

Hamblen County/Morristown Solid Waste Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes: July 17, 2026

Morristown Public Works 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 and Will Sliger.

Absent: Matt Lacy, Ventrus Norfolk

Others Present: Amy Hemminger, Steve Bostic, Paul Brown, Mike Richardson, Joey Barnard, Ron White, 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: Linda Noe

Ms. Noe expressed her concern about voting on the SEI Landfill today. After some research at the county, she found that the county did not put out the signage for the correct lengths of time that the Jackson Law calls for. Ms. Noe stated, "Your attorney was even concerned by the way it was handled. So, I am asking the board to do more research on this before voting on this today. The city voted on March 19, 2026, and passed it, the County voted on May 19, 2026, and passed it. You have 90 days from May 19, 2026, to vote on it and do some research to make sure it was done correctly".

Approval of Minutes: Tom Rush

Mr. Sliger made the motion to approve the June 26, 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 June 2026 Financials- Ms. Hemminger stated that the financial statements as presented are preliminary for year-end as they do not include adjustments for audit for items such as closure/post closure expense and liability and debt repayments. The statement of net position includes the transfers to LGIP for the 1st quarter 2026 capital, debt service, and shredder tipping fees. The statement of revenues and expenses includes repairs to various CAT equipment of approximately \$10,500.

Hamblen County/Morristown Solid Waste Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes: July 17, 2026

Morristown Public Works Conference Room

2. Mr. Rush stated that the interest rates are 2.15% at First Horizon and 3.65% at LGIP.

Manager's Report: Dennis Barnes

1. Mr. Barnes stated that we finally received the inspection report for May. We got a new inspector this month and she was pleased to see the landfill in good condition after all the storms we have had. She did not state if we had issues or not, so we will have to wait for her report.
2. Mr. Barnes stated that our sign on the building needed replacing because it has faded out to where you cannot read it, and he would like to change the name back to the original name that is on our charter, which is Joint Hamblen County – Morristown Regional Authority. Also, he would like to get the sign made for Keith Jackson since they lost it in the fire. Both signs will be around \$2,000. Mr. Rush stated that Mr. Barnes can get a draft copy of the signs and bring them to the next meeting for consideration.
3. Mr. Rush asked Mr. Barnes about the recycling grant status. Mr. Barnes stated that it would probably be October before we hear anything about it.

Engineer's Report: Steve Bostic

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

Mr. Bostic told the board he had hired a new employee with landfill experience to help with our permit. Matt and the employee are going through all the paperwork reviewing and resubmitting the response to TDEC for hopefully the last time. Mr. Barnes stated that we only had about a year left in Class I and two years left in Class III.

Mr. Barnes got some information about someone dumping out of state garbage. So, now we will have to find out where it is coming from. We cannot accept any out of state garbage.

Mr. Bostic stated that we have a peer person hired with landfill experience and I can supply his resume for the board to review and bring him to the meeting next month to meet him. Mr. Rush asked since we were on our fourth notice of deficiency (NOD), do we need to bring in extra help to get through this. Mr. Cutshaw asked since we have had repeated NODS, does your new employee know what he is doing? Mr. Bostic stated that he would give us his name and you can pass it on to TDEC to research him. Mr. Sliger asked what is going to be life changing even if we have the permit? It is going to be next spring now since we have not turned this fourth NOD response back in. In May we had 12 to 14 months left in Class I. So, what can he tell

Hamblen County/Morristown Solid Waste Board of Directors Meeting

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us that is going to be life changing in getting our permit? Mr. Barnes stated that he would reach out to TDEC and Mr. Burnette and let them research him. Mr. McGuffin stated that he would make a motion to hire a third party to come in and help us get to the finish line. Mr. Rush stated that there is a process to go through to hire someone who could get and we need to get some quotes before the August meeting. Mr. Bostic stated that you would need someone who could review your operations manual in depth and make recommendations. Mr. McGuffin stated that he would call a couple of people he knew and see if they will give us a proposal on it and we can vote on it at the August meeting.

New Business: Pat McGuffin

Mr. McGuffin stated that he had a couple in mind for the Class III expansion that needs to be started on. He is going to call John Garner and Geos about doing it, getting bids, and getting it going. Class III has around two years left.

Adjournment from Hamblen County/Morristown Solid Waste Board of Directors Meeting: Tom Rush

Mr. Rush stated that instead of adjourning the regular board meeting for the purpose of convening the Hamblen County Region Solid Waste Authority, he has some concerns about proceeding with the vote today on the SEI Landfill. He stated that our attorney is not present, and we have some concerns that could affect the vote. One concern is the comment today about the signage SEI posted at the landfill site and whether it was correct. All our board members are not present, and they need to be for this vote. We need to find out more about the signage issue and call a special meeting for this vote only. Mr. Rush recommended postponing the SEI Landfill vote until next month when everyone is available.

Mr. Rush asked for a motion to adjourn, and all board members present were in favor.

Adjourn to Hamblen County Regional Solid Waste Authority: Tom Rush

Mr. Rush has recommended postponing the meeting until next month at which time a special-called meeting will be held.

Adjournment: Tom Rush

Mr. Rush asked for a motion to adjourn the regular meeting, and all board members present were in favor. Mr. Rush adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

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Tom Rush-Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas D. Rush", is written over a horizontal line.

Chris Cutshaw-Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Cutshaw", is written over a horizontal line.