



Solid Waste Management Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 7, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

Barron County Government Center – Room 2151

335 East Monroe Ave - Barron, WI 54812

MINUTES

Members Present: Kevin Jacobson, Steve Johnson, Bob Rogers, Jim Gores, Bob Heil, Dan North, Bill Schradle, Fran Langman, Tim Ploetz (9:55 a.m.)

Others Present: Jeff French, Louie Okey, Wendy Coleman, Jodi Busch, Andy Hanson, Erin Williams, Brent Bohn

The Solid Waste Management Board meeting was called to order by Chair Schradle at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 7, 2025.

Public meeting notification was provided by French confirming compliance with open meeting requirements.

Special Matters and Announcements (Non-Action Items): None

Motion: (Heil / Rogers) to approve the agenda as presented. Carried

There were no comments from the public.

Motion: (Gores / Jacobson) to approve minutes of September 2, 2025. Carried

2025 Financials: Busch reviewed the financial for Recycling and Waste to Energy through August. Recycling Fund has a positive net position and cash is in good shape. Waste to Energy Fund is looking good even with the two week shut down at the end of July to tie in the new acid gas removal system. Revenues are down slightly but showing positive net position and cash on hand. Discussion on ash costs and potential future uses.

Approve Xcel Energy Power Purchase Agreement: Bohn gave an update on the power purchase agreement proposal and changes to the rates. Staff are recommending a five (5) or ten (10) year contract with Xcel Energy to take advantage of increased capacity rates which would go into effect in 2027. Discussion on current equipment and potential upgrades to maximize energy production. **Motion:** (Rogers / Gores) to enter into a five (5) year power purchase agreement with Xcel Energy. Carried

Approve Pre-Purchase of Used Boom Lift: Bohn is requesting to purchase a boom lift to allow maintenance on the acid gas removal system. Equipment has been budgeted for 2026 but would like to purchase now to avoid the monthly rental costs. Discussion. **Motion:** (Langman / Heil) to allow for the purchase of a boom lift in 2025. Carried

Local Government Energy Tax Credits: French provided an update that this project is not feasible for the County at this time.

Staff Reports & Updates

- Stack Test Results: Stack results have not been received at this time.
- New Auburn Recycling: DNR is recommending entering into a cooperative agreement rather than opening up the recycling plan to annex all of New Auburn. Bohn will work on an agreement to have in effect by March of 2026 when New Auburn's current agreement with Waste Management ends.
- Water Treatment Issue & Potential Solutions: Bohn explained issues with the water quality coming over from Saputo. Staff are looking at possible solutions for pre-treatment equipment to address the water coming from Saputo.
- Ash Disposal Agreement: Draft agreement has not been received from Republic Services yet but the existing contract has been extended until 12-1-25.

Tim Ploetz arrived.

There were no questions or concerns regarding the voucher edits lists.

Suggestions for Future Agenda Items: stack test results, water treatment issue, ash disposal agreement

Set Date for Next Meeting: November 4, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

New Solid Waste Management Board member Tim Ploetz introduced himself.

The Board adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:03 a.m.

Minutes submitted by:
Wendy Coleman, Executive Assistant

Minutes are not official until approved by the Solid Waste Management Board at their next meeting.