



Winnebago County

The Wave of the Future

**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2025**

A. Call to Order

Chair Doug Nelson called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Members Present: Monica Duebbert, Mike Easker, Frank Frassetto, Kevin Konrad, Howard Miller, Doug Nelson, Tim Paterson, Jim Wise. Members Excused: None.

Also Present at the Meeting:

Kathryn Hutter, Director of Solid Waste

Tyler Esslinger, Business Manager

Cassandra Stadtmueller, Operations Manager

Paul Kaiser, Finance Director

Gordon Hintz, County Executive

Jamie Rouch, Director of Administration

B. Public Comments within the Jurisdiction of the Board

None.

C. Communications Shared by Board Members

None.

D. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the September 3, 2025 Open Session Meeting Minutes

Motion by F. Frassetto, seconded by K. Konrad to approve the September 3, 2025 Open Session Meeting Minutes, Passed. Yes 8, No 0, Abstained 0.

E. Business Items

Action may be taken on any business items.

1. Discussion and Possible Action on Amendments to the Budget the Committee may recommend to the County Board

K. Hutter updated the Solid Waste Management Board (SWMB) on the revisions made to the budget after July 2, 2025. The following changes are summarized as follows:

Revenue:

- *48004 - Interest income LTC – increase \$208,000; data was not available at time of budget workshop*

Expenses:

- *51106 – Citizen board member per diem – increase of \$3,750 from \$0; original omission was a data entry error by Director.*
- *51100 through 51216 – Labor & Benefits – estimate \$1,703,648, final \$1,710,500; data was not available at time of budget workshop and was not included in budget detail.*

- 57000 - Debt principal payment – increase of \$355,000 from \$0; 2025A GO Bond issue for \$4M, 1st year principal payment.
- 57001 – Debt interest payment – increase of \$128,733 from \$0; 2025A GO Bond issue for \$4M, 1st year interest payment.

K. Hutter noted that no amendments or recommendations for changes were made post County Budget Workshop.

F. Frassetto commented that he likes the county taking a high level approach for all departments with regard to the budget process. Noting that it is easily understandable and a good strategy going forward.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

Motion by M. Duebbert, seconded by F. Frassetto to accept Discussion and Possible Action on Amendments to the Budget the Committee may recommend to the County Board as presented. Passed. Yes 8, No 0, Abstained 0.

2. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Update

K. Hutter presented a PowerPoint on Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) to the Solid Waste Management Board (SWMB).

The update included the following topics:

- Definition
- Landfills, Waste/ Recycling Facilities & Compost Sites
- Legislation & Rulemaking
- Wisconsin Biosolids Program
- What does this mean for Landfills?
- Preparing for the future of long-term care

D. Nelson inquired about how the new legislation will impact Winnebago County Solid Waste regarding disposal at Oshkosh Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP).

K. Hutter stated that the current legislation primarily focuses on drinking water. Regulations pertaining to wastewater treatment plants and their customers are forthcoming and may eventually impact Winnebago County Solid Waste. It remains unclear where treatment would occur (either onsite at the landfill or through a system implemented at the WWTP). To date, there has been no communication from the Oshkosh WWTP regarding future expectations.

M. Duebbert asked what the current disposal options are for Biosolids.

K. Hutter stated either spread on fields, Landfill, or Incinerate.

M. Easker asked if any money was expensed in the 2026 Budget to prepare for possible legislation.

K. Hutter stated that consulting fees are included in the 2026 budget, as well as in the subsequent years outlined in the Capital Improvements Project (CIP) section of the budget.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

No action taken by the SWMB.

3. Recycling Markets Update

C. Stadtmueller updated the SWMB on the current status of Recycling Markets, stating that recyclers, traders and businesses are still in "wait and see" mode with tariffs.

C. Stadtmueller covered the various commodities processed by the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) and their market outlooks.

C. Stadtmueller stated that tonnages are down, reviewed index values and briefly discussed MRF sales strategy.

C. Stadtmueller clarified that although 2025 currently shows a high index value, the overall trend for the year is downward, and she anticipates the final value will be lower.

C. Stadtmueller stated that based on the current pricing trend for 2025, she anticipates little to no surplus for Signing Municipalities.

D. Nelson recommended informing the Municipalities that the market values are down year to date.

K. Hutter stated that a memo was distributed mid-summer to inform the Signing Municipalities that market performance was below expectations.

No action taken by the SWMB.

F. Director's Report

1.

- Winnebago County Household & Agriculture Hazardous Material Clean Sweep
- Landfill Gas Equipment Replacement Project Update
- Winnebago County to Present at 2026 Wisconsin Integrated Resource Management Conference (WIRMC)
- Other Solid Waste Department Projects

Winnebago County Household & Agriculture Hazardous Material Clean Sweep

K. Hutter informed the SWMB of the upcoming Household & Agriculture Hazardous Material Clean Sweep. It is an opportunity for Signing Municipalities to host a clean sweep voluntarily. The Solid Waste Department schedules, promotes, and pays for disposal. The events will take place November 1st, 2025 at the following locations.

Fox Crossing - 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Town of Black Wolf - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Landfill Gas Equipment Replacement Project Update

K. Hutter stated that at the conclusion of the 3rd week of September, the landfill gas (LFG) conditioning skid (GCS) continues to be non-operable, and Solid Waste is not able to generate power. Perennial Energy (PEI) had two technicians on site on Wednesday, September 3 and Thursday, September 4. During the gas conditioning equipment testing, PEI's technicians found multiple issues with the equipment.

Lonestar was not able to send a technician until Tuesday, September 16 so no work occurred during the week of September 8. Lonestar technicians and PEI technicians were on site Tuesday, September 16 through Thursday, September 18 and found multiple issues with the equipment.

K. Hutter also informed the Board that the new PEI flare, under certain wind and gas conditions, burns too hot and there is a concern that it may scorch the building that houses the gas skids. Heat shielding the building and flare height adjustments are being considered. It is likely the flare height adjustment will be the preferred option.

F. Frassetto asked if Solid Waste has paid in full for the equipment.

K. Hutter stated that there is still an outstanding balance.

M. Duebbert asked if the manufacturer paid for parts and labor on the rusted parts.

K. Hutter stated that there was warranty work coordinated between Lonestar and Perennial. Solid Waste has not been invoiced for the parts and labor.

D. Nelson requested that the SWMB be informed via email should the equipment become operational before the next SWMB Meeting November 5, 2025.

Winnebago County to present at the 2026 Wisconsin Integrated Resource Management Conference (WIRMC)

K. Hutter informed the SWMB that Winnebago County Solid Waste personnel were selected to present on three topics at the 2026 WIRMC, held at Elkhart Lake, February 25-27, 2026. Topics are:

- "Simple Lessons, Lasting Impact: The ABC's of Recycling Right" – Kelly Reyer, Winnebago County Education & Outreach Specialist / Jordan Hiller, Outagamie County Recycling and Solid Waste Program Coordinator

- "Building Master Recyclers: Engaging Communities Through Education and Volunteerism" (Recycle Right Master Class Workshop)

- "Chasing Chlorides: A Historic Landfill Needing Hands-On Long-Term Care" (Snell Road Landfill) – Sara Beine, PE, Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC / Kathy Hutter, Director of Solid Waste / Heather Hallett, Lead Hydrogeologist, Foth

Other Solid Waste Department Projects

K. Hutter provided an update on various ongoing Solid Waste Department Projects.

G. Items for Next Agenda

Suggestions from committee members for items to be addressed on a future agenda
None.

H. Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

I. Adjourn

Motion made by T. Paterson, seconded by M. Duebbert to adjourn at 11:34 a.m. Passed. Yes 8. No 0, Abstained 0.

Approved by SWMB - November 05, 2025

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