



# WEST VIRGINIA SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

601 57<sup>TH</sup> St. SE, Charleston, WV 25304  
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## Minutes Board Meeting

April 15, 2026

11:00 a.m.

### I. Call to Order

### II. Roll Call

Present: Mallie Combs, Tim Blankenship, Roger Bryant, Jason Frame, Steve Pilato, and Yogesh Patel

Absent: Howard Coffield

Board Counsel: Kelley Goes, Esq.

Staff: Mark Holstine, Sarah Roncaglione, Kelly Vickers, Niki Davis, Isaiah McCoy, Rosamary Schwaiger, and Cathleen Salmons

Visitors Listed: Carol Blankenship

### III. Approval of minutes of March 18, 2026, Board Meeting

Chair Combs called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2026, meeting. Tim Blankenship moved to approve the minutes as presented, and Roger Bryant seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

### IV. Financial Reports

#### A. Financial Statements

During her presentation of the February 2026 financial statements, Ms. Vickers reported that both the balance sheet and income statement remained stable. She stated that the monthly expenses were normal. The assets remain unchanged and the balance sheet was well balanced.

**B. Purchasing Card Report**

Ms. Vickers presented the P-card report, clarifying that the charges for lodging expenses were incurred during site visits to support the Nicholas County Solid Waste Authority.

**C. Assessment Fee and Tonnage Data**

Kelly Vickers presented the February 2026 assessment fee and tonnage data, reporting monthly revenue of \$208,394.00. While the February assessment checks averaged \$1,894.00. Year-to-date assessment fees remain strong at 106.98% of projections.

**D. Grant Status Report**

Ms. Davis announced that FY 2027 Grant Cycle is halfway through with a filling deadline of April 30, 2026. She stated that she anticipates an influx of applications as the deadline approaches.

Other – None

**V. Standing Committee Reports – None**

**VI. Executive Director Report**

**SWMB Training Series** – To date, 104 individuals have registered for the upcoming solid waste training, representing 24 Solid Waste Authorities (SWAs), six County Commissions, four accounting firms, and 30 private industry entities. A highlight of the event will include State Treasurer Larry Pack presenting unclaimed property checks to seven SWAs. Registration remains open until April 17. This comprehensive program is the result of a collaborative effort between the WV Solid Waste Management Board (SWMB), the Landfill Closure Assistance Program (LCAP), the Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan (REAP), and the Public Service Commission (PSC).

**Recycling Coalition** – The board is approaching full capacity with eight of the nine seats now successfully filled. Additionally, Isaiah McCoy has finalized and launched the new website. They hope to be able to hold an official board meeting next month.

**Tucker County** – Leachate collection and detection pipe has been ordered for the new cell construction. Grading plans are complete, and preparations are underway to begin cell construction. New part-time help has been hired to assist in this construction. Work on the FY 2027 budget is nearing completion, and the numbers look good even with the construction expenses for the coming year.

**Pocahontas County** – An agreement is now in place with Allegheny Disposal to build and run the county's transfer station. This move has sparked significant

community feedback, with many residents expressing worry over the total cost and the decision-making process. Although public news reports are currently being relied upon for specific contract details, SWMB staff is actively responding to the numerous phone calls we have received from concerned citizens throughout the month.

**Nicholas SWA** – An article from the Nicholas Chronicle can be found in the FYI section of your board packet. This article details the board meeting held after supersedure began. It also discusses the issues in Webster County with a proposed landfill in that county. Progress is being made with C&D diversion saving nearly \$20,000 per month in disposal fees. Utilization of Corrections workers continues for grounds keeping and litter control. The search for an administrative manager continues.

**Webster County** – A proposed landfill project at the base of the Brooks Run surface mine near Erbacon has generated significant community concern. The developer aims to process approximately 83,000 tons of waste monthly, a scale that necessitates both a county referendum and an amendment to the siting plan. To ensure the proper legal procedures are followed, the SWA, the County Commission, the developer, the PSC, and the DEP have been consulted. Misinformation is also being actively corrected: while a WBOY article suggested the County Commission approved a Certificate of Need on March 4, this is inaccurate. SWMB staff have spent the past month clarifying the rigorous regulatory process required for such a project.

**Recycling Partnership Webinar** - SWMB staff noticed a drop in regional PET commodity pricing since January which started at \$0.0650 and is now \$0.0100 per pound baled as well as a few articles mentioning east coast closures of two bottle recycler facilities. Webinar: "How Industry Can Stabilize PET Recycling" piqued our interest. Plastics recycling was hard enough for our local collectors.

The RP panel of speakers reported that 7 out of 30 national bottle recyclers/reclaimers have shut down in the last 12 months. 1/3 of PET curbside recycling has been lost. Particularly the northeast has been impacted and two-thirds of their capacity to handle curbside PET has been lost. The issues seem to be in the lack of buyers. We know how to recycle, collect, and process. The issue is the lack of buyers of domestic materials. Solutions discussed were the need for transparency and traceability for imported post-consumer materials and virgin PET could possibly be marketed as rPET to those companies trying to go recycled content; virgin PET is still very cheap (virgin prices may increase due to middle east escalations); Imported rPET marketed to domestic buyers; need for incentives and support of domestic buying such as federal tax credits etc.

**SWMB Budget** – Budget appropriations have been officially approved in accordance with the Governor's proposal. SWMB FY27 expenditure schedule will be submitted to the State Budget Office on April 21, maintaining the figures

approved by the Board last June. Simultaneously, we are developing the FY28 budget for Board review in June.

**New Hire** - Kristopher Trabert is set to join the Recycling and Market Development team around May 16. Meanwhile, a job opening in our Fiscal section is now posted to fill a current vacancy.

**Return to Office** – The remote work period concludes this Monday, April 20, as staff return to the newly renovated north end of the DEP building. Please note that construction will begin moving into the south end at that time.

**VII. Unfinished Business – None.**

**VIII. New Business – None.**

**IX. Miscellaneous Business – None.**

**X. Public Comment – Limited to three minutes.**

**XI. Next Meeting.**

Chair Combs set the next meeting of the Solid Waste Management Board for Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

**XII. Adjournment.**

With no further business on the agenda, Chair Combs adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



**Mallie Combs**  
Chair



**Mark Holstine**  
Secretary/Treasure