



Technical Management Committee Minutes of the Meeting on March 22, 2023

SPC EpiCenter, Conference Room 2-304

(Revised May 24, 2023)

The meeting of the Solid Waste Technical Management Committee (TMC) was held at the SPC EpiCenter, Room 2-304 at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, March 22, 2023. Members present were Willie Joseph, William Pickrum, Robert Turner, Andrew Butterfield, Daniel Simpson, Rodney Due, Michael Gordon, Micah Maxwell, and Robert Mills. Members absent without an alternate: Scott Witt, Keith Sabiel, Dean Scharmen, and Tracy Meehan. Pinellas County employees in attendance were Paul Sacco, Stephanie Watson, Cassie Hartman, Joe Morrissey, and Brendan Mackesey. Carlee Ward, TMC Secretary recorded the minutes.

Call to Order

Willie Joseph, Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm.

Citizens to be heard

No citizens to be heard.

Minutes

Mr. Joseph entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2023 meeting.

A motion was made by Robert Turner and seconded by Micah Maxwell to accept the TMC Minutes as written. Motion approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Operations Report

Paul Sacco, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

- Paul reviewed the Solid Waste Operations Report for January and February 2023.
- The lower tonnage to the plant in February was due to the spring outage which started February 27.
- March 1 started the common outage with all three units offline for inspections and preventative maintenance. Switched Fall and Spring outages to accommodate for the rainy season in order to maintain water levels on site.
- The common outage for the Waste-to-Energy facility means that all incoming waste materials are sent to the landfill. Operations continues to coordinate with Waste Management for certain vehicle routing to reduce cycle times at the landfill working face.
- January and February availability at the Industrial Water Treatment Facility was lower due to Capital Improvement project work.

- The next Regulatory Roundtable is scheduled for March 30, 2023. This is a bi-annual meeting between various Cities, County and State Environmental Programs within Pinellas County. The group meets to discuss their various programs, common and emerging environmental problems, and potential solutions.
- An “Additional Resources” block has been added to each Solid Waste webpage. The block includes most visited webpages, making it easier for customers to find resources.
- Ashley Wyland, Department of Solid Waste created the [Reef Google Map](#) of Pinellas County’s 42 artificial reefs. To date, the site has over 35,000 views.
- A communication plan for the early Scalehouse closure on April 26, 2023 is in review and aiming to implement by the last week of March. The site will be closing at 11:00 am that day to allow for staff attendance at the County’s employee recognition event.

Financial Report

Cassie Hartman, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

- Cassie reviewed the Financial Status Summary for October 1 through February 28.
- Modification made to the report for this fiscal year: a column was added to each line item reporting the percentage in comparison to actual budget.
- Other Income reflects increase due to sale of PPE.
- Interest was budgeted conservatively.
- Increase in Sales due to sale of surplus equipment.
- Plant Management and Landfill Management are favorable due to timing of FY22 invoices received.

Pinellas County Updates

Stephanie Watson, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

- Pinellas Partners in Recycling (PPR) update:
 - A full list of updates from the March 15, 2023 PPR meeting is included in the meeting packet.
 - The next meeting will be held in-person; location to be determined.
 - Cameron Macleish, CEO & Founder of [360 Eats](#) presented on 360 Eats’ local impact on reducing food waste and serving those in need free gourmet meals.
 - Reminder that DSW is available to assist municipalities with education and outreach and can join your commission meetings to provide support for recycling programs. Email recycle@pinellas.gov.
 - The facility formerly known as the “Household Electronics and Chemical Collection Center (HEC3)” is being renamed the “Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Center” or “HHW Center” to better reflect the items accepted.

- Danny Gallagher, Hillsborough County shared that the County's Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) design-build contract is under legal review. If all goes well, a MRF will begin operations in the spring of 2026.
- Savannah Bennett announced that a **Zero Waste Event Guidance Work Group** is being created. Emily LeMay will chair the Work Group. Emily is seeking PPR members who are interested in joining the Work Group to help develop this document. It is important that we have regional representation from various backgrounds. Contact elemay@pinellas.gov if interested.
- PPR is still looking for Vice Chair. Vice Chair supports the Chair in preparing for meeting and attending meetings. Vice Chair may be directed to take meeting notes. Time commitment may vary but expect about 2-3 hours every other month (meeting prep + meeting itself + meeting follow-up). If interested, email elemay@pinellas.gov or savannah.bennett@myclearwater.com.

Paul Sacco, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

- The TMC's recommendation to continue with the approved 6.8% rate increase is being proposed to the Board.
- Continuing negotiations with Covanta on renewal of the Service Agreement. The second meeting is scheduled for March 30. They are hoping to finalize terms, but an additional meeting may be required. Once the terms are finalized, they can begin working on costs and legalities. They are aiming to have it ready to workshop by late summer and approved by the end of the calendar year, so these costs can be included in next year's rate model.

MRF Discussion

Paul Sacco, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

- Received three responses to the Private Processor RFP, all with no bid since the tonnage could not be guaranteed. The County is not able to make this guarantee without an ordinance mandating recycling. Paul met with the County Administrator who has requested he meet with the municipalities to discuss a mandatory recycling ordinance. He will bring the input back to the County Administrator who will make the determination whether to reissue the RFP or go with a MRF based on the guaranteed tonnage. He will be meeting with the County Administrator again in April and should be able to report back at the May meeting.

Solid Waste Ordinance Revision

Paul Sacco, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

- DSW has met with all stakeholders (municipalities, private haulers, other County departments) to review and update the Pinellas County Code of Ordinances Chapter 106: Solid Waste. The next step is to meet with members of the public, then send it on to the Board for discussion in August. Based on their direction, it will come back to the TMC to workshop for narrative and content.
- A section of the Ordinance refers specifically to the TMC. Paul recommended the following updates to this section:

- Currently, there is no identified process for Group A, B, & C Cities to elect an Alternate Member. It was suggested the process be the same as electing the Primary Member; a nomination and vote from each of the cities represented.
- The Ordinance states the TMC must perform the rate review process annually. To date, the County would employ a third-party rate study. The study is then presented to the TMC so they can make an informed recommendation to the Board. Paul suggested the consultant make the rate recommendation and the TMC would vote whether they agree or disagree with the recommended rate. The consultant's recommendation and the TMC's vote would then be sent to the Board to make the final decision.
- **William Pickrum** requested the consultant present models of the different scenarios they worked through to come up with their recommendation.

Additional Items for Discussion

- Brendan Mackesey, Pinellas County Attorney's Office - shared that during a recent meeting with Pinellas County law enforcement agencies to discuss derelict vessels, the PC Sheriff's Office recognized DSW and their contribution in providing a staging area for these vessels.

Chairman Joseph called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Michael Gordon and seconded by Micah Maxwell. Meeting adjourned at 2:41 pm.

The next TMC Meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Carlee Ward, Recording TMC Secretary