



NEWSLETTER

Municipal Review Committee | 20 Godfrey Dr., Ste 213 | Orono, ME 04473 | www.MRCMaine.org

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Annual Meeting: Highlighting Regional Approach to Problem-Solving

Like most events these days, the Annual Meeting in December was a hybrid in-person and virtual event and provided the MRC and its members an important opportunity to come together. Members were able to learn more about the reopening status of the facility and for members and

“This transition has been more challenging than we ever imagined. However, our goals have NOT changed. MRC seeks to provide its members with the most cost effective and environmentally responsible approach to MSW possible. For the long-term.”

*Karen Fussell
Board of Directors, President*

stakeholders to ask questions and provide comments to the MRC Board. As noted repeatedly during the meeting by the Board Members and MRC membership, we are all frustrated by the delays in the reopening of the facility.

The fact remains there are few disposal options for all our members to use in an environmentally and fiscally responsible manner. If there was an easier way or a better long-term solution, the MRC would be taking that route. Should we forgo the regional approach our options would dwindle and include short-term contracts with major increases in tip fees. The simple

truth is that there are few alternatives for solid waste processing in our region, which is why MRC is working so hard to create a new option that will benefit the region as a whole. MRC stands behind the plant, because we know the technology works and we can do this together.

We remain hopeful that despite the lack of communication from the Bondholders, there is a path to reopening and processing member's MSW in Hampden. We are exploring all opportunities to move forward and remain committed to implementing a solution to reopen the facility.

In addition to the updates of the status of the plant, and community comment, during the annual meeting a draft 2022 budget was presented. It will be considered by the Board at the January meeting. If you missed it, the meeting recording is available on the MRC's YouTube and Facebook pages.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 26

Finance Committee: 9 AM

Board Meeting: 10 AM

*Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting
Due to the COVID transmission rates in Penobscot County, the Finance and Regular Board of Directors Meeting will be a Zoom webinar with everyone participating remotely. The meeting will be shared on the MRC's Facebook page and participants can sign up to register on the MRC's website at www.mrcmaine.org under Upcoming Meetings.*

April 26

Finance Committee: 9 AM

Board Meeting: 10 AM

Location: TBD

July 27

Finance Committee: 9 AM

Board Meeting: 10 AM

Location: TBD

October 26

Finance Committee: 9 AM

Board Meeting: 10 AM

Location: TBD

reminder

On October 31, 2022 the rebates for joining members and new joining members are sunsetting. **Please keep that in mind for future budget planning.**

Welcome, Steve Lewis!

Meet our newest board member! Boothbay Region Refuse Disposal District Manager and Town of Boothbay Selectman Steve Lewis has joined the MRC Board of Directors for a three year term. He brings nearly 20 years of recycling and solid waste experience through his work at BRRDD, and he brings municipal oversight from his 13 years serving on the Board of Selectman. Previously, Steve has been involved with the Maine Resource and Recovery Association. We are excited to bring his wealth of knowledge about recycling markets and solid waste to the Board! Welcome Steve!

The rest of our board is made up of familiar faces and are listed below.

Karen Fussell	989-8440	kfussell@brewermaine.gov
Tony Smith	276-5746	director@mtdesert.org
Sophie Wilson	889-6905	sophiew@orono.org
Bob Butler	837-1785	butlermaine@gmail.com
Aaron Huotari	992-4200	aaron.huotari@bangormaine.gov
Kevin Howell	848-3361	ceo@townofcarmel.org
Melissa Doane	827-7725	mldoane@townofbradley.org
Dana Wrigley	314-6676	dana.wrigley207@gmail.com
Steve Lewis	633-5006	steve@boothbayrefuse.com

ABOUT THE MRC

The Municipal Review Committee (MRC) is a non-profit association of Maine communities led by an elected, volunteer board of directors. 115 members have joined together to ensure the affordable, environmentally sound disposal of MSW in the long-term and send their MSW to the facility in Hampden for processing.

Visit www.mrcmaine.org or contact Mike Carroll at 207-664-1700 or execdirector@mrcmaine.org to learn more about the Municipal Review Committee and to add your name to our email contact list.

ARE YOU ON SOCIAL MEDIA?



MRC regularly sends updates and announcements by email to those who have signed up for our alerts. We have active Facebook and Twitter accounts where we share articles and post about events and interact with members. Make sure to "like" or follow us through your town's accounts too! **Also, we're on YouTube!** Please subscribe and hit that notification bell so that you don't miss any of our uploads!

thank
you!

Thank you, Irene!

Irene Belanger joined the MRC Board in 2018 and has been a staunch advocate for a regional solution to solid waste processing and recycling. She recently retired from the Town of China after 42 years of service to the town including 22 years on the Select Board. Irene you will be missed! Thank you for your insight and perspective and for your service and everything you did for the MRC and its members.