

Eastern UP Materials Management Planning Committee
Tuesday, January 20, 2026; 3:00 p.m.
EUP Regional Planning & Development Commission
2345 Meridian; Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

Members Present

Allison Watkins, Village of Newberry
Bill Henry, Luce County
Jennifer Satchell, BMIC
Jim Traynor, Chippewa County
Kelly Freeman, City of Sault Ste. Marie
Teresa Schanksi, HSC Foundation (Virtual)
Tim Harrow, GFL

Beth Christiansen, LSSU
Jeff Hagan, DPA
Jim Smith, GFL
Joel Krupa, NTI
Mark Eitrem, Sugar Island Township
Sherry Kruch, Reina Recycling

Guest

Tracy Tomaszewski, EGLE (Virtual)

Staff

Jeff Hagan	Jenni Neal	Kim Wilcox	Matt Sawle
Seth Harris			

CALL TO ORDER; INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by M. Patrick.

PUBLIC COMMENT

As there were no public comments, members were given the opportunity to provide updates to the committee. Beth Christiansen provided information regarding a boat shrink wrap recycle program. This program requires at least 70 bags to have the collection trucks come across the bridge for pickup so consolidation of pickup locations could make this an option to consider as some recycling locations already collect boat shrink wrap. A bulk purchase of 70 bags would be approximately \$840. This type of program may be included in the planning goals of the MMP.

Jen Satchell mentioned that she will be providing a presentation on recycling at the Pickford Library on January 24. Sherry Kruch also indicated that Jen and she have been invited to speak at the Aldo Leopold Festival in the spring.

APPROVAL OF MMPC MINUTES—OCTOBER 29, 2025

J. Hagan moved to approve the October 29, 2025, EUP Materials Management Planning Committee minutes as presented. M. Eitrem supported. Motion passed.

NOMINATIONS FOR MMPC OFFICERS—CHAIR/VICE CHAIR

As stated in the MMPC Bylaws, the Committee will appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair of the EUP Materials Management Planning Committee, so the floor opened for nominations.

J. Krupa moved to appoint Mike Patrick as the MMPC Chair. K. Freeman seconded this motion. As there were no other nominations, Mike Patrick was appointed the Chair upon a unanimous ballot.

M. Patrick moved to nominate Mark Eitrem as Vice Chair with support from J. Smith. As there were no other nominations, Mark Eitrem was appointed the EUP MMPC Vice Chair. This motion passed unanimously.

DRAFT MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLAN OUTLINE

Members reviewed the current draft MMP Outline. This portion of the plan is the compilation of data using the format provided by EGLE. It was noted that updates to this section would be updated as needed before the final plan is submitted. The next sections to be completed are Goals and Objectives and Implementation which will be discussed at the next meeting in March.

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT SURVEY RESULTS—MMPC/EUPRPDC

A brief summary of results of the Materials Management Survey was provided. This survey was distributed to MMPC and EUP Regional Planning Board Members with 19 responses received. The responses received will be used to assist with planning goals and objectives. Overall, education and open communication were determined to be key points to be included in the Plan's goals. The different types of materials to be recycled, including cardboard and construction materials, were also highlighted.

NEXT STEPS: COMMUNITY SURVEY

It is anticipated that the community survey will focus on goals/objectives and strategies of implementation. It will be distributed in the spring to allow for the return of seasonal residents. This will be a web-based survey with paper copies available upon request.

NEXT STEPS: ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

J. Hagan noted that Tracy Tomaszewski (EGLE) is now the Regional Grant Manager for the Eastern Upper Peninsula.

Tracy indicated that she would be available to provide a presentation regarding goals and objectives at the next meeting. She also provided follow up information on recycling of abandoned mobile homes which was questioned at a past EUP MMP meeting.

NEXT STEPS: 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

As it would be beneficial to have a set schedule for 2026 EUP MMP meetings, members were asked for input of availability. As the MMP meets every other month, meetings will be scheduled in March, May, July, September and November. It was determined that afternoon meetings held on the third week of the month would be preferred. A doodle poll will be sent to members to determine the most convenient day (third Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday) at 2:30 p.m. to set the 2026 EUP MMP Meeting Schedule.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m. following a motion by J. Traynor with support by K. Freeman.