

Loudon County Solid Waste Disposal Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: September 19, 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
- **Legal Representation:** Ms. Elizabeth Murphy, telephone
- **Republic Services:** Mr. David Hollinshead
- **Public:** Multiple residents present including Mr. Brian Viar, Mr. Richard Anklen, Ms Bonnie Coffey, Mr Jeff Kenny (Tennessee National Representative)

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Fee Calculation Discrepancy A \$1,000 differential was identified between host fee and security fee calculations. The host fee was calculated at 5.5% of \$517,000, while the security fee was calculated at 5% of \$498,000, representing an \$18,000 reduction. Mr Hollinshead committed to investigating this discrepancy and providing an explanation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Long-term Resolution Questions Mr. Brian Viar raised concerns about the lack of written information regarding long-term solutions discussed during the July 25th attorney meeting. He expressed frustration that discussions had shifted toward selling the landfill and permit to Republic Services rather than focusing on operational compliance issues.

Attorney Conflict of Interest Clarification Mr. Viar questioned whether Ms. Murphy should be excluded from sale discussions due to potential conflicts with the Murphysboro lawsuit. Ms. Murphy clarified that she formally withdrew from the Murphreesboro case months ago and stated that no conflict of interest exists, as she has consistently represented parties adverse to Republic Services and has never represented Republic in any capacity.

Opposition to Landfill Sale Mr. Viar expressed strong opposition to selling the landfill to Republic, arguing that the company has failed to comply with current permit requirements and contract obligations. He suggested that Republic's non-compliance might be intentional to force a sale, citing ongoing leachate and mud problems persisting over years.

LANDFILL SALE DISCUSSIONS

Current Status and Negotiations Ms. Murphy addressed community concerns about potential landfill sale rumors, clarifying that Republic may present a proposal that all governmental entities

must evaluate. She emphasized that any potential deal would require approval from all three governmental bodies (two cities and the county) and that her role is to negotiate the most protective terms possible.

Key Principles for Potential Sale

- Any proposal must be thoroughly evaluated for stakeholder benefit
- The deal cannot result in loss of regulatory leverage
- Terms must be protective of community interests
- No decision will be made without full governmental approval
- More information is expected by the October meeting

Regional Landfill Concerns Chairman Waller clarified that the landfill already operates under a 75-mile radius acceptance area per the 2020 contract, so regional status would not change. The current contract allows waste acceptance from this established geographic area.

ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Engineering Representation Benefits Ms. Murphy highlighted the value of having independent engineering oversight through the commission's engineering consultant, Chris Cline with Canon and Canon. This representation has improved protection for stakeholders by providing expert review of complex technical documents and ensuring proper evaluation of compliance issues rather than rushed approvals.

Ongoing Infrastructure Projects

- Module C and D closure progressing on original 10 acres of 13-acre expansion
- Cell A leachate disconnect repair in progress with slip line installation
- Stainless steel perforated components being installed
- Chris Cline providing oversight for commission interests

Leachate Storage Improvements The shifted leachate storage tank has been repositioned and is undergoing recertification. As part of permit requirements, Republic must add 250,000 gallons of additional leachate storage capacity within the next year to meet 30-day supply requirements.

MOTIONS AND APPROVALS

Tennessee National Easement

Mr. Jeff Kenny from Tennessee National explained the request for a buffer easement between their developing property and the landfill to create a sight line barrier, building on the existing 100-foot setback.

- **Motion:** Approve 50-foot permanent easement for Tennessee National to construct sight barrier berm
- **Motion by:** Dr. Steve Bartell
- **Seconded by:** Mr. Gary Hendricks
- **Result:** Approved unanimously

Meeting Minutes Approval

- **Motion:** Approve May and August meeting minutes
- **Motion by:** Mr. Gary Hendricks
- **Seconded by:** Mr. Andy Lawson
- **Result:** Approved unanimously

Methamphetamine Cleanup Material Policy

- **Motion:** Prohibit acceptance of meth lab cleanup material from outside Loudon County while continuing to accept such material from within Loudon County
- **Motion by:** Mr. Gary Hendricks
- **Seconded by:** Mr. Andy Lawson
- **Result:** Approved unanimously

Discussion revealed that the landfill accepted five tons of certified meth lab cleanup material in 2024 from Monroe County. The material must be professionally certified as cleaned and is handled under asbestos protocols with 24-hour notice, immediate burial, and proper manifesting.

WILDLIFE CONTROL UPDATE

Vulture Management Program Justin is implementing trap-based vulture control using roadkill and cattle carcasses as bait rather than shooting due to safety concerns with stray bullets. The program focuses on trapping and euthanizing vultures, with ongoing coordination with surrounding property owners for additional access permissions. An update presentation is scheduled for the October meeting.

AUDIT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

2024 Audit Status Chairman Waller reported communication issues with Vance CPA, the contracted audit firm. Despite having contracts for 2024 and 2025 audits at \$10,000 each, there has been no contact from the firm for several months. The state finance department will be consulted in October to determine next steps for completing the required audit.

Engineering Report Recognition The commission acknowledged Stoddard's comprehensive engineering reports as valuable resources for understanding ongoing operations and technical issues.

September 2025 Action Items

Item	Responsible Party	Target Date	Status
Investigate fee calculation discrepancy	Staff/Republic	October	Pending
Complete Cell A leachate disconnect repair	Republic Services	Ongoing	In Progress
Recertify leachate storage tank	Republic Services	Ongoing	In Progress
Vulture control program update presentation	Justin USDA Staff	October	Scheduled
Resolve 2024 audit completion	Waller/State Finance	October	Critical
Begin 2025 audit process	New Auditor	TBD	Dependent on 2024 resolution
Engineering report inclusion in packets	Stoddard	Ongoing	Standard practice
Install additional leachate storage capacity	Republic Services	Within 1 year	Required
Complete borrow pit rezoning process	Republic/County	Ongoing	In Progress

Next Meeting

Date: October 17, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Loudon County Annex Building

Anticipated Discussion Items:

- Vulture control program effectiveness report
- 2024 audit resolution and next steps
- Engineering report on ongoing infrastructure projects
- Fee calculation discrepancy resolution
- Cell A leachate disconnect completion update

- Leachate storage tank recertification status

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m. by motion from Mr. Gary Hendricks, seconded by Dr. Steve Bartell. 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, September 19, 2025 (youtube.com)