

Hamblen County/Morristown Solid Waste Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes: February 20, 2026

Hamblen County Health Department Conference Room

Board Members Present: Tom Rush-Chairman, Chris Cutshaw-(Ex-Officio/County Mayor), Dennis Barnes-(Ex-Officio/Director), Mike Bell, Bob Garrett, Tim Horner, Matt Lacy, Ventrus Norfolk and Will Sliger.

Absent: Patrick McGuffin-Vice Chairman

Others Present: Amy Hemminger, Steve Bostic, Matt Davis, Ron White, Mike Richardson, Jeff Wisecarver, Tim Hendrick, Paul Brown, Landon Pyle, Greg Jernigan, Greg Farley, Kayla Trachsel, Stephanie Clonce and Public.

Meeting Called To Order: Tom Rush

Mr. Rush called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment/General Public Forum: None

2025 Recycling Annual Progress Report: Tim Hendrick

Mr. Hendrick went over our 2025 Annual Progress Report for Hamblen County and stated that we have a 50.3% diversion rate, which is double the 25% required. An increase in the diversion rate is possible since we have until March 31, 2026 to enter all the numbers. Mr. Hendrick stated that he would need the board's approval to send some signed documents to the State of Tennessee. Mr. Sliger made a motion to approve the 2025 Annual Progress Report to send to the State of Tennessee, and Mr. Lacy seconded the motion with all board members present in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Tom Rush

Mr. Lacy made the motion to approve the January 16, 2026 minutes, and Mr. Horner seconded the motion with all board members present in favor.

Financial Report: Amy Hemminger and Tom Rush

1. Review of January Financials- Ms. Hemminger stated that she appreciated all the thoughts, prayers, and the Lantern that the board sent to her dad's funeral. Ms. Hemminger stated that, on the statement of net position, bond proceeds receivable includes costs through pay app #13. These costs are also included in the expansion costs

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of \$12.7 million. We transferred the \$895,000 insurance proceeds from LGIP to the operating account for the payment of the shredder that burnt. Tipping fees for third quarter of 2025 were transferred to LGIP. Capital expenditures include pay application #13 for the expansion, and the first bill from Geos for just under \$65,000 is shown under engineering expenses.

2. Mr. Rush stated that the First Horizon and LGIP interest rates are at 2.15% and 3.71%, respectively.

Manager's Report: Dennis Barnes

1. The TDEC inspection was completed with some litter violations.
2. Mr. Barnes stated that our equipment is breaking down. We have replaced two oil pumps on machines, the engine on the 320 is in bad shape, and the compactor motor is fine. We may have to invest in a motor for the 320. Mr. Lacy asked if we received the new dozer and how it was doing. Mr. Barnes stated that it was doing good but still working out some bugs. Mr. Norfolk asked how the new shredder was doing and Mr. Barnes stated that it was up and running, and we are getting caught up on everything now. Mr. Barnes stated that TDEC noted moving the compactor from Class I to Class III.

Engineer's Report: Steve Bostic

Mr. Bostic updated the board on the engineering projects going on at the Landfill (see attachment).

Mr. Bostic stated that they submitted the Class III operation manual and it went into TDEC's new spam folder. It has been resubmitted.

Mr. Bostic stated that LDA will be doing a flyover to see how much air space is left in Class I.

Mr. Bostic stated that it has been 60 days since their last submittal to TDEC for the permit, and he will be contacting TDEC for an estimated date for us to get the results back. Mr. Sliger asked how many days are left on the clock, and Mr. Bostic stated that he would calculate the time remaining and get back with the board. Mr. Sliger stated that if there are one hundred days left that puts us in July. Mr. Lacy stated that we did not need to push it out that far because of E TTL's other jobs, and it would cost us both a lot more money. Mr. Bostic replied that LDA is contacting TDEC on a weekly basis, and we cannot afford to push TDEC too far.

Mr. Sliger stated that he had a discussion with E TTL about the liner, and we have 12 months of storage to pay, with extra costs piling up in the background and air space is filling up too. Mr.

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Bostic stated that he would have spreadsheets before next month's meeting. Mr. Rush asked if we should have the city and county to write letters to TDEC, and Mr. Bostic stated no. Mr. Sliger asked where we are at with the plan for leachate. He asked if we are going above ground and do we have the two 110-gallon tanks ordered? Mr. Bostic stated that he had requested pricing on the tanks and should have that information by the March meeting. The glass lined tanks have been approved by TDEC. Mr. Bostic stated that he would get with E TTL and schedule a meeting to discuss the process.

Unfinished Business: Tom Rush

Mr. Rush stated that we had discussed last month approving the PDS Consulting contract starting March 1, 2026 and decided to hold until this month for everyone to look over and address any questions or concerns they have. The monthly contract will go up 9.29% to the amount of \$1,342.44. Mr. Sliger asked, "shouldn't we check the contract before the budget cycle." Mr. Rush stated that we would replace the equipment quoted for replacement as needed within next year's budget cycle. Mr. Horner made a motion to approve the PDS Consulting contract and Mr. Norfolk seconded the motion with all members in favor except for Mr. Sliger.

New Business: Tom Rush and Greg Jernigan

Mr. Rush stated that we have some information in the packet about SEI Waste, wanting the board to approve their Class III industrial landfill they want to start up in the Lowland area. Mr. Jernigan introduced the panel from SEI Waste he brought to the meeting including Mr. Pyle, Mr. Farley, and Ms. Trachsel and opened the discussion to the board for questions. Mr. Garrett asked them how this landfill would help the City of Morristown. Mr. Jernigan stated that there are sixty plus acres which was part of BASF. This will free up your Class I material and have room for Class III dirt work, provide jobs, and receive an estimated four hundred tons a day. It has an access road off 160. Mr. Rush stated that the City and County are still getting information about everything before a decision is made, and we will add it back to next month's meeting in March. Mr. Jernigan asked if they needed any more information before voting, and Mr. Rush stated that he thought they had everything they needed to decide.

Adjournment: Tom Rush

Mr. Lacy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Horner seconded the motion with all board members present in favor.

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Mr. Rush adjourned the meeting at 9:43a.m.

Tom Rush-Chairman



Chris Cutshaw-Mayor


