



## Technical Management Committee Minutes of the Meeting on March 25, 2026

SPC EpiCenter, 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, March 25, 2026. Members present were Willie Joseph, Bill Pickrum, Robert Turner, Kervin St. Aimie, Renee Cooper, Rodney Due, Christina Porter, Kyle Riefler, Catherine Eichner, and Tracy Meehan. Members absent without an alternate: Shauwn Clark, Keith Sabiel, Brian Peckins, and Marco Villagomez. Pinellas County employees in attendance were Cassie Hartman, Emily LeMay, and Miles Belknap. Carlee Ward, TMC Secretary recorded the minutes.

### Call to Order

Willie Joseph, Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

### Citizens to be heard

No citizens to be heard.

### Introductions

Chairman Joseph introduced Rodney Due as the new Primary Member representing Group “B” Cities and Christina Porter as the new Primary Member representing Group “C” Cities.

### Minutes

Chairman Joseph entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2026, meeting.

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

### Operations Report

Catherine Eichner, Pinellas County Solid Waste

- Catherine reviewed the Solid Waste Operations Report for January and February 2026.
- In February, TG2 and Boiler 3 were offline for approximately 2 weeks to conduct repairs to the furnace area tubes and refractory as well as routine outage maintenance. It is expected that B101 and B103 will remain in operation for the month of March.
- Due to limited processing capacity at the Waste-to-Energy (WTE) facility following the loss of the turbine, daily diversions to the landfill are expected to be necessary to accommodate traffic flow and waste deliveries.
- The Industrial Water Treatment Facility (IWTF) processed less water in January and February due to the WTE turbine outage.

- 246 customers used the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Swap Shop in January, and as a result, 4,249 pounds of HHW were diverted from disposal and put to reuse. The HHW Center collected 77,979 pounds of chemicals and 42,985 pounds of chemicals were collected at two HHW North Household Chemical Collection Events in January. There were 45 customers at the Business Electronics & Chemical Collection event in January, and a total of 14,881 pounds were collected.
- 242 customers used the HHW Swap Shop in February, and as a result, 4,259 pounds of HHW were diverted from disposal and put to reuse. The HHW Center collected 39,894 pounds of chemicals and 28,506 pounds of chemicals were collected at two HHW North Household Chemical Collection Events in February. There were 51 customers at the Business Electronics & Chemical Collection event in February, and a total of 23,001 pounds were collected.
- In January, the Business Waste Assessments Section (BWAS) conducted 135 business visits, 107% of the monthly goal. In January, 45% of the businesses reinspected after 5 years had a 100% return-to-compliance rate because of the education received from BWAS.
- In February, the Business Waste Assessments Section (BWAS) conducted 140 business visits, 111% of the monthly goal. In February, 51% of the businesses reinspected after 5 years had a 100% return-to-compliance rate because of the education received from BWAS.
- Pinellas County is hosting a free tire collection event on Saturday, April 18, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is more information available online at <https://pinellas.gov/tad>. Residents can bring up to 12 tires (no rims and no tires over 36 inches) to one of three free and convenient drop-off locations:
  1. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) North, 29582 U.S. Highway 19 N., Clearwater
  2. Walsingham Park, 12615 102nd Ave., Seminole
  3. Lealman Exchange, 5175 45th Street N., St. Petersburg
- The County-managed recycling drop-off center near the boat ramp at Fort De Soto Park will temporarily close for construction starting March 16. During this time, residents can continue to access the recycling drop-off near the campground entrance. When construction is complete, the campground drop-off will permanently shut down, leaving the boat ramp site as the only recycling drop-off center at the park. For updates on the project and other improvements, visit [Pinellas.gov/fort-de-soto-recycling-drop-off-center-improvements](https://pinellas.gov/fort-de-soto-recycling-drop-off-center-improvements).

## Financial Report

Cassie Hartman, Pinellas County Solid Waste

- Cassie reviewed the Financial Status Summary through February (approximately 42% of fiscal year).
- Electricity sales projections for the budget reflect lower than anticipated due to the turbine outage. Coordinating with FM Global to evaluate and recover lost revenue.
- Scrap sales are above budget for the year, driven by increased market values.
- The Federal Grant for the reef project to remove tires is not expected to see much change for FY26, as it has been deferred to FY27.
- Operating Expenses for Plant Management are one month behind due to timing delays. One invoice is being held pending final contract reconciliation.
- The FCC invoice is currently in process.

## Pinellas County Updates

Emily LeMay, Pinellas County Solid Waste

- Pinellas Partners in Recycling (PPR) Update:
  - The last meeting was held on March 18. Publix representatives Rachel Green and David Lazarus presented on the company's sustainability initiatives and food waste reduction efforts.
  - Appreciation was extended to Vicki Fordyce and Daric Huntt for their service as outgoing Chair and Vice-Chair. Austin Smith and Andrew Mekemson were elected as the new Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively.
  - The next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. via Microsoft Teams.

Catherine Eichner, Pinellas County Solid Waste

- Expressed appreciation for patience during ongoing diversions. Encouraged partners to report any significant issues or provide feedback as needed.
- TG1 is expected to return to service in mid-April.
- FCC Environmental Services is working to ensure all boilers are fully operational once the turbine returns to service.
- A root cause analysis (RCA) is underway to determine responsibility and potential financial obligations. FM Global is working to calculate revenue losses associated with the turbine failure. Upon completion of repairs, a review will be conducted to assess eligible reimbursement for physical damage and associated repair costs.
- Contract end reconciliation meetings with Reworld began on March 1. The final invoice is currently being held pending completion of final negotiations.
- The operational and capital improvement budgets have been submitted to the Office of Management & Budget (OMB), including the recommended 8% tip fee increase effective October 1, 2026. A presentation is scheduled for the BCC work session on April 30, focusing on the tip fee recommendation, power brokering, and the Lealman solid waste assessment. Both budgets are scheduled for formal presentation to the BCC in June.
- The 5-year refresh of the Solid Waste Master Plan is currently in progress with HDR Engineering, which also completed the original plan in 2020. Their request for information has been completed, and HDR is now working on a technology and strategy assessment and will be on site at the SWDC on April 9 to evaluate existing conditions, review progress since the original plan, and assess future needs.
- The live camera initiative is moving forward, with equipment currently being procured. Will provide updates as the project progresses.

## Additional Items for Discussion

- William Pickrum announced his retirement and stated that the May meeting will be his final meeting. As a result, a new Vice-Chair will need to be elected.

**Chairman Joseph called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Rodney Due and seconded by Christina Porter. Meeting adjourned at 2:25 pm.**

**The next TMC meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at the SPC EpiCenter, Room 2-304,**

**13805 58<sup>th</sup> Street North, Clearwater 33760.**

Respectfully submitted, Carlee Ward, Recording TMC Secretary