

Hamblen County/Morristown Solid Waste Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes: January 16, 2026

Hamblen County Health Department Conference Room

Board Members Present: Tom Rush-Chairman, Patrick McGuffin-Vice 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.

Others Present: Amy Hemminger, Steve Bostic, Chris Capps, Mike Richardson, Paul Brown, Joe Sargent, Joey Barnard, 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

Approval of Minutes: Tom Rush

Mr. Lacy made the motion to approve the December 19, 2025 minutes, and Mr. McGuffin seconded the motion with all board members in favor.

Financial Report: Amy Hemminger and Tom Rush

1. Review of December Financials- Ms. Hemminger noted several items on the statement of net position. First, there is a negative balance showing on the operating account due to the outstanding checks to Ettl and Lakeway Fence. At the end of December, we withdrew money from the dozer fund at LGIP to pay for the dozer in an amount just under \$581,000. We also withdrew money from the LGIP debt fund to pay for the bond payments due in December. The bond proceeds receivable reflects through Ettl pay application #12; we just received pay application #13 and that will be reflected in January's financials. On the statement of revenues and expenses, \$895,000 is reported in other income for the insurance money we collected for the shredder that burnt. Included in capital expenditures are the large payments for the dozer for just under \$581,000 and the shredder for \$1,050,000.
2. Mr. Rush stated that the interest rates at First Horizon and LGIP are at 2.15% and 3.84%, respectively.

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Manager's Report: Dennis Barnes

1. The TDEC inspection has not been done this month.
2. We received our new shredder this week, and we are getting everything caught up and cleaned up. We are filling the landfill up quickly. We also received the new dozer, and it came at a great time, because we needed it.
3. Mr. Barnes stated that we have not had any fires this month, which is a good thing. Mr. Bell asked if anything had come back that this was arson? Mr. Barnes stated that arson had been suspected, but we cannot prove it because of where it sat and other things. Mr. Barnes stated that the compactor had no voltage to it and that looks very suspicious. The cameras are up and working, and we have a sim card coming to hook it up to my phone for the cameras. We are keeping the shredder that was destroyed by fire for parts with plans to scrap the rest of it.

Engineer's Report: Steve Bostic

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

Mr. Bostic updated the Board on the MUS permit sampling results.

TDEC requested a minor mod for the purchase of the replacement shredder. Obtained Mr. Barnes signature on the form for submittal to TDEC.

Mr. Rush asked if we had "big elephant" comments from TDEC related to any major permit approval issues that need to be resolved. Mr. Bostic stated that they have taken care of all the major issues and are working on the rest. At least maybe by April 2026 or before we will have the permit. Paper copies of the permit documents were hand delivered to TDEC in Knoxville and Chattanooga per TDEC's request.

Mr. Bell asked about the void at the bottom of the submittal. Mr. Bostic stated if we find something it will be addressed. The tanks must be ordered and must be ready to go out for bid when the permit is approved.

Mr. Barnard stated not getting our permit will run into ECTL's schedule of jobs that they have to start. Hopefully, there will not be any conflict.

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Mr. Rush asked how much time we have left in regard to space remaining in the existing landfill, and Mr. Barnes stated that we have one year left in Class I. Mr. Bostic stated that they are going to fly over the area again to check the status.

Unfinished Business: Joe Sargent

Mr. Sargent came to our meeting to go over the new PDS contract. The contract we have now is based on 2023 pricing and the new one goes into effect March 1, 2026 with a 9.02% increase which is \$122.49 more a month. The monthly cost will go from \$1,236.20 to \$1,358.69. He stated that our remote contract is monitored 24/7 and so is the security software. There is also a quarterly report that lists all your equipment, and he will get that for our next meeting. Mr. Sargent went over some of the equipment that is getting old and outdated, such as our three desktop computers and server. It was recommended that we might want to put those in our budget for next year for replacement. Mr. Rush stated that he received a call over the holidays because we were closed, and the customer stated that the website would not open. Mr. Rush asked Mr. Sargent if there was a way we could post that on our website. Mr. Sargent stated that we could do that, and he would ask TJ Pierce to see if there are any problems. Mr. Barnes stated that we did put that up on the website. The board decided to think it over until next month and take a vote at the February 20, 2026 meeting.

New Business: Joey Barnard

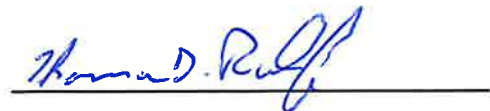
Mr. Barnard of East TN Turf and Landscape stated that the manufacturer's notice on the liner will be ready in the spring, but it keeps getting pushed back. Mr. Barnard stated that he would check on it and get back with them. Mr. Sliger was asking about the lead time for the manufacturer to deliver the liner.

Adjournment: Tom Rush

Mr. McGuffin made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Sliger seconded the motion with all board members in favor.

Mr. Rush adjourned the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

Tom Rush-Chairman



Chris Cutshaw-Mayor

