

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CENTRAL UPPER PENINSULA
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

July 17, 2025 at 3:00pm ET
2920 College Ave Escanaba, MI 49829

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kelli van Ginhoven at 3:00pm.

Roll Call

Name	Present	Absent
Troy Bassett		Excused
Bruce Birr	X	
Phil Carter	X (virtual)	
Brian Ciupak	X	
Christina DuBois		Unexcused
Lyn Durant	X	
John Groleau	X	
Nick Hanchek	X	
Todd Kangas	X	
Barbara Kramer	X	
Dave Lundquist	X	
Jim Nankervis	X	
Terri Rabbitoy	X	
Mickey Rondeau		Unexcused
Mike Stannard	X	
Peter Swanson	X	
Kristin Thornton		Unexcused
Kelli van Ginhoven	X	
Kathy Vermaat	X	
Brad Younk		Excused
Brad Zellar	X	
(vacant) Alger, City or Village Elected Official		
(vacant) Dickinson, Environmental Interest Group		

Other Attendees

Ryan Carrig, Designated Planning Agency Contact, CUPPAD

Dotty LaJoye, Executive Director, CUPPAD

Axel Vermaat (via Zoom)

one unnamed individual (via Zoom)

Approval of the Agenda

Barbara Kramer asked to add a discussion of rail transportation options as New Business #2.

Motion by Barbara Kramer, seconded by Peter Swanson to approve the agenda with the inclusion of a discussion of rail transportation options as New Business #2. Motion carried.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

There was no public comment.

Presentations

Ryan Carrig introduced Axel Vermaat, a Yale college student interning with CUPPAD for the summer to work on materials management issues. Axel gave a capstone presentation detailing his research into recycling program best practices and examples, local information gathering, and goal development for the Central UP region, culminating in the development of an outline of tentative goals and discussion areas for the Committee to focus on (attached to these minutes). After the presentation, Committee members had questions and discussion on:

- Secondary market development
- Reporting discrepancies between where generation occurs and where processing occurs, and the requirements of reporting facilities and Big Box retailers
- Best practice for manned and unmanned drop off facilities, and feasibility for identifying sites for recycling and organics drop off facilities.
- Identifying waste diversion facilities that may historically not been reporting agencies.

Approval of the Minutes of the May 29, 2025 Meeting

Motion by Terri Rabitoy, seconded by Kathy Vermaat to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Consensus Business

Designated Planning Agency Report

Ryan Carrig presented the Designated Planning Agency Report for activities since the previous meeting, which is attached to these minutes.

Motion to place the DPA report on file by Jim Nankervis, seconded by Barbara Kramer. Motion carried.

Old Business

Stakeholder Outreach Survey

Ryan Carrig presented the draft survey that was previously in the April meeting packet and tabled due to time constraints. Committee members discussed the timing, who the survey would be targeted to, and pointed out minor revisions for questions. Consensus to revisit and finalize the survey draft at the next meeting, and provide any feedback to Ryan in the interim.

Materials Management Enforceable Mechanisms

Ryan Carrig introduced this item as the focus of the canceled June meeting, seeking to table it until the following meeting.

Motion to table the discussion of Materials Management Enforceable Mechanisms to the next meeting by Barbara Kramer, seconded by Nick Hanchek. Motion carried.

New Business

Options for Attendance and Appointments

Ryan Carrig detailed the cancelation of the June meeting due to a lack of quorum, and feedback from members which resulted in a more detailed communication process and confirmation of meeting

attendance. Committee members reiterated that the current meeting time and location was workable for the majority, and that the new process for ensuring attendance was easy and effective. No action was taken on this topic.

Ryan Carrig also introduced an opportunity to shift some of the mandatory committee position between the counties assigned those positions initially. A lack of options and retention difficulties has made some positions hard to fill under the current distribution. In alignment with the six-county interlocal agreement and the CUPMMPC Rules of Procedure, the Committee has the power to recommend changes to the distribution of mandatory members where vacancies exist. The proposal would be to shift the Environmental Interest Group representative from Dickinson to Schoolcraft County; then shift the Elected Official of the County from Schoolcraft to Alger County; then shift the Elected Official of a City or Village from Alger to Dickinson County. Bruce Birr would need to shift positions to the optional Schoolcraft Elected Official position to open that vacancy. Discussion of the membership came to consensus that this proposal was viable, contingent on the agreement of the appointing counties. *Motion by Lyn Durant, seconded by Terri Rabitoy to approve the recommendation and have CUPPAD contact the counties to facilitate the reappointments. Motion carried.*

Rail Transportation Options

Barbara Kramer introduced a discussion on adding considerations for the transfer and movement for types of materials by rail, which she had distributed via email to Committee members on June 16. Barbara asked that consideration for rail movement of materials is proposed to be addressed in the initial Plan, as changes or amendments in the future may require a lengthy approval process. Barbara asked that Committee members review and consider the recommendation based on the information that she had gathered. Committee members had questions and discussion on:

- The current rail infrastructure and its lack of proximity to several of the landfills in the central region; the need to build new rail infrastructure and transfer stations to connect with existing materials management facilities; difficulties with shifting current infrastructure meant to handle trucks to rail.
- The limitations of companies and materials management facilities not currently in proximity to rail infrastructure; choice of destination for hauling companies; additional trucking requirements at point of loading and unloading.
- The possible use of rail to export processed recyclable materials to secondary markets via containers.
- Whether the inclusion of the information would be of benefit to projects proposed by PenWin Industries.
- The ease or difficulty of adding these considerations to the Plan, and what level of detail it may require.

Committee members came to consensus that this topic could be revisited at another time with additional information or presentations if needed. No further action taken.

General Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Committee and Staff Comment

Ryan Carrig reminded Committee members that the next meeting will be Thursday August 21, and focus

on materials management enforceable mechanisms and the public outreach survey.
Terri Rabitory asked a question about future considerations for interns like Axel to be placed with counties and stakeholders to work on materials management issues.

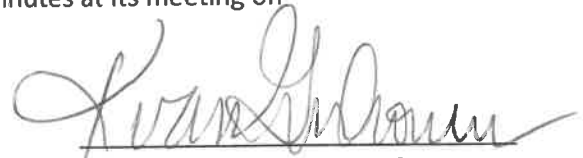
Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:19pm by Nick Hanchek, seconded by Todd Kangas. Motion carried.

Minutes recorded by Ryan Carrig.

I, Kelli van Ginhoven, Chair of the Central Upper Peninsula Materials Management Planning Committee, hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes the true and complete minutes of the meeting held on July 17, 2025. The Committee reviewed and approved these minutes at its meeting on

8/21/25
[meeting date]


[signature of Chair]

Designated Planning Agency Report

July 17, 2025

A report of materials management planning actions from May 30-July 17, 2025:

As of June 10th, all counties have executed their Materials Management Planning grants. The counties are now able to reimburse for funding related to the work program going back to January of 2024. I have been communicating with the various County MMP Grant Managers to work out how to fulfill quarterly reporting and reimbursement requests. A Quarterly Reporting Progress Form includes status and completion percentage updates in regard to plan development, membership roster of the Committee, and any challenges encountered in the planning process. The report will be filled out by CUPPAD staff and submitted to the counties in advance of their required quarterly submission. Financial reports and reimbursements will continue to be the responsibility of each County MMP Grant Manager. The first quarterly report, covering April-June 2025, will be submitted to the counties after today's meeting.

I had a meeting with Kerrin O'Brien, Executive Director of the Michigan Recycling Coalition, on June 13th to discuss scheduling an Upper Peninsula regional meeting to bring businesses, recyclers, and local governments together to understand the importance of recycling, engage in circular economy development, and communicate the value of recycling in supply chains and local business development. The tentative outlook is for this event to be held at the Northern Center at NMU sometime in October or early spring of 2026. I am trying to coordinate holding this meeting in conjunction with some other economic development event to bring together more stakeholders. On June 16th, the MRC hosted another statewide DPA meeting, where attendees discuss planning committee education, and the organization of authorities through the experience of other agencies.

Two teams with Committee members are participating in the 2025 Nextcycle Intergovernmental Initiatives & Public-Private Partnerships accelerator program. Delta Solid Waste Management Authority and a team from Manistique Schools/Schoolcraft County are receiving technical assistance from Resource Recycling Systems and EGLE to develop local projects. These projects will include goals that can be incorporated into the Materials Management Plan for future implementation. Nextcycle's 2025 Summer Showcase included a pitch competition, with Ed's Used Parts and Salvage from Hancock winning the Organic Material Solutions People's Choice award.

I am continuing to focus on gathering data and information supporting the inventory sections of the Materials Management Plan, as well as supporting outlines for future discussion topics. I enjoyed having Axel Vermaat for the last several weeks to be able to bounce ideas from and to take some of the load off in creating materials for the Committee. From now on, we will be into the goal development and implementation, where we will hopefully start bringing more of the Plan together. I have a tentative August 5 presentation to the Manistique Rotary Club in support of recycling in Schoolcraft County, and am always available to present similar information to other organizations as needed.

Upcoming materials management webinars from EGLE.

<https://www.michigan.gov/egle/outreach/catalyst-communities/webinars>

<https://www.michigan.gov/egle/outreach/webinar-series/local-leaders>

- July 23, 11am Food Waste and Composting Myths, Debunked

- August 12, 11am Helping Catalyze Behavior Change In K-12 School Cafeterias Through Student Led Waste Audits, Projects & Experiential Learning
- Oct 16, 2025 10am Waste Gone Wild and Local Enforcement

Ryan Carrig
Designated Planning Agency Contact
CUPPAD