses	Topic tbd
September	Post Card	Ramsey County Residents	Yard waste reminder
September	Green Guide	Washington County Residents	How to manage waste and where
November	Pioneer Press on-line ads	On-line readers in Ramsey/Washington Counties	CFL recycling

Ramsey/Washington County Resource Recovery Project 2009 Results Report

2009 marked the third year of the revised Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between Ramsey and Washington Counties for solid waste issues. The prominent feature of the JPA is to manage resource recovery services. 2009 also marked the third year of the Solid Waste Processing Agreement with Resource Recovery Technologies (RRT). This report provides highlights of Resource Recovery Project activities for 2009. Please note that this is not a report on all of Ramsey and Washington Counties' waste management activities, only those associated with the Joint Powers Agreement.

RRT Processing Agreement

On January 1, 2007, the Processing Agreement between Ramsey and Washington Counties and Resource Recovery Technologies went into effect. That agreement realigned the Counties' role in waste processing, reduced government involvement in many of the operational issues, and continued to assure that processing services are available.

Deliveries

Under the Processing Agreement, RRT is responsible to contract with waste haulers for a supply of waste, assure that at least 280,800 tons per year of waste are under contract, and meet certain performance guarantees. Each year, RRT has to demonstrate that it has the minimum tonnage under contract. By entering into contracts with haulers through 2012, RRT has met this requirement.

Waste Delivery Contracts between RRT and Haulers

Number of haulers that RRT has under contract: 67

Contract term: Through 2012

Tonnage under contract: At least 280,800 tons

List of haulers: See Attachment 1

The term of the agreement with RRT is through 2012. The cost of processing to the Counties is predictable and goes down over time. The Counties pay for processing in two ways: direct processing payments to RRT for each ton of waste delivered for processing, and through a hauler rebate. In 2009, a total of 317,589 tons of waste from Ramsey and Washington Counties was delivered for processing by haulers and citizens. Because the facility is now considered a "merchant facility," and can market its services more freely, RRT was able to secure waste from other counties. The total deliveries received at the facility, including waste from other counties, were 391,329 tons, dropping below 400,000 tons per year for the first time.

Number of tons of Ramsey and Washington County waste delivered by haulers, by month:

2009 R/W Co. Tons Delivered to Plant by Ramsey/ Washington Haulers	
January	23,687.23
February	21,550.27
March	24,601.18
April	27,363.66
May	27,864.87
June	28,749.31
July	28,800.10
August	28,310.29
September	28,428.45
October	28,556.34
November	24,914.52
December	23,712.02
Total:	316,538.24

Cost of Processing Payments to RRT in 2009, at the rate of \$33 per ton:

2009 INVOICE AMOUNTS	
January	\$ 782,044.48
February	\$ 711,158.91
March	\$ 811,838.94
April	\$ 903,000.78
May	\$ 919,540.71
June	\$ 948,727.23
July	\$ 950,403.30
August	\$ 934,239.57
September	\$ 938,138.85
October	\$ 942,359.22
November	\$ 822,179.16
December	\$ 782,196.69
TOTAL	\$ 10,445,827.84

Citizen Waste

The Processing Agreement requires RRT to manage and make available to residents of the two counties a location for depositing waste. Citizen waste has been accepted at the Newport facility since the inception of the plant. (Prior to 2009 RRT also provided for a drop-off site for citizen waste at the St. Paul Transfer Station; RRT's arrangement with the transfer station terminated during 2009.) A total of 1,050.78 tons was received in 2009, as shown below:

Citizen Waste Delivered to Newport Facility	
	<u>2009</u>
January	45.86
February	54.47
March	64.04
April	82.28
May	89.37
June	95.56
July	115.18
August	158.50
September	104.84
October	89.95
November	87.83
December	62.90
	<hr/> 1050.78

Performance Guarantees

There are two performance guarantees in the Processing Agreement. Both guarantees were met. The first guarantee is to process 85% of the Ramsey/Washington waste that RRT accepts. This was met by processing 91.9%. The second guarantee is to recover 85% of the waste processed as RDF or Secondary Materials (ferrous and aluminum). This guarantee was met by recovering 93.2%. The percentage recovered increased over 6% from 2008 as RRT converted a higher percentage of MSW received into RDF to better meet fuel demands.

There is one other performance related goal, to receive at least 280,800 tons per year from Ramsey and Washington Counties. RRT received 317,589 tons from haulers and citizens.

Financial Information

The Counties pay for processing of waste in two ways, summarized in the table, below:

- **Processing Payment:** For each ton of Ramsey/Washington County waste delivered, the Counties pay an agreed upon per-ton fee to RRT. The fee is fixed, and it changes over the six-year term of the agreement.
- **Hauler Rebate:** The Counties created a hauler rebate program, in which haulers submit proof of delivery to the processing facility, and, in turn, are paid by the Counties a per-ton fee for each ton delivered.

Resource Recovery Project Financial Information 2007 to 2012						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Processing Payment	\$40/ton	\$40/ton	\$33/ton	\$20/ton	\$15/ton	\$10/ton
Hauler Rebate	\$12/ton	\$12/ton	\$12/ton	\$12/ton	\$14/ton	\$14/ton
County cost for Processing	\$52/ton	\$52/ton	\$45/ton	\$32/ton	\$29/ton	\$24/ton
RRT's Tipping Fee (per ton)	1/1 – 7/1 \$46 7/1–12/31 \$50	\$55	\$59	\$64	\$68	\$72

Hauler Rebate Program

Beginning in 2007, the Counties established a hauler rebate program to encourage processing of waste, in which the Counties pay haulers a per-ton rebate for each ton of Ramsey or Washington County MSW delivered for processing. The rebate is \$12 per ton of MSW delivered in 2007 through 2010, and \$14 per ton for 2011 and 2012. The rebate is only available to licensed haulers that comply with State and County regulations and ordinances, to include but not be limited to the collection and

remittance of the County Environmental Charge (CEC). Haulers apply for a rebate by submitting a form to the Project. The Project verifies the hauler's MSW delivery tonnage and issues a rebate payment, unless the hauler has been designated by one or both Counties as ineligible to receive a rebate.

While there are 67 haulers under contract to RRT, and a few more that deliver without a contract, not all haulers submit rebate requests. In 2009, 45 hauling companies claimed rebates, while 23 did not. Those that did not are mostly small self-haulers or firms that are primarily construction/demolition haulers that bring in an occasional load. These numbers are very similar to the 2008 data.

During 2009, a total of 45 different haulers applied for and received rebates for delivery of waste for processing. The Counties paid \$3,800,939 in rebates to these haulers. Because of time delays in applications, some rebates paid in 2009 were for deliveries in 2008, and some 2009 deliveries will be rebated in 2010.

2009 Budget Status

2009 was the second year of a two-year budget. The Resource Recovery Project budget consists of two components: the operating costs associated with oversight of the Project (staff time, advertising, lease space, consultant services, supplies, etc.), and the service fee to RRT and rebates to haulers. All costs are shared between the two Counties based on a formula that assigns 73% of costs to Ramsey County and 27% to Washington County.

In 2009, the budget for operating costs was \$874,045. Actual spending fell below this level. Operating expenditures were \$605,540, resulting in savings of \$268,505. The 2009 budget for RRT's payment and hauler rebates was a total of \$15,750,000, based on a payment to RRT of \$33 per ton and rebates to the waste haulers of \$12 per ton for 350,000 tons of waste delivered, for a total of \$4,200,000. Actual tonnage delivered from haulers was 316,538 tons, resulting in savings of \$1,104,172 in processing payments and \$399,061 in hauler rebates. The savings associated both with operations and processing costs accrued to the Counties.

Education and Outreach

Website

The Resource Recovery Project website was updated to provide the user with more immediate access to resources. The website was viewed just under 2,500 times in 2009. Web users accessed information on food waste, reports and educational information.

Trash Today

Trash Today has been used as a principal means of communicating about resource recovery with residents and businesses in the two counties for many years. In 2009, the *Trash Today* publications were expanded to include postcards. There was one mailing of the newsletter version of *Trash Today* and two post card mailings.

305,536 copies of *Trash Today* publications were sent three times in 2009 to residents of both counties. The publications included:

- Spring newsletter,
- Recycling post card, and
- E-waste post card.

Trash Trunks

The Trash Trunks provided by the Project have been in high demand over the years. In 2008, staff completed work with a contractor to revise the Trash Trunks. The revised Trunks focus on the garbage problem, groundwater, and resource recovery. In 2009, Trash Trunks were signed out 74 times, reaching over 4,400 people.

Tours

RRT encourages tours of its facility in Newport and has established schedules to accommodate the demand. In 2009, as in previous years, the Project funded the cost of busing school groups for field trips to the facility.

Tours in 2008 were interrupted following a serious explosion of grain dust at the facility in August of that year. Following this, for safety reasons, the process for conducting tours was evaluated. County staff worked with RRT to redesign the tours, which resumed in early 2009.

The new tour format takes the visitor deep into the equipment through real-time video. The tour guide is easier to hear as the presentation takes place in a classroom inside the plant. The tour previously went through the plant and visitors were able to see the exterior of the equipment and hear the noise of the facility. Today, the tour guide takes the visitor on a video tour from the tipping floor, up the conveyor, into the shredders, hammer mills, magnets and aluminum separators and into the trucks. The cameras show the plant operation in real-time. This part of the tour allows the visitor a more intimate understanding of the mechanical inner working of the plant. Other features of the tour are still intact.

Resource Recovery Project Tour Data

Number of tours arranged through the Project: 30

Number of tours where busing costs were provided: 11

Cost of Busing: \$1,009.75

Number of people attending tours: 506 students, 186 adults

Organic Waste Management

For the past seven years the Project has coordinated work on organic waste management, including food waste, on behalf of the two Counties. Much of this work has been coordinated through the Project's consultant, J.L. Taitt and Associates.

Food Rescue through Second Harvest Heartland

The Project and Second Harvest Heartland (SHH) entered into a pilot agreement during 2008 through 2009 which SHH provided and expanded food rescue services within the counties, aided by financial assistance from the Project. The Project and SHH have entered into a new contract for 2010 through 2011. The primary focus of these services is on significantly increasing the quantity of perishable foods collected from deli, dairy, meat, produce, and bakery departments in major grocery store chains, most of which are now participating with SHH. As a result, the quantity of food waste recovered by SHH within the two counties has steadily increased, from 334 tons during 2007, prior to the pilot agreement, to 563 tons during 2008, and 811 tons during 2009.

K-12 Schools

The Project continued to work with K-12 schools in both counties, providing technical assistance and liaison services for the implementation of food waste recovery and recycling systems. During 2009, 12 additional schools within both counties began food waste recycling, for a total of 89 schools by the end of 2009.

Within Washington County, the 12 public and private schools that initiated or continued food waste recycling programs diverted about 220 tons of food waste during 2009, for an average of about 49 pounds per student (including staff food waste) and about 18 tons per school. Within Ramsey County, Saint Paul Public Schools diverted about 1,760 tons of food waste during 2009 at 58 schools, for an average of about 120 pounds per student and about 30 tons per school. The differences between Washington County and Saint Paul schools participating in food waste recycling programs can primarily be accounted for by two factors: higher average enrollment per school in Washington County, and higher generation per student in Saint Paul because, unlike most of the schools in Washington County with food waste recycling programs, all schools in the Saint Paul district offer breakfast programs, and much of the resulting food waste is discarded milk.

Food waste recycling can result in cost savings when coupled with “right-sizing” of garbage collection to reducing pickup frequency and/or container size.

Highlights include:

North St. Paul – Maplewood - Oakdale School District

- Established food waste recycling at Oakdale Elementary and Carver Elementary (Maplewood) schools. However, in early 2010 the District stopped the program at all three participating schools (including Castle Elementary in Oakdale).

Roseville Area Schools

- Established food waste recycling at Parkview Center School, following implementation of a comprehensive recycling program begun in late 2008.

Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS)

- Established food waste recycling at two additional secondary schools, Como Park Senior High and Johnson Senior High (kitchen waste only).

Stillwater Area Public Schools

- Established food waste recycling at Lake Elmo Elementary, Stillwater Junior High, and Stillwater Senior High schools.

White Bear Lake Area Schools

- Established food waste recycling for kitchen waste only at Central Middle School, Sunrise Park Middle School, and White Bear Lake Area High School – North Campus.

Private and Charter Schools

- Established food waste recycling at Transfiguration Catholic School in Oakdale.

Ramsey County Facilities

- Established food waste recycling at six Ramsey County facilities: Boys Totem Town, Law Enforcement Center, Ramsey County Care Center, Juvenile Family Justice Center, Landmark Center, and Family Service Center.
- Expanded food waste recycling program at the Ramsey County Correctional Facility to include an inmate sort line and to recover plate waste.
- Recovered about 200 tons of food waste.
- Developed a Waste & Resource Management Specification for foodservice contracts awarded by Ramsey County. This is an important tool that will standardize daily food waste recovery and recycling operations among foodservice vendors serving Ramsey County facilities.

Green Events & Festivals

Food waste recycling was piloted at two events, *Cinco de Mayo* and *Grand Old Days*.

Other Activities

Engineering Review of RRT and Xcel Facilities

The Processing Agreement with RRT provides that the Counties can “inspect” the RRT facilities. In early 2010 the Counties’ engineering consultant, Foth Infrastructure & Environment, conducted site visits at RRT’s facility in Newport, and Xcel Energy’s facility in Red Wing.

- During the site visits, interviews, and a walk-through with RRT and Xcel representatives, no major current problems were identified. Both facilities had fewer unexpected maintenance outages in 2009. Both facilities had continuity of plant leadership through 2009. No issues were reported pertaining to quality of RDF, only quantity. Xcel continues to maintain the combustion facilities at a status quo level. Xcel is developing an engineering structural integrity report about the two plants’ life expectancies, with preliminary conclusions that there are no major structural expenses expected within the next 5 – 15 years*. Xcel is interested in a renewal of its fuel agreement with RRT, and would like to discuss that issue with the Counties. The Xcel Resource Plan will be renewed later this year, and the role of RDF combustion is up for consideration.

- Waste deliveries from R/W Counties declined in 2009 compared to previous years, as pointed out earlier in this report. Further, less waste was delivered from out-of-county sources. RRT reported that deliveries in 2008 and 2009 have decreased by about 11%. RRT attributed this to a down economy, weather related issues, and reclassification of waste materials from MSW to other waste classifications.
- No specific improvements were implemented at Newport in 2009. RRT reports that it intends to improve metal recovery at Newport, and it continues to use the bulky waste shredder to increase RDF production.
- The RRT budget for 2009 is based upon delivery of 310,000 tons from Ramsey and Washington Counties, and 90,000 tons from other sources. RRT's Waste Delivery Contract tipping fee increased to \$64 per ton in 2010 (up from \$59 per ton in 2009).

* In the final report, Xcel identified no significant structural or regulatory issues that would prohibit continued operation for a five to fifteen year period.

Research Report – Prepared for the Project by Foth. This is available on the Resource Recovery website.

- ***Source Separated Organic Materials Anaerobic Digestion Feasibility Study, 2009.*** This study examines the feasibility of an anaerobic digestion (AD) facility for source separated organic materials (SSOM) collected from eight counties in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The feasibility study examines current AD technologies, availability of SSOM, and utilizing AD technology to convert the organic material to methane for thermal or electric power generation.

Regional Waste Processing

Since 2000, the Counties have been encouraging the SWMCB and MPCA to focus on a regional approach to waste processing. During 2008, the SWMCB continued to examine ways for this to happen, with much of the discussion depending on RRT's ability to negotiate with Anoka and Hennepin Counties and the Tri-County (Sherburne, Stearns, Benton) for services at the Elk River Resource Recovery Facility. During 2009, those discussions came to a conclusion, without progress in a regional approach.

The most significant development was related to the RRT's Elk River Resource Recovery Facility. RRT and Anoka County entered into an agreement similar to the Ramsey/Washington County Processing Agreement, through 2012. Hennepin County, however, decided not to participate in the Elk River Project any longer. RRT is seeking to sell the processing facility to Great River Energy (GRE), which owns the combustor that uses RDF from the Elk River facility*. GRE would then be responsible for seeking sufficient waste to operate both facilities.

*The Elk River facility was sold to GRE in 2010.

Rock-Tenn Energy Supply

The formal community process to explore the energy problem at Rock-Tenn came to a close at the end of 2008. The St. Paul Port Authority prepared a report which was finalized after a complete public engagement process.

The recommendations for renewable energy supply for Rock-Tenn contained in the report are as follows:

1. Utilize the production of renewable biogas from anaerobic digestion facility in rural Minnesota as an energy offset and build a new gas-turbine, co-generation facility at Rock-Tenn. This turbine would generate both steam for Rock-Tenn operations and electricity sold wholesale to a utility.
2. Utilize willow, perennial grasses and forest residue in a gasification facility to be built at Rock-Tenn.

The Port Authority continues in its leadership role to secure financing and develop the energy solution for Rock-Tenn, and most recently is examining an anaerobic digester at or near Rock-Tenn to supply biogas, using source separated organic materials as a feedstock.

Rock-Tenn continues to work to decrease their energy needs through conservation and efficiency upgrades, and has made substantial progress.

Rock-Tenn will continue to explore options to utilize waste heat generated by Rock-Tenn operations in a district energy system. These options will be explored independently of the work by the Port Authority.

**Attachment 1:
HAULERS UNDER CONTRACT WITH RRT**

<i>Hauler</i>	<i>Type of Delivery Agreement with RRT</i>	<i>Date Signed</i>
A-1 Hauling	All Waste	12/21/2006
Allied Waste Services of North America	Contracted	12/29/2006
All-Star Disposal, Inc.	Contracted	12/30/2006
Aspen Waste Systems Inc.	Contracted	12/18/2006
The Barrelman	All Waste	1/9/2007
Biffs Boxes	All Waste	12/28/2006
Bauer Roll Off Services	Contracted	
Capitol Waste Systems	All Waste	
City of Cottage Grove	All Waste	12/7/2006
City of North St. Paul	All Waste	12/6/2006
City of Oakdale	All Waste	12/7/2006
City of St. Paul Parks & Recreation	All Waste	
City of St. Paul Public Works	All Waste	12/21/2006
Coolidge Trucking	All Waste	12/14/2006
Dan's Container Service	All Waste	
Dick's Sanitation Inc.	All Waste	2/5/2007
Diversified Manufacturing Corp.	All Waste	1/2/2007
Eggers Property	All Waste	12/21/2006
Elite Waste Services	All Waste	
ET Hughes Construction	All Waste	
Forest Lake Sanitation/SRC	All Waste	12/13/2006
G. Logan & Sons Hauling Inc.	All Waste	12/31/2006
Gene's Disposal	All Waste	11/21/2006
Highland Sanitation	All Waste	11/16/2006
Horak Inc	All Waste	12/29/2006
Horrigan Hauling	All Waste	12/14/2006
Keith Krupenny & Son Disposal	All Waste	
Ken Berquist & Sons	All Waste	10/3/2006
KO Sanitation	All Waste	
Kowski Roll Off	Contracted	
Krupenny & Son Inc.	All Waste	11/10/2006
Lightning Disposal Inc.	All Waste	12/26/2006
Lloyd's Construction	All Waste	
Manteuffel Services	All Waste	
Maroney's Sanitation	All Waste	11/9/2006
Mudek Trucking	All Waste	10/3/2006

Nitti Sanitation Inc.	Contracted	12/26/2006
Peterson-Waddle Inc.	All Waste	11/21/2006
Pete's Rubbish Hauling	All Waste	11/28/2006
Piepmo Moving & Storage Inc.	All Waste	1/22/2007
Pleasant View Tree Service	All Waste	
R & M Sanitation	All Waste	11/15/2006
Ramsey County Parks & Recreation	All Waste	1/16/2007
Ray Anderson & Sons Co. Inc.	All Waste	12/30/2006
Red Arrow Inc.	Contracted	12/14/2006
Red Arrow LLC	Contracted	12/14/2006
Robinson Industries	All Waste	1/10/2007
Schill's Dumpster Service	All Waste	1/7/2007
Schmidt Disposal & Recycling	All Waste	
South Washington School District	All Waste	
State of MN Dept. of Adm.	All Waste	
T & T Disposal	All Waste	
Tennis Brothers Sanitation	All Waste	11/16/2006
Tennis Roll-Off	All Waste	11/16/2006
Tennis Sanitation LLC	All Waste	11/16/2006
Tony Mudek Sanitation	All Waste	10/3/2006
Triangle Rubbish	All Waste	12/1/2006
Troj's Trash Pickup Inc.	All Waste	9/20/2006
Twin City Refuse Recycling & Transfer Station	All Waste	11/30/2006
U of M-Waste Mgmt.	All Waste	
Veolia ES	Contracted	
Veolia ES Vasko Roll Off	Contracted	
Veolia ES Vasko Solid Waste	Contracted	
Waldorf Corporation/Rock Tenn	All Waste	12/31/2006
Walters Recycling & Refuse	Contracted	12/29/2006
Waste Management of MN Inc.	All Waste	11/6/2006
WTI	Contracted	1/30/2007



RAMSEY/WASHINGTON COUNTY
RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT

2785 White Bear Avenue • Suite 350 • Maplewood, Minnesota 55109 • 651.266.1194 • 651.266.1177

May 14, 2010

To: Ramsey/Washington County Resource Recovery Project Board

From: Joint Staff Committee

Re: Current Events in Waste Management Policy Development

There are a number of issues in waste management currently under discussion at the State and regional level that will affect Ramsey and Washington Counties' work in waste management. These are outlined below.

Solid Waste Policy Changes

- A *MPCA Stakeholder Process* was recently completed. This effort was aimed and changes in the solid waste system that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and is being used by MPCA for direction on redesign of the waste system in the metropolitan area. The report can be found at <http://www.mn-ei.org/projects/SolidWasteFinalReport.html>
- MPCA's *Solid Waste Policy Report* to the Legislature: There is a new focus on greenhouse gas emissions and energy related to the waste management system, which will drive some change, as well as a call for a new governance approach to waste management in the State. <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/download-document/3911-2009-solid-waste-policy-report.html>
- MPCA's *Regional Policy Plan* is under revision now with a new plan expected later in 2010. It is expected that there will be a call for more significant changes in the waste management system in this round of planning, including:
 - Improved governance, with clearer roles and responsibilities, appropriate authority, and good accountability;
 - Significantly higher goals for recycling over time, reaching a 60% rate by 2030 (current rate is about 41% without "credits");
 - New goals for separate management of organic waste, as high as 10% (current rate is about 2.5%);
 - Maintenance of processing at about the current level; and
 - Significantly reduced landfilling over the next 20 years,
- *Regional/County Master Plan Revision* begins in 2011, triggered by the revision of the Policy Plan.
- *Regional Governance Analysis*: The SWMCB and MPCA are conducting a study on regional governance of solid waste in collaboration in 2010. The charge for that work is to "Define a vision for the solid waste system and the regional actions needed to achieve the vision. Prioritize roles and responsibilities of the participants. Analyze legal, regulatory, and governance factors that will advance the vision. A Regional Analysis Policy committee, comprised of one commissioner from each SWMCB member county, and chaired by Commissioner Harris (Dakota County), met for the first time on May 13, 2010.
- *Hennepin County Strategic Plan* was prepared by staff following County Board direction in 2009. It is under discussion by the Board, and outlines options for that County to pursue in meeting waste management goals.

**RAMSEY/WASHINGTON COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT
REQUEST FOR PROJECT BOARD ACTION**

BOARD MEETING DATE: <u>May 27, 2010</u>	DATE SUBMITTED: <u>May 14, 2010</u>
FROM: <u>Joint Staff Committee</u>	
<u>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:</u> Organic Waste Management 1) Memo from Joint Staff dated 5.14.10	
<u>BACKGROUND:</u> The Resource Recovery Project has been working on organic waste management since 2003. There are currently three main areas of activity: working with school districts and institutions to develop programs to separately manage organic waste, working with Second Harvest Heartland to rescue perishable food for people, and conducting research on organic waste suitable for an anaerobic digester. These activities will be reported on at the May 27th meeting.	
<u>PROJECT BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:</u> For information only	
<u>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION:</u> None	
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:</u>	
<u>REVIEWED BY:</u>	
<u>Ramsey County Attorney</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>Washington County Attorney</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>Budgeting & Accounting</u>	<u>Date</u>



RAMSEY/WASHINGTON COUNTY
RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT

2785 White Bear Avenue • Suite 350 • Maplewood, Minnesota 55109 • 651.266.1194 • 651.266.1177

May 14, 2010

To: Ramsey/Washington County Resource Recovery Project Board

From: Joint Staff Committee

Re: Organic Waste Management Update

Food waste, soiled and non-recyclable papers, and other organic materials comprise about 1/4 of the mixed municipal solid waste (MSW) stream, and up to 1/3 of residential MSW. Managing these organic materials separately, through reuse, recycling, and composting and anaerobic digestion is an emerging opportunity to conserve natural resources and energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) emissions. Separate management of organic materials supports the higher levels of the waste management hierarchy by managing waste according to its highest and most sustainable use; helps improve waste-to-energy facility operations by removing heavy, wet waste, and helps extend the useful life of landfills.

Organic materials management encompasses a number of methods, including:

- Backyard Composting
- Food Rescue (Food-to-People)
- Food-to-Animals (Livestock Feeding, Livestock Feed Manufacturing)
- Organics Composting at Composting Facilities
- Anaerobic Digestion
- Grind and Sewer
- Rendering

Separate management of organic materials is not new in Ramsey and Washington counties. There are a number of initiatives underway in the metropolitan area to move organic waste management up the hierarchy; many involve a public-private partnership while others are sustained entirely by the private sector. Given that the composition of organic materials varies depending on the source, multiple management methods must be offered to maximize the recovery potential across the region.

Source separated organic waste programs in Ramsey and Washington Counties are currently only carried out for the commercial/institutional sector (with the exception of a pilot program in 2001 in portions of Saint Paul). While some haulers and some communities in Hennepin County offer residential organic waste collection (with financial and technical assistance from Hennepin County), there are currently no such programs in the east metro area. Commercial collection has been substantial, with almost half of the food waste generated collected and managed by various methods. The remaining volume is managed as mixed municipal solid waste, at either landfills or the resource recovery facility.

The Resource Recovery Project has been working on organic waste management for several years, in several ways:

- Direct outreach and technical assistance to commercial and institutional establishments to initiate recovery of organics
- Technical and financial assistance to school districts in the counties for food waste recovery

- Financial assistance to Second Harvest Heartland for food rescue
- Outreach and education, primarily to commercial generators, with practical advice and tools to implement food recovery
- Research and engineering studies on recovery of organics, in support of an anaerobic digester to serve Rock-Tenn.
- The approved 2010-2011 Resource Recovery Project budget includes limited funding for organic waste management, aimed at supporting the development of an anaerobic digester by the Saint Paul Port Authority.

Besides working on these activities jointly, each County has independent programs to address organic waste, and both counties work on organic waste issues through the SWMCB. Of particular importance to the progress that has been made is the existence of the hauler-collected service charge (County Environmental Charge) in each County, which creates a significant financial incentive to recycle wet, heavy, organic wastes because recycling those materials is exempt from the CEC.

In 2009 and into 2010 the Project continues to assess potential supplies of organic material from commercial, industrial and institutional sources, especially materials that could be used as a feedstock in an anaerobic digester to serve Rock Tenn.

At the Project Board meeting on May 27, 2010, we will receive a report from Project consultants on availability of organic waste, as well as an update on the anaerobic digester project from the Saint Paul Port Authority.