



Memorandum

DATE: June 30, 2024

TO: Chairman and Members of the Board

FROM: Kevin H. Roche, CEO/General Manager

SUBJECT: **Annual Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2024**

There was an **ecomaine** Annual Board of Directors Meeting held on the date noted above at Halo at the Point (Thompson’s Point Facility), Portland Maine. The meeting was called to order by Bill Shane, Chair.

Welcome Remarks: Kevin Roche, CEO

Kevin Roche began his opening remarks with acknowledging our special guest speakers, the **ecomaine** “Talkn’ Trash Band,” Jonathan Miller, Walter Purcell & Brian Roland, and the work of Nick Gervin, a local photographer, on his documentary project and he provided images of the **ecomaine** facilities and staff, which can be viewed at the Outreach & Recycling table.

Kevin reflected on the challenges faced by **ecomaine** and the solid waste industry, such as landfills at capacity, trash from the New England States being shipped to the State of Ohio, the fires in waste and recovery facilities, the cost of construction, insurance, and wages. Despite these challenges, he shared plans for the new recycling facility, the EPA grant to improve recycling in multifamily dwellings, our landfill construction and a host of other areas planned for future development.

Kevin noted that these initiatives could not be accomplished without a good team and the support of our board of directors.

Special Guest: Amy Lestition-Burke, Executive Director/CEO SWANA (Solid Waste Association of North America)

Kevin Roche provided a brief introduction to our guest speaker, Amy Lestition-Burke.

Amy Lestition Burke gave a brief overview of the SWANA Organization. She discussed SWANA’s commitment to the Solid Waste Industry through education, advocacy, and research. She also talked about SWANA as an organization’s role in the conversations on the Extended Producer Program. As well as other initiatives from the organization. Amy shared that Kevin Roche has been appointed to the Board of Directors for SWANA and will serve as Secretary.

Business Meeting:

Kevin introduced Bill Shane, Chair of the Board of Directors, and presented him with a gift for his years of service on the **ecomaine** Board and as Chair.

Bill Shane thanked the guests for attending the Annual Meeting and reported on the state of the organization. He outlined the role of the Board of Directors to set strategy, oversee policy and protect the interest of our stakeholders and to elect next year's board leadership.

The Annual Board of Directors meeting was called to order.

Recognition of Service:

Bill Shane acknowledged the contributions of outgoing board members, Rob Wood, North Yarmouth, Matthew Sturgis, Cape Elizabeth and Tim Reiniger, Cape Elizabeth.

He thanked them for their leadership and dedication in shaping the future of waste management in Maine.

Committee Reports:

Outreach & Recycling Committee Report – Caleb Hemphill, Chair

Caleb Hemphill reported out on the highlights of the Outreach & Recycling Committee for FY 24, which included the following:

- Outreach to more than 75,000 people through messaging on recycling and sustainable waste management.
- The growth of our digital outreach efforts. The increase in website traffic and other social media platform engagement to include the Recyclopedia app which continues to be well utilized as a source of information on recycling information.
- We continue to support Maine's schools in recycling and waste diversion grants as well as the Upcycle Challenge for students. Our successful programs with Maine Celtics and Maine Mariners as well as our new partnership with the Portland Sea Dogs, allows us to reach out to thousands of fans.
- And in Final, we are looking forward to the launch of the EPA grant program which will provide outreach into multi-family dwellings in the months ahead.

Caleb Hemphill recognized the eco-Excellence Award Winners; they were as follows:

- Piper Shores – Scarborough Maine
- Peaks Island Renewables – Yarmouth Maine
- Bloom Consignment & Resale – Westbrook, Maine
- Sydney Harris & Suz Okie – Reuse Maine
- Common Threads and Gift Store – Westbrook, Maine
- Katie Haley – Town of Fryeburg, Maine

Finance & Audit Committee Report – Anne Bilodeau, Chair

Anne Bilodeau reported that the committee was highly active in FY 24 and reported out the following highlights of the year:

- The committee reviewed and the board accepted the FY 23 Audit Report.

- Recycling Facility was approaching end of life and landfill needed construction of new cell, the committee recommended the Board approve a \$35.5 million bond for those improvements.
- The committee reviewed and recommended to the Full Board approval of the FY 25 Budget.
- Formalization of the Investment and Reserve Policy has proven to be favorable to the organization. The funds have experienced approximately 6% return on balanced portfolio of fixed income and stocks.

Thank you to the Finance & Audit Committee and look forward to collaborating with them next year.

Nominating Committee, Linda Boudreau, Chair

Linda Boudreau reported that the Nominating Committee met last month and discussed nominations for FY 25 Officers and Committees. The committee is recommending the following slate of officers:

- Erik Street, Chair
- Anne Bilodeau, Vice Chair
- Michael Foley, Treasurer
- Caleb Hemphill, Secretary

Linda thanked the Nominating Committee Members, Matthew Frank, Troy Moon & Rod Regier for their participation on the committee.

Approval of Officer & Committee Appointments and Approval of the Minutes

Bill Shane, Chair asked if there are any nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor, he called for a motion to approve the following items:

- Slate of Officers as presented.
- Committee assignments included in the agenda.
- Approval of the Minutes from April 18, Full Board meeting.

Matthew Frank motioned to approve the Slate of Officers, Committee Assignment and Approval of the Minutes from April 18, 2024, as presented. Linda Boudreau seconded the motion. All in Favor.

Keynote Address – Scott Cassel, CEO/Product Stewardship Institute/Founder

Scott provided an overview of waste management over the last 40 years. He discussed the issues municipalities are facing with recycling problems. He discussed the Extended Producer Responsibility Program and their role. Scott talked about the changes that are needed to include EPR Packing Laws in the US and shared the program timeline for EPR program implementation.

In closing he reviewed the Network of Accountability for the EPR program and the benefits to municipalities.

Closing Remarks: Erik Street, Chairman of the Board of Directors

Erik Street shared that he looks forward to leading ecomaine at this crucial time. He reiterated the significant initiatives, the improvement and expansion of recycling and landfill facilities, the new outreach programs, and important policy changes. He noted that he was confident that working together we will be able to capitalize on these to create even greater organization and mission.

He thanked all again for joining us. And called for a motion to adjourn.

Matthew Frank, motioned to adjourn. Heidi Richards seconded the motion. All in favor.

Present:

Dennis Abbott, Lisa Belanger, Carrye Castleman-Ross, Anne Bilodeau, Linda Boudreau, Linda Cohen, Donald Cushing, Terry Deering, Michael Foley, Matthew Frank, Caleb Hemphill, Doug Howard, Steve Kelley, Jessica Maloy, Troy Moon, Mike Murray, Heidi Richards, Rod Regier, Bill Shane, Erik Street, Amber Swett, Tony Ward & Rob Wood.