



## Technical Management Committee Minutes of the Meeting on May 24, 2023

SPC EpiCenter, Conference Room 2-304

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, May 24, 2023. Members present were Willie Joseph, William Pickrum, Robert Turner, Andrew Butterfield, Renee Cooper, Tom Nicholls, Rodney Due, Micah Maxwell, Dean Scharmen, Tracy Meehan, and Robert Mills. Members absent without an alternate: Raymond Adams, Keith Sabiel, and Marco Villagomez. 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

William Pickrum, Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

Mr. Pickrum opened the floor for introduction of any guests in attendance.

- Jon Waggoner, Pinellas County Office of Management & Budget
- Tim Bowers, Waste Management

### Citizens to be heard

No citizens to be heard.

### Minutes

Chairman Joseph entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2023 meeting. Dean Scharmen requested an amendment to add his name to the list of “members absent without an alternate” as he was not in attendance.

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

### Operations Report

Paul Sacco, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

- Paul reviewed the Solid Waste Operations Report for March and April 2023.
- Spring outage ended on May 21. They are still catching up with the tonnage on the tipping floor resulting in additional scheduled diversions.
- The County provided the FDEP a concept paper for the diversion of tip-trailers from the normal customer lines. A study indicated that these haulers deliver the least amount and take the longest. It is expected that a transfer operation for these vehicles will reduce hauler turnaround times and reduce the amount of waste diverted to the landfill.

- 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 (i.e., household chemicals).
- The HHW Center, Swap Shop, and Household Chemical Collection event operating days are changing as of June 1, 2023. The HHW Center’s operating days will change from “Monday through Saturday” to “Tuesday through Friday, and the first and third Saturday of each month.” There will be no change in the operating hours: 7:00am to 5:00pm.
- The number of Household Chemical Collection events at Household Hazardous Waste North (HHW North) will increase from 12 to 22 annually to better serve the residents of Pinellas County. HHW North events will occur twice a month, on the second and fourth Saturday of each month, except for November and December, beginning in June 2023.
- Solid Waste will be hosting public engagement meetings this summer to take input from residents on proposed revisions to the County’s Code of Ordinances for Solid Waste ([Chapter 106](#)).
- The Commercial Recycling Awareness Survey questionnaire is finalized and the vendor, HCP Associates, is surveying businesses May through July 2023.

## Financial Report

Cassie Hartman, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

- Cassie reviewed the Financial Status Summary for October 1 through April 30.
- Although we are at 58% of the year, our adopted budget is only at 95% of what was projected. This can be attributed to lower waste volume for April.
- Gap in numbers for Scrap Sales due to change in vendor which has caused a delay in posting of payments.
- Other income includes the sale of site required PPE.
- Landfill expenses favorable due to timing of invoices received.
- Plant contract closer to actual for fiscal year because FY22 invoices posted in FY23 for August and September.
- Capital improvement projects have \$3.2M+ encumbered but have not been billed/posted yet.

## Pinellas County Updates

Stephanie Watson, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

- Pinellas Partners in Recycling (PPR) update:
  - A full list of updates from the May 4, 2023 PPR meeting is included in the meeting packet.
  - Danny Gallagher, Hillsborough County Recycling Coordinator, presented on Hillsborough County’s pilot program with Goodwill Suncoast that collects usable materials from customers dropping off at Community Collection Centers (CCC). [The presentation slides](#)

are available on [SharePoint](#). Danny can be reached by email at [GallagherD@hillsboroughcounty.org](mailto:GallagherD@hillsboroughcounty.org).

- Emily LeMay, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste shared an [interview](#) she was in with WTSP (10 Tampa Bay) regarding the importance of reducing waste to save landfill space. Emily also showed the new [Kindergarten – Grade 2 Educational Resources](#) on the county's website. These resources help fill an educational gap for students in this age range as tours and presentations are only available to students in Grade 3 and above. The activities were created by department staff and are aligned with the Florida Standards. Please share any feedback via [recycle@pinellas.gov](mailto:recycle@pinellas.gov).
- Pat DePlasco, Keep Pinellas Beautiful (KPB) shared that, in the month of April 2023, KPB held 79 cleanup events, 9 beautification events, and worked with 2,600 volunteers. Keep Pinellas Beautiful's Environmental Leadership summer camps for high schoolers are coming back this year. They will be held for one week in June and one week in July. For more information, visit [www.kpbcares.org/upcoming-events](http://www.kpbcares.org/upcoming-events).
- Ashley Wyland, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste shared that the Work Group is finalizing the survey for 9 different ads to help reduce contamination. Ashley will be interviewing people to see what initial thoughts are on the ads to see if the message about no batteries in garbage or recycling is getting through.
- Emily LeMay shared that the Low Waste Event Guide Work Group's next meeting is May 25 at 10 am. Recurring meetings are being held on the last Thursday of the month. The group is developing a Charter and currently researching existing low waste/zero waste/sustainable event guides.

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 and will be holding public meetings in June and July. The information from these meetings will be taken back to the Board in August. Next steps with the MRF will depend on the Board's direction on the ordinance as to mandatory recycling. The RFP will probably go back out to the open market with the same scope of work with the addition of guaranteed tonnage based on whether or not recycling is mandated.
- DSW has engaged HDR Engineering to solicit and place a broker for power brokering. They are reviewing sample agreements as well as the possibility of piggybacking on Lee or Miami-Dade contracts. They are not able to enter into a contract until the PPA with Duke Energy expires, but there are multiple agreements required which could take up to a year.
- Continuing negotiations with Covanta on renewal of the Service Agreement. The next meeting is scheduled for the end of June. The terms and conditions have been determined, and it's ready for legal review. 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.

## **Solid Waste Complex Operating Hours**

Paul Sacco, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

The City of St. Petersburg inquired into the possibility of altering the operating hours at the Solid Waste Disposal Complex to address overtime incurred due to long wait times. Paul mentioned that it would be easier to open earlier rather than to keep the site open later, but more data is required since this would come at an expense. The City of St. Petersburg is currently gathering GIS data from their trucks to identify actual wait times. The cities of Dunedin and Clearwater shared interest in contributing data and continuing this discussion.

## **Municipal Recycling Grant Discussion**

Paul Sacco, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

- The DSW has a budget item for the recycling grant program of \$500k. The grant money is divided among the municipalities based on population. The current criteria allows municipalities to use the grant money to pay for staff, processing costs, etc. DSW would like to review the criteria and benefits for possible revision. Solicited the TMC members' acceptance of this review. They will provide a draft of any proposed revisions to the TMC for review.

Stephanie Watson, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste

- They are still seeing a lot of recyclable materials in the waste stream and field a number of inquiries from residents confused on what materials can be recycled through their curbside program. A strategy in the Master Plan is to standardize recycling education. Stephanie suggested developing a standardized program and messaging across all municipalities and using the grant money for labeling containers and ads on how to reduce contamination, all making it easier for residents to recycle and increasing waste diversion to the landfill.

## **Additional Items for Discussion**

- No additional items were proposed for discussion.

**Chairman Joseph called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Micah Maxwell and seconded by Robert Turner. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.**

**The next TMC Meeting is scheduled for July 26, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted, Carlee Ward, Recording TMC Secretary