

**Emmet County Materials Management Planning Committee (MMPC)
Meeting Minutes**

6/9/2026, 10:00AM

EMS Eppler Station, 1201 Eppler Road, Petoskey, MI 49770

Emmet County Staff Present: Ashley McMurry, Lindsey Walker, Jayna Steffel, Noelle Behling, Natalie Gibbons, MacKenzie Kilmer (virtual)

Guests: Garrett Muir, Bear Creek Township Supervisor; Tracy Tomaszewski, EGLE

Resource Recycling Staff Present: Elisa Seltzer, Stephanie Robinson (virtual)

Call to order: D. Fuller called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

Roll Call

- a. Lindsey Walker – Present
- b. Kevin Donner – Absent
- c. Denny Keiser, Chair – Resigned (effective June 1)
- d. Doug Fuller, Vice Chair – Present
- e. Allen Elya III – Present (virtual)
- f. Jayna Steffel – Present
- g. Caroline Moellering – Present (virtual)
- h. Stephanie Marchbanks – Present
- i. Chris Gee – Present
- j. Don Mapes – Present
- k. Darcy Wright – Present

March Meeting Minutes Approval

The committee reviewed the May 2026 MMPC Meeting Minutes. D. Fuller noted one correction to a statement on page 3 regarding the data memo that had been incorrectly attributed and should be credited to C. Gee.

Motion by D. Fuller to approve the May 2026 MMPC Meeting Minutes with this correction. L. Walker seconded. Meeting minutes approved.

Committee Updates

A. McMurry reported that D. Keiser submitted his formal letter of resignation from the MMPC, effective June 1, 2026. The letter was forwarded to the Board of Commissioners

and will be addressed at its next meeting. The newly appointed Bear Creek Township Supervisor, Garrett Muir who was present as a guest, confirmed that he has applied to fill the vacancy, pending Board of Commissioners approval.

MMPC Appointments

Following D. Keiser's resignation as Chair, the committee discussed MMPC Chair and Vice Chair nominations and appointments.

Motion by L. Walker to nominate D. Fuller as Chair. J. Steffel seconded. Committee Chair appointment approved. Motion by L. Walker to appoint S. Marchbanks as Vice Chair. J. Steffel seconded. Committee Vice Chair appointment approved.

MMP Goals Consensus

A. McMurry and E. Seltzer continued the goals review from the May MMPC meeting. Previously developed goals were consolidated into broader overarching goals, and specific targets became supporting objectives under the broader goals. Goals reaching consensus at this stage will be further refined in the plan drafts with timelines, responsible parties, funding, policies, and outreach components.

Curbside Recycling Goal

The goal was broadened to expand residential curbside recycling service in Emmet County by 2030. Objectives under this goal included identifying target communities and service options. The committee reached consensus.

Drop Site Recycling Goal

This goal focuses on increasing recovery of recyclables by expanding drop-off site access. Supporting objectives include exploring added drop-off sites in underserved areas by 2030, accommodating larger volumes of cardboard (OCC) by 2028, and exploring opportunities to provide service outside the county.

The committee discussed adding new material types (such as textiles) at select sites and regional interest in shared hub-and-spoke service from neighboring counties and communities. The committee reached consensus.

Organics Goal

Several organics goals were consolidated into one overarching goal of reducing food waste and increasing organics recovery capacity, access, and end markets. Supporting objectives include an education campaign, Give All Food A Future program expansion,

compost infrastructure improvements, exploration of residential compost collection, end-market improvements, and engagement with organics policy and resources.

At the committee's suggestion, an objective to increase food rescue was added, focused on partnering with food rescue organizations such as Feeding America affiliates, Goodwill of Traverse City, and Greater Lansing Food Rescue. The committee reached consensus.

Disaster Debris Management Goal

This goal is to develop best-practice checklists and resources for disaster debris management for alignment with the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan. The committee discussed appending a summary of the County's ice storm response and flood voucher program to the plan, and agreed the goal should align with the County's existing emergency management planning rather than duplicate a standalone debris management plan. The committee reached consensus.

Special Materials Goal

All previously discussed special materials goals were changed to objectives under a consolidated, overarching goal of increasing special-materials diversion. The objectives of this goal include exploring and advocating for special-material markets, identifying local partnership opportunities, evaluating expansion of HHW collection, investigating battery collection and recovery, assessing a reuse component at the drop-off center, identifying novel textile recovery technologies, and evaluating the ROI on transfer-station upgrades to extract high-value materials (e.g., capturing scrap metal or removing tires and appliances at the tip floor). The committee discussed naming the materials of focus (e.g., C&D, textiles, shingles, etc.), growing local interest in building salvage and reuse, and partnering with local organizations working to improve recovery of these materials. The committee reached consensus.

Data Goal

A new data goal was added to explore opportunities to strengthen data gathering and enforcement mechanisms to better track progress. The committee discussed improving capture of materials recovered outside the County's system, particularly scrap metal, through more frequent business and parallel recycling surveys and direct outreach to local processors. The committee also discussed tracking building salvage and deconstruction activity (e.g., number and size of structures diverted from landfill) and adding objectives for periodic evaluation of progress toward the MMP goals, such as an annual review and/or quarterly progress reports to the MMPC. The committee reached consensus.

Public Comment

None.

Next Steps

Motion by J. Steffel to cancel the July 2026 MMPC meeting. S. Marchbanks seconded.
Approved.

The committee will reconvene in August to review the first draft chapters, with additional chapters reviewed in September, and drafts will be circulated in advance of each meeting.

Committee members will help present the draft plan to townships, cities, and villages. Staff noted that all municipalities have received quarterly updates on the MMP process since 2025 through the department's newsletter.

Meeting Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting by D. Fuller. Meeting adjourned at 11:14 am.

Approved by: 

TO BE APPROVED AT FUTURE MEETING