



## Technical Management Committee Minutes of the Meeting on September 27, 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, September 27, 2023. Members present were Willie Joseph, William Pickrum, Robert Turner, JP Agrall, Tracy Meehan, Andrew Butterfield, Renee Cooper, Daniel Simpson, Tom Nicholls, Rodney Due, Raymond Adams, Robert Mills, Kervin St. Aimie, and Jeffrey Kuhl. Members absent without an alternate: Keith Sabiel and Marco Villagomez. Pinellas County employees in attendance were Paul Sacco, Stephanie Watson, Jennifer Castagner, and Joe Morrissey. Carlee Ward, TMC Secretary recorded the minutes.

### Call to Order

Willie Joseph, Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm and opened the floor for guest introductions.

- JP Agrall, City of Treasure Island introduced himself as the new Primary voting member representing Group "C" Cities.

### Citizens to be heard

No citizens to be heard.

### Minutes

Chairman Joseph entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2023 meeting.

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

### Operations Report

Paul Sacco, Pinellas County Solid Waste

- Paul reviewed the Solid Waste Operations Report for July and August 2023.
- Completed bid documents for the structural steel replacement, which is the last of the reinvestment projects. Work should be completed within the next 18-24 months.
- As previously reported, Covanta's Facility Manager, Paul Grego retired at the end of June. They have announced the new Facility Manager, Rob Thompson will be transferring from the Hillsborough County facility.
- The permit modification for the temporary tip-trailer transfer operation is being prepared by the engineer.

- The water treatment plant continues to be down due to low water conditions. Staff are replacing all RO pressure vessels. Depending on Pond A water levels, the plant may commence operations in October.
- The remaining Household Chemical Collection events for 2023 are:
  - September 30: Largo Recycle Center
  - October 14: HHW North (29582 U.S. 19 N.)
  - October 28: HHW North (29582 U.S. 19 N.)
  - November 18: HHW North (29582 U.S. 19 N.)
  - December 9: HHW North (29582 U.S. 19 N.)
- ROP's municipal website update project has gone well. All municipalities have corrected the website except for three. Pinellas County will continue to reach out to the last three municipalities to have the updates made.
- Pinellas County Solid Waste is hosting a free solid and hazardous waste management webinar for property managers and waste haulers on November 2, 2023 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Property Managers and Waste Haulers will learn their roles and responsibilities for managing other people's waste and wastes generated at their properties. Help us promote this webinar. Visit [Pinellas.gov/bizworkshop](https://pinellas.gov/bizworkshop) for more information and to register.
- Pinellas County Solid Waste is planning to host a countywide recyclable materials composition study in October 2023 at the citizen hand unload area. Our consultant, NewGen, is currently drafting a scope of work. We will be in touch with municipalities about their participation in the study. Municipalities will be asked to pay for their samples; however, the Municipal Recycling Grant can be used to pay for samples.
- Pinellas County Solid Waste's disposal rate for municipal solid waste, commercial waste and yard waste will increase by 6.8% on Oct. 1st, 2023 — from \$47.75 to \$51 per ton. The increase is the second of a three-year rate increase plan approved by the Board of County Commissioners in 2022. In addition to the approved disposal rate increase, four other fee changes will be considered at a Board of County Commissioners meeting on Sept. 19th, 2023:
  - The surcharge fee for out-of-county municipal solid waste, commercial waste and yard waste is proposed to increase from \$47.75 to \$51 per ton, which is in addition to the regular per-ton disposal fee of \$51.
  - The flat fee for passenger vehicles is proposed to increase from \$4 to \$4.25.
  - The flat fee for unmodified pickup trucks and vans is proposed to increase from \$11 to \$11.75. Modified pickup trucks and vans will be charged the per-ton rate of \$51.
  - The tire rate is proposed to increase from \$125 to \$150 per ton (applies to loads of five or more tires; reweigh is required).

## Financial Report

Jennifer Castagner, Pinellas County Solid Waste

- Jennifer reviewed the Financial Status Summary for October 1 through August 31.
- Interest is always budgeted conservatively.
- Other income includes the sale of site required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); projected sales were underestimated.
- Landfill expenses favorable due to timing of invoices received and posted.
- Plant contract closer to actual for fiscal year because FY22 invoices were posted in FY23 for August and September.
- Capital improvement projects have \$4M+ encumbered, but projects have not been billed/posted yet. The encumbrance increase is due to the clarifier project at the water treatment plant.

## Charity Free Disposal Allowance

Jennifer Castagner, Pinellas County Solid Waste

- Jennifer provided a review of the Charity Free Disposal Allowance Application Summary. A total of eight (8) charitable organizations qualified to receive the disposal waiver for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Solid Waste is requesting TMC approval for ~\$630,020.34 in tipping fee waivers.
- Chairman Joseph entertained a motion to approve. **A motion was made by Robert Turner and seconded by Robert Mills. Motion carried unanimously.**

## Pinellas County Updates

Stephanie Watson, Pinellas County Solid Waste

- Pinellas Partners in Recycling (PPR) update:
  - A full list of updates from the September 20, 2023 PPR meeting is included in the meeting packet. The meeting was held via Zoom with 31 participants. They will continue with virtual meetings to allow for higher attendance.
  - Captain Rick Radigan presented on Tampa Bay Watch's work related to litter prevention, waste reduction, and recycling. Tampa Bay Watch works to restore salt marshes by planting native grasses to reduce erosion. Protecting salt marshes helps prevent litter from entering the Tampa Bay by trapping it in the marshes where it is easier to recover for disposal. Tampa Bay Watch collects used oyster shells from various restaurants to reuse them in creating oyster bags. Not only are the oyster shells saved from going to a landfill, they help to attract oysters, a shoreline stabilization organism that are great at filtering water. Oysters are very important to the health of waterways in the Tampa Bay area. Tampa Bay Watch also collects used fishing line at various locations throughout the Tampa Bay area for recycling. Learn more and find volunteer opportunities at <https://tampabaywatch.org/>. View presentation recording [here](#) on PPR SharePoint or email [elemay@pinellas.gov](mailto:elemay@pinellas.gov).
  - Chris Perry, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) shared that the FDEP will be looking at recycling-related legislation as we approach the legislative session. Chris noted that the state was awarded grant money from EPA's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grant Program. FDEP is working with the Hinkley

Center to study capacity of Florida landfills. They will look at how storm debris and tourism affect disposal capacity. The 2020 75% recycling goal is still in place. The FDEP is looking at adding some sustainable materials management aspects to the state's waste calculations model tool that helps counties estimate waste composition data.

- PPR Work Group Updates:
  - Contract Work Group, Jasmine Scott: Annual meeting was held on September 18, 2023. They are in the review/maintenance phase of the Contract Guidance Document.
  - Contamination Work Group, Ashley Wyland: The last meeting was held on September 13, 2023, and the group is working on a communication plan. Ashley previewed the final battery contamination ads that will be used for interception interviews. Ads will likely be edited following feedback from the interviews.
  - Low Waste Event Guide Work Group, Emily LeMay: The next meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Sarasota County spoke to the group about their Sustainable Event Guide at the last meeting. The Low Waste Event Guide draft is being worked on.

Paul Sacco, Pinellas County Solid Waste

- The Recycling Material Processing RFP is being reviewed to go back out for bid. Staff met with the private processors to obtain feedback on the scope of work and what they would need to provide a submittal. The RFP should be out by early November with a deadline after the first of the year.
- Continuing negotiations with Covanta on renewal of the existing Service Agreement. He will be discussing this with the County Administrator on October 30<sup>th</sup> and may have an update at the November meeting.
- Staff is working on the Municipal Recycling Grant Program revisions and are hopeful to have a proposed update at the next meeting. Any changes to the program would take effect in fiscal year 2025.

### **Additional Items for Discussion**

- Raymond Adams introduced Paul Iaia, Solid Waste Manager as the new Primary voting member representing the City of Largo. Raymond Adams will continue as the Alternate voting member.
- Kervin St. Aimie announced that he will be the Primary voting member representing the City of Clearwater and introduced Jeffrey Kuhl as the new Alternate voting member.
- Andrew Butterfield announced that this is his last meeting and introduced Kaitlyn Roy as the new Primary voting member representing the City of St. Pete Beach.

**Chairman Joseph called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by William Pickrum and seconded by Kervin St. Aimie. Meeting adjourned at 2:27 pm.**

**The next TMC meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted, Carlee Ward, Recording TMC Secretary