

Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility Advisory Board

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Start 1:00 p.m. - End 4:00 p.m.

[MS Teams](#) | Phone conference ID: 414 815 001# | Call in (audio only) +1 651-395-7448

Meeting Location: Room 100, MPCA St Paul Offices, 520 Lafayette Rd N, St. Paul, MN 55155

If attending in person, RSVP to packaging.mpca@state.mn.us by noon on Friday, April 10, 2026.

Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker	Type	Page
	Call to order Meeting logistics Welcome and roll call / attendance Approve agenda			
1:00 p.m.	Approve March 18 meeting summary	Chair Reinhardt	Action	2
1:10 p.m.	Updates from CAA Updates from MPCA Update on needs assessment	MPCA CAA	Information	
1:50 p.m.	Subcommittee read-out	Chairs of each subcommittee	Information	
2:20 p.m.	Toxics	MPCA Safer States Association of Plastic Recyclers	Information	
3:50 p.m.	Public comment			
4:00 p.m.	Adjourn			

Packaging EPR Advisory Board

Meeting Summary

Virtual via Microsoft Teams or in-person at the MPCA St. Paul Office | 2 hours

Wednesday, March 18, 2026 | 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. CT

Recording available at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/events-and-meetings/packaging-extended-producer-responsibility-advisory-board-meeting-2026-03-18>

Attendance

Board Member Attendance

Present (9 members required for quorum)			Absent
Gabbie Batzko-Conley	Kirk Koudelka	Mac Sellars	
Sara Bixby	Gregory Melkonian	Jon Steiner	
Megan Daum	Shoshana Micon	Bill Keegan	
Sydney Harris	Victoria Reinhardt (Chair)	Steve Vrchota	
Miriam Holsinger (Vice Chair)	Maggie Schuppert	Kate Davenport	
Shannon Pinc	Allie Sauers		

Guest Presenters: Kris Coperine, CAA and Sylvia Lee, CAA

Agency Staff: Mallory Anderson, Quinn Carr, Molly Flynn, John Gilkeson, Aubrey Sondrol, Colleen Hetzel, Tina Patton, Annika Bergen

Participants: Addison Tansom, Alejandro Torres, Josh Allen, Allie Sauers, Amos Briggs, Apurupa Gorthi, Leah Batstone-Cunningham, Bridget Anderson, Carol Patterson, Cathleen Hall, Angiulo Damiani, David Keeling, DeNeile Cooper, Garth Hickie, Gary Borges, GERALYN Lasher, Laura Horner, Michelle Hunt, Jodi Tomchyshyn London, Julie Gilbertson, Kayla Kirtz, Julie Ketchum, Kellie Kish, Laura S Hann, Angie Lemar, Lori Olinger, Neil Marfatia, Scott Moening, Peter Bierbaum, Peter Hargreave, Ryan O'Gara, Eleanor Sano, Emily Sisk, Suna Bayrakal, Susan Bush, Taylor Loeber, Zack Bradford

Meeting notes

Call to order

Mallory Anderson conducted a roll call vote.

Present: Batzko-Conley, Bixby, Daum, Harris, Holsinger, Keegan, Melkonian, Micon, Pinc, Reinhardt, Schuppert, Sellars, Steiner, Vrchota

Absent: Davenport

Approve agenda

Holsinger motioned and Steiner seconded. Mallory Anderson conducted a roll call vote.

Yes: Batzko-Conley, Bixby, Daum, Davenport, Harris, Holsinger, Keegan, Melkonian, Micon, Pinc, Reinhardt, Schuppert, Sellars, Steiner, Vrchota

No:

Absent:

Meeting minutes

Steiner motioned and Batzko-Conley seconded. Mallory Anderson conducted a roll call vote.

Yes: Batzko-Conley, Bixby, Daum, Davenport, Harris, Holsinger, Keegan, Melkonian, Micon, Pinc, Reinhardt, Schuppert, Sellars, Steiner, Vrchota

No:

Absent:

Agency updates

Two new board members: Allie Sauers, Retail Industry Leaders Association, as a member representing retailers of covered materials or a statewide trade association and Shannon Pinc, NatureWorks, as a member representing waste facility that receives compostable materials for composting or a statewide trade association.

One board member resignation: Mike Griffin, MN Zero Waste Coalition, as a member representing community-based nonprofit environmental justice organization.

Update on survey for needs assessment. There are five surveys: counties, municipalities, facilities, markets, and haulers. County and municipal surveys went out first, and the due dates are coming up.

CAA updates

CAA recently was chosen for Washington state making CAA a registered producer responsibility organization working on 6 of 7 states with Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for packaging laws.

Reuse Overview

There are definitions in the Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act that differentiate reuse from refill. Reuse is independent of waste reduction. Waste reduction activities include refill.

Reuse presentation from CAA

They have studied different examples and programs of reuse across the globe and have determined there is no one proven pathway to systems of refill and reuse. There are many different options for shifting to refillable packaging or reusable packaging systems all with different considerations.

Upstream Presentation from Sydney Harris

Recycling or composting alone can't bring us to an environmentally sustainable future. Studies in Oregon found that 90% reduction in packaging sector greenhouse gas (GHG) is needed as soon as possible. Recycling alone will only reduce GHG emissions in packaging by about 31%. Returnable reusable packaging – packaging designed to be recirculated multiple times for the same or similar purpose in its original format in a system for reuse. Refillable packaging is packaging owned by consumers and designed to be refilled multiple times.

Notes compiled by: Mallory Anderson

[Minnesota's Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility Advisory Board](#)