

**IONIA COUNTY
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Meeting Agenda

Thursday, October 23, 2025

10:00 am

County Administration Building Commissioner's Board Room – 3rd Floor

101 West Main Street

Ionia, Michigan

Call to Order: 10:04am

Committee Members Present: Jack Shattuck (Ionia County), Don Johnson (Waste Management), Steven Blayer (Granger), Dan Tietema (Organicycle), Lynelle Wilson (Ionia Chamber of Commerce), Dan Schoonmaker (Michigan Sustainable Business Forum), Tonya Tepin (Ionia Conservation District).

Guest Present: Abu Akki, Umesh Akki

Absent: Melissa Eldridge (Ionia Conservation District), Doug Hyland (Village of Muir), Gary Pitsch (Pitsch Enterprises), Chris Jensen (Portland Township), John Feuerstein (Otisco Twp).

Public Comments: N/A

Agenda Approval: motion by Shattuck, supported by Tietema. Moved.

Approval of Minutes: motion by Tietema, supported by Johnson. Moved

Old Business:

1. Veolia as possible contract. Initial contract does not cost anything. They are a strong candidate; however, two alternative options will be researched prior to final approval of a disaster waste contract.
2. Muir Recycling Site up and running well.

New Business:

1. Guest Speakers – Abu Akki and Umesh Akki of Ag-Grid Energy LLC, Anaerobic Digestors in Sebewa Twp.
 - a. The business started in 2016, hoping to work with smaller farming operations. They have come to develop digestors in PA, TX, and MI.
 - b. They focus on manure and food waste.

- c. They have depackaging facilities at some locations.
 - i. The unit acts as a shredder, then compacts some of the packaging for recycling.
 - d. The Sebewa (Meadowbrook Farms) location has been developing for four years, during which time, they have worked heavily with EGLE. The site should produce 100,000 RNG, and about 40GW. They hope to open in 2026. The farmer will share some of the profit.
 - e. Currently, they prefer to stick to dairy over poultry because of the high nitrogen content in poultry manure.
 - f. 1:1 organic input to digestate output. Digestate liquid goes into a manure pond.
 - g. Each digester holds about 200,000 gallons.
 - h. Food waste collects a tipping fee. This waste can come from food manufacturers, restaurants, and biodiesel facilities. Sometimes the digester facility offers transportation, affecting the tipping fee.
 - i. They currently are not opening the facility to other farms but there is potential for expansion.
 - j. Their LLC focuses on transparency.
2. Restaurant surveys should be discussed with the Health Department prior to use.

Motion to Adjourn: made by Tietema, supported by Johnson. Moved at 11:15am.

Additions to Materials Management Binder:

I. None

Next Meeting: November 27th, 2025, 10:00am