

DRAFT MINUTES
RAPPAHANNOCK REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD
FEBRUARY 25, 2026
Board of Supervisors Chambers

Meeting Convened: A regular meeting of the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board (R-Board) was convened at 1:00 p.m. on February 25, 2026.

Roll Call: The following members were present: William Ashton; Timothy J. Baroody; Maya Guy; Jannen Holmes; Will Mackintosh. Pamela Yeung was absent.

Also in attendance were: Bill Hefty, R-Board Attorney; Susan Carpenter, Assistant Landfill Superintendent; Francesca Johnson, Recycling Manager; Tyler Schmidt, Environmental Coordinator; Pamela Timmons, Clerk; and Phillip Hathcock, Director.

Election of Officers: After discussion, the R-Board moved this item to its May 27th meeting.

Mr. Ashton motioned, seconded by Dr. Mackintosh to allow Ms. Guy to participate virtually.

By roll call, the vote was:

Yea:	(5)	Ashton, Baroody, Guy, Holmes, Mackintosh
Nay:	(0)	
Abstain:	(1)	Yeung

Approval of the Agenda:

Mr. Ashton motioned, seconded by Dr. Mackintosh to approve the agenda.

By roll call, the vote was:

Yea:	(5)	Ashton, Baroody, Guy, Holmes, Mackintosh
Nay:	(0)	
Absent:	(1)	Yeung

Approval of the minutes of prior meeting: Dr. Mackintosh motioned, seconded by Mr. Baroody to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2025 meeting.

By roll call, the vote was:

Yea:	(5)	Ashton, Baroody, Guy, Holmes, Mackintosh
Nay:	(0)	
Absent:	(1)	Yeung

Presentations by the Public: No members of the public desired to speak.

Presentations by the R-Board: No members desired to speak.

Report of the Landfill Superintendent: Mr. Markwardt reported on the following:

CELL G1/G3 OPERATION The filling of Cell G1/G3 continues without any issues. The next flyover for the Landfill is scheduled to take place sometime in the Spring/Summer of 2026.

NEW CAMERA SYSTEM The Landfill has received the purchase order (PO) for the new camera system. Staff is currently working with the I.T. Department on the final details before scheduling the installation with APV.

Report of the Assistant Landfill Superintendent: Ms. Carpenter reported on the following:

STAFFING The R-Board is currently authorized for 42 positions, of which 37 are full-time, and 5 are part-time. We currently have (1) Landfill Gate Attendant and (1) Maintenance Worker positions open.

We hired the following new Maintenance Workers: Claude Tamo has a degree in electrical engineering. He is a native of Africa and can speak, read, and write in French. Tyler Knepshild has a Class A CDL and worked for American Hauling Services, hauling trash. Michael Covelesky has a Class A CDL and has driven a truck for over 10 years. He also has a Locksmith License.

TRAINING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT The following obtained their Skid-Steer Certification: Shawns Coates, Shawn Simmons, and Corey King, Shawn Simmons has been promoted to the Scale house/Maintenance Manager. Jeremy Ellis obtained his Class B CDL.

SAFETY Safety meetings are essential for promoting a safety culture and ensuring everyone's well-being in the workplace. They allow employees to report safety concerns and share improvement ideas. The following are some of our safety topics:

Electrical Safety – Lightning Lightning strikes can cause serious injuries or even death when workers are outdoors during thunderstorms. While lightning is often overlooked as an occupational hazard, awareness about lightning hazards is critical to ensure workers' safety. Lightning is a dangerous natural force. According to OSHA, in the United States, over 300 people are struck by lightning every year, and unfortunately, many of these people die from lightning injuries. Workers whose job involves working outdoors in open spaces, on or near tall objects, or near explosives or conductive material have significant exposure to lightning risks. One of the worker activities at a higher risk for lightning hazards is heavy equipment operation.

Safety – Ladders OSHA fall protection requirements are strategically designed to uphold the highest standards of safety for workers, including ladder selection, usage protocols, and ongoing inspections and maintenance to prevent dangerous incidents from occurring. According to OSHA, falls from portable ladders are one of the leading causes of occupational fatalities and injuries.

Health Hazards – Cold Stress Anyone working in a cold environment may be at risk for cold stress. Prolonged exposure to cold on/or freezing temperatures while on the job may cause serious health problems such as trench foot, frostbite, and hypothermia. In extreme cases, exposure to cold temperatures can lead to death. Hypothermia can even occur at cold temperatures, above 40 degrees, if a worker becomes chilled from rain, sweat, or water.

Environmental Compliance Report: Mr. Schmidt reported on the following:

VA DEQ VPDES Warning Letter: On January 31st, 2026, R-Board Staff received a warning letter regarding effluent exceedances reported on the first semi-annual stormwater eDMR for 2025. R-Board Staff addressed the exceedances accordingly in 2025.

Annual Pretreatment Environmental Excellence Award 2025: On February 4th, 2026, R-Board Staff received notification that the landfill was selected as a recipient of the Gold Award for Pretreatment Environmental Excellence from the Virginia Water Environment Association for the 2025 compliance year. The award will be given during the Annual Industrial Waste and Pretreatment Conference on March 10th in Harrisonburg, VA.

Environmental Monitoring & Reporting: Provided below is a table of reports & plans submitted for compliance purposes following last quarter’s board report:

<u>Reports & Plans</u>	<u>Submission Date</u>
2025 Annual Landfill Underdrain Monitoring Report	December 17, 2025
2 nd Semi-Annual SIU IDMR	January 7, 2026
4 th Quarter Stormwater Chesapeake Bay TMDL (2025)	January 8, 2026
2 nd Semi-Annual Stormwater Effluent eDMR (2025)	January 8, 2026
2 nd Semi-Annual Stormwater Benchmark eDMR (2025)	January 8, 2026
3 rd Quarter GWM Active Landfill	January 15, 2026

Upcoming: 2nd Semi-Annual Gas Monitoring Report, 2nd Semi-Annual Gas Compliance Report, 2nd Semi-Annual Title V MACT Report, Annual Title V Gas Compliance Certification, 3rd QTR GWM Active Landfill (2025), 4th QTR GWM Active Landfill (2025), Annual GWM Closed Landfill (2025), Annual GWM Active Landfill (2025), 2nd Semi-Annual Stormwater Benchmark eDMR, 2nd Semi Annual Stormwater Effluent eDMR, and 4th QTR Stormwater Chesapeake Bay TMDL.

Ms. Holmes asked about the warning letter. Mr. Schmidt explained that there was an exceedance with discharge from the Landfill.

Recycling Report: Ms. Johnson reported on the following:

Bicycle Restoration Program The R-Board participated in the Stafford County Department of Social Services Holiday Program. The R-Board partnered with Stafford Crossing Community Church and the

Fredericksburg Cyclist Club to restore gently used bicycles that were collected at the landfill. Thanks to the efforts of these generous volunteers, 22 bicycles were refurbished as gifts for the Holiday Program. Additionally, 5 adult bicycles were restored and donated to Micah Ministries to provide transportation for neighbors in need.

Rechargeable Battery Disposal The R-Board continues to collect rechargeable batteries from residents at the Regional Landfill and the Belman Road Convenience Center, free of charge. The R-Board promotes the proper disposal of rechargeable batteries and offers resources on our website, social media platforms, and during recycling information sessions. Additionally, we emphasize that many electronics retailers and community facilities provide free drop-off bins for those who may not frequently visit R-Board locations.

Helpsy The R-Board partnered with Helpsy in December 2025, an organization dedicated to reducing textile waste. Helpsy accepts donations of clean, dry, and odor-free clothing, linens, and footwear. Helpsy donation bins are located at the Belman Road Convenience Center and the Regional Landfill. This provides residents with an easy way to ensure that these items are repurposed rather than ending up in a landfill. This program also generates a small amount of revenue for the R-Board.

Styrofoam Ban The Virginia General Assembly enacted legislation that prohibits the use of Expanded Polystyrene (EPS), commonly referred to as styrofoam. This ban applies to all food vendors, defined as any establishment that offers prepared food for public consumption, whether on-site or for takeout. All food establishments must stop using foam containers by July 1, 2026. The R-Board has launched a public information campaign to inform the appropriate channels about the new law. The City of Fredericksburg Public Information Office, City of Fredericksburg Economic Development, Stafford County Community Engagement, and Stafford County Economic Development have all been made aware of this new law. Additionally, the R-Board coordinated with the Virginia Department of Health's Environmental Health Services division, which will distribute informational posters about the foam ban during their restaurant inspections. An informational postcard was mailed to all food establishments in the City of Fredericksburg and Stafford County. Complaints and exemptions for the City of Fredericksburg and Stafford County will be managed locally by the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board (R-Board).

Single-Stream Recycling Update Single-stream recycling processing costs continue to rise. Major recycling collectors are predicting low commodity values for the remainder of quarter 1, 2026.

Dr. Mackintosh asked about the clothing drop-offs. Ms. Johnson explained that it was free.

Ms. Holmes asked about notifications for food trucks regarding the styrofoam ban. Ms. Johnson said that staff was trying to contact as many as possible through the mail and social media.

Community Outreach Supervisor Ms. Johnson (for Ms. Mikelson) reported on the following:

Educational Trailer:

Purchase Order #372487 was issued on 1/14/26 to Core Print, LLC. The PO is to wrap and rebrand the Educational Trailer. Now it is to be called Professor Olivia's Mobile Classroom.

Non-trailer Activities:

- Professor Olivia's Litter Program has had several kits checked out and cleanups completed • Backyard Composting 101 - Central Rappahannock Regional Library
 - o Classes are given monthly and will continue through the winter into next year.
 - o Food scrap kits are given to each attendee, and a complimentary Compost Bin can be picked at the Administrative Offices.

- Get Rid of Litter 3-D Recycled Art Contest was held on February 7, 2026, at Colonial Forge High School during Stafford County's 5th Annual Community Health and Wellness Fair.
 - o 64 students from 16 Stafford County Schools, including 2 Pre-K schools.
 - o The 1st Place Winners were: Pre-K-Ivy Wilder. K-2- Catherine Ossont, 3-5- Winnie Burke, 6-8- Mohamadi Homa, and 9-12- Myriana Rodriguez Bomilla.

Community Meetings and Outreach Connections:

- o Meet with CRRL members to discuss the Litter Lifter program and scheduled story times with Professor Olivia at both Porter and Howell Library.

- o Meet with Eric Bonds and Jonathan Stevens about expanding the compost program and including possible food scrap drop offs.

- o Meet with Francesca Johnson to discuss a possible pilot program for a food scrap contest between Fredericksburg and Stafford.

Litter Collection: Ms. Brent reported on the following:

The R-Board collaborates with the Rappahannock Regional Jail (RRJ) and District 21 to utilize the adult probationer community service requirement for roadside litter cleanup. The courts assign probationers a certain number of hours to be completed by a set date. Through this cooperation, from November 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026, there have been:

- 27 active adult probationers currently in the program. There are 3 probationers due to come onboard.
 - o 270.50 non-paid hours (51.75 hours were worked at Stafford Landfill)
 - o 240 bags of roadside litter collected
 - o 53.25 miles of roads cleaned

- 11 adult probationers completed the program o 275.25 non-paid hours (122.50 hours were worked at the Stafford Landfill and the Belman Convenient Center)
 - o 202 bags of roadside litter collected
 - o 27.50 miles of roads cleaned

Staff also works with the Rappahannock Regional Adult & Juvenile Recovery Court located at 618 Kenmore Avenue. The premise is the same as the RRJ assignees, but these folks have fewer hours and a quicker

turnaround time. The court meets on Mondays and staff receives a new list of assignees on Tuesdays. The following information is provided from November 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026:

- 3 active assignees
- 10 assignees completed the program
 - o 305.50 non-paid hours
 - o 329 bags of roadside litter collected
 - o 59.50 miles of roads cleaned

We also contract with RRJ to clean road areas needing more intensive attention. RRJ provides 1 officer to oversee a crew of inmates (usually about 5 individuals). This reporting period, RRJ went out 4 times in December. Eskimo Hill Road, Potomac Run Road, Warrenton Road, and Route 3 East were cleaned.

The following roads/streets have been cleaned from November 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026:

Andrew Chapel Road, Austin Ridge Road, Bethel Church Road, Blue and Gray Parkway, Brooke Road, Centreport Parkway, Coal Lading Road, Courthouse Road, Cool Springs Road, Dixon Street, Emancipation Highway, Eskimo Hill Road, Enon Road, Fall Hill Avenue, Forbes Street, Forest Lane Road, Garrisonville Road, Hope Road, Kings Highway, Lafayette Boulevard, Layhill Road, Leeland Road, Manning Drive, Mine Road, Morton Road, Olde Forge Drive, Onville Road, Plantation Drive, Potomac Run Road, Primmer House Road, Richmond Highway, South Gateway Drive, Stafford Wayside, Truslow Road, Warrenton Road, and White Oak Road. **Fredericksburg Area:** Central Park, Charles Street, Cowan Blvd, Dixon Street, Emancipation Highway, Lafayette Boulevard, and Plank Road.

Report on Finances: Mr. Hathcock reported on the following:

Financial Status- July 2025-January 2026

R-Board finances FY26 to date are as outlined below:

- FY2026 reporting period revenue reflects a total of \$7,881,738.09, which is 74% of \$10,600,000.00 in budgeted revenue for FY2026.
- At the end of the reporting period, the R-Board held \$25,013,589.69 in cash and short-term investments.
- FY2026 expenses for the reporting period reflect \$4,170,096.90 expended (39%) of an approved adjusted budget of \$10,600,000.

Upcoming Expenditures:

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Planned Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Compactor Rebuild	December 2025	\$453,557.95
Commercial Scales Replacement	July 2026	\$400,000
Cell G1/G2 Engineering	Current – 2027	\$300,000
Total		\$1,153,557.95

Mr. Hathcock reported that it was a clean audit. Dr. Mackintosh asked about the tonnage numbers. Mr. Hathcock responded that it was due to the winter weather and slows with construction.

FY2027 Proposed Budget Presentation: Mr. Hathcock provided an overview of the proposed FY2027 budget.

Dr. Mackintosh asked about some of the budget line reallocations. Mr. Hathcock explained that certain items were reclassified within the budget lines to clarify expenditures.

Mr. Baroody asked if the \$414K for construction will be sufficient since that is not consistent with the rate study. Mr. Hathcock said that with budget savings, it should be enough, with no need to borrow.

Ameresco Contract:

Summary: As discussed at several R-Board meetings over the past year, the current landfill gas purchaser Ameresco has not produced revenue or operated the electric generation plant for approximately two years. Ameresco management reports that the issue is related to connectivity between the generation plant and Dominion. R-Board management, with the assistance of Counsel, are in the process of negotiating an early termination of the contract with Ameresco.

In anticipation of the termination of the contract with Ameresco, R-Board staff released a request for qualified vendors to utilize the landfill gas in a beneficial manner. Responses were received from eight firms, four of which were chosen to present proposals in person. Negotiations are proceeding with the two highest-ranked firms to enter into an agreement to purchase the landfill gas.

Mr. Hefty reminded the R-Board members that the Board of Supervisors and City Council will have to approve this at its meetings. The lease is for the land and Ameresco will build the facility. The contract will have a Plan B so no funds will be lost. Gas is more profitable and it will be either a gas line or it will be transported by truck. Plan A is the pipeline and Plan B will be to truck it. The language will be made clear. May is the goal for the timeline, and vendors have stated that it will be approximately 18 months after the contract.

SCS Engineering Services:

Dr. Mackintosh motioned, seconded by Mr. Ashton to adopt proposed Resolution RB26-02.

By roll call, the vote was:

Yea:	(5)	Ashton, Baroody, Guy, Holmes, Mackintosh
Nay:	(0)	
Absent:	(1)	Yeung

Resolution RB26-02 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SCS ENGINEERS TO PROVIDE
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

WHEREAS, the R-Board desires to begin engineering and obtaining the necessary permits for the construction of Cell G-1/G-2 to ensure City and County residents have a means to dispose of solid waste material in an environmentally responsible manner; and

WHEREAS, SCS Engineers provides contracted engineering services to the R-Board; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends the R-Board authorize the use of SCS Engineers to provide engineering services required by VA-DEQ, US-EPA, and the Army Corp of Engineers for the construction on Cell G-1/G2, in the amount of not to exceed \$200,000; and

WHEREAS, funding in the amount of \$200,000 is available in the R-Board FY2026 approved budget for future construction needs;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board on this the 25th day of February, 2026, that the R-Board Director, or his designee, is authorized to execute a work order with SCS Engineers to provide engineering services for the permitting and construction documents for cell G1/G2 in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000), unless modified by a duly-executed Contract Amendment.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Future Session: A regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., in Conference Room ABC.

Phillip Hathcock, Director

Pamela L. Timmons, Clerk