

# Loudon County Solid Waste Disposal Commission Meeting Minutes

**Date:** August 21, 2025

**Meeting Type:** Regular Commission Meeting

**Location:** Courthouse Annex Building, Loudon, Tennessee

**Time:** 6:00 pm EST

**Chairman:** Mr. Adam Waller

## Attendees:

- **Commission Members Present:** Ms. Monty Ross, Mr. Gary Hendrix, Chairman Mr. Adam Waller, Mr. Andy Lawson, Dr. Steve Bartelle
  - **Commission Members Absent:** None noted
  - **Legal Representation:** NA
  - **Republic Services:** Mr. David Hollinshead, Mr. Stoddard Pickerell, Ms. Lindsey Turtle
  - **Public:** Mr. and Mrs Viar, Richard Aunland, Pat Hunter
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## PUBLIC COMMENTS

A resident attended seeking updates on highway mud issues and attorney consultations. The mud problem persists on roads, becoming significantly worse after rain events despite brief improvements during dry periods. The resident has documented the ongoing issue with time-stamped photographs from August 15th and expressed frustration, stating they are "ready for the solution and quit...beating a dead horse."

TDEC conducted testing of the black water area near the driveway, confirming it originates from a natural spring containing manganese and iron rather than waste materials. This finding eliminated concerns about potential leachate contamination.

## ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

### Performance Bond Status

- Ms. Hunter inquired about bond documentation
- Current bond amount: \$25 million
- TDEC administrator maintains original bond as required for permit compliance
- Aaron will ensure county receives copy for local records

**Meeting Minutes and Secretary Position** Commission distributed June and July meeting minutes to members. May minutes remain pending approval and will be addressed at the September meeting. Gary has resigned from his commission position, with Ms. Ross currently serving as interim secretary.

**2024 Audit Status** The 2024 audit remains incomplete and continues in progress.

## OPERATIONAL UPDATES

**Convenience Center Maintenance Issues** Ms. Hunter reported hydraulic fluid continuously leaking from the convenience center compactor, describing it as an ongoing maintenance problem requiring immediate attention. She also observed the highway department burning storm debris at the convenience center edge within Loudon city limits under their TDEC permit for storm debris disposal.

Mr. Waller explained that was not the responsibility of this commission. Please contact Mr. Chris Parks about these concerns.

**Yard Waste Management** Commission members discussed Republic's current practice of staging yard waste for grinding and mixing with soils for cover material. This material is maintained in a dedicated, unlined yard waste cell. This prevents expensive disposal in lined landfill sections. Individual contractors pay standard tipping fees, while preferential pricing applies only to the three cities and county.

### Vulture Control Program

- Historical context revealed the landfill previously maintained bird control permits. These permits expired and were not sufficient to handle current bird populations.
- Current \$25,000 professional wildlife control contract with Justin Handy implementing trap-and-euthanize strategy
- Program includes coordination with Matlock Bend property owners for shooting permissions
- Enhanced coverage will benefit surrounding homeowners

## INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENGINEERING

**Leachate Management Systems** LEJ disconnect and slip line materials are arriving on-site with installation targeted for first half of September. Module A base plug installation remains pending to prevent grout injection into the waste column. The current leachate storage tank requires re-anchoring and comprehensive maintenance scheduled for completion by September 15th. A new 250,000-gallon storage tank will be installed behind the maintenance shop to meet TDEC's 30-day capacity requirement of approximately 350,000 gallons total.

### Cell Construction Progress

- **Module One:** Construction complete and ready for tank connection upon compliance restoration
- **Module Two:** Liner installation beginning Monday with protective cover following
- **Cells C and D:** At full capacity with no additional waste placement
- Various airspace pockets throughout the landfill being utilized to reach final grade

**Stormwater Pond Management** Pond Three was successfully dewatered, dredged of impacted soils, and returned to operation with TDEC approval. Pond Two continues aeration treatment with ammonia levels now compliant but COD slightly elevated above compliance levels. An enhanced pumping system will be installed to improve treatment efficiency and spatial mixing.

**Gas Management Infrastructure** Eight intermediate depth gas collection points are planned for the partial closure area to prevent geosynthetic membrane ballooning. The passive venting system will use 8-inch wells within 12-inch augured holes, backfilled with rock. Current methane generation remains well below the 34 meg threshold requiring active gas collection systems.

## LEGAL AND CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

**Attorney Consultation Summary - July 25th Meeting** The legal consultation addressed potential litigation elements and settlement discussions:

### **Contract Modifications Impact**

- 2022 contract expansion reduced by 19 acres, creating operational challenges
- Delayed closure timeline increases costs for both Republic and Commission
- Post-closure cost estimates increased approximately \$7 million to TDEC due to rising material costs
- 2022 closure plan requires complete reworking based on current parameters

**Future Negotiations** Republic expressed definite interest in purchasing both permit and land, though negotiations will be lengthy. The additional 19-acre expansion remains under discussion for future implementation.

**Financial Reconciliation** Detailed analysis of Commission legal and engineering consulting costs requiring Republic reimbursement is in progress. Updated capping sequence timeline and borrow pit area access information will be provided.

**Next Legal Meeting:** August 29th

## MOTIONS AND VOTES

### **Heavy Equipment Rodeo Authorization**

- **Motion:** Authorize landfill closure September 6th for employee Heavy Equipment Rodeo participation
- **Motion by:** Gary Hendrix
- **Seconded by:** Steve Bartelle
- **Result:** Approved unanimously

Customer notification has been implemented through posted signage and direct phone calls to Saturday customers.

**Tennessee National Easement Request** Tennessee National development requested a 50-foot easement on landfill property to construct an 8-16 foot high protective berm buffering their residential lots. The Commission authorized preliminary surveying and engineering work, with final easement presentation scheduled for the September meeting. Republic Services expressed support for the beautification project.

### Meeting Minutes Approval

- **Motion:** Approve June 19th and July 17th minutes with formatting corrections
- **Motion by:** Dr. Bartelle
- **Seconded by:** Gary Hendrix
- **Result:** Approved unanimously

Corrections include header standardization and addition of Justin Handy to July attendees list.

## ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

**Borrow Area Development** Purchase orders were issued for soil classification work. Borrow area construction is scheduled concurrent with the capping event to utilize excavated soils for closure operations. A land service permit application will notify the county planning office of operations.

**Water Quality Monitoring** June 2025 Purdy Spring sampling was completed with a 30-day extension requested for Commission and legal counsel review. Draft results are expected next week. Follow-up investigation confirmed February 2025 dark water complaints resulted from oxidized magnesium, not contamination.

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## August 2025 Action Items

Item	Responsible Party	Target Date	Status
Module C & D Partial Closure Vote	Commission	September 8	Pending
Tennessee National Easement Presentation	TN National/Engineering	September	Pending
Land Service Permit Application	Planning Office	September	In Progress
Attorney Term Sheet Review	Legal Counsel	Week of 8/25	Expected
LEJ Disconnect System Completion	Republic Services	Early September	Target
Leachate Tank Repairs	Republic Services	September 15	Due

Item	Responsible Party	Target Date	Status
May Minutes Approval	Commission	September	Pending
Heavy Equipment Rodeo Event	Republic Services	September 6	Scheduled
Legal/Engineering Cost Analysis	Murphy/Republic	Ongoing	In Progress
2024 Audit Completion	Auditor	Ongoing	Incomplete
Road Mud Issue Resolution	Republic/Legal	Ongoing	Under Negotiation
Convenience Center Compactor Repair	Maintenance	Immediate	Required

### Next Meeting

**Date:** September 8, 2025

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Location:** Loudon County Annex Building

### Anticipated Discussion Items:

- Module C & D Partial Closure Authorization
- Tennessee National Easement Final Presentation
- Attorney Meeting Follow-up and Term Sheet Review
- May Meeting Minutes Approval
- 2024 Audit Status Update
- Land Service Permit Application Status
- Heavy Equipment Rodeo Event Report
- Pansy Spring Sampling Results Review

**Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. by motion from Andy Lawson, seconded by Gary Hendrix. Motion approved.**

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Monty Ross, LCSWDC Interim Secretary  
Chairman: Adam Waller, Loudon County Solid Waste Disposal Committee*

**Note:** Full video of LCSWDC meeting available at: Loudon County Solid Waste Disposal Commission Meeting, August 21, 2025 (youtube.com)