MINUTES
Solid Waste Board
Sumner County Administration Building
Room 112
May 26, 2026

Members Present:

Josh Cross
Scott McElyea
Jerry Harris
Michael Farino
Chris Taylor

Others present
Becky Caldwell (phone)
LeeAnn Bristol, minute taker

Chairman Chris Taylor called the meeting at 3:00 PM

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda by Chairman Taylor, motion approved by Scott McElyea, seconded by Michael Farino, agenda approved

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the April 21 2026 minutes made by Chairman Taylor, approved by Scott McElyea and seconded by Michael Farino

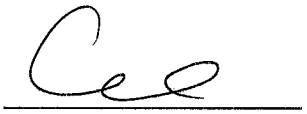
- Chairman Taylor opened discussion with a document that had been emailed to the board earlier. A document that compiled from previous meetings, emails and research.
- Should "mirror" what Gallatin does as far as waste,
- Proposal was made to invite Richard Depriest Gallatin Public Works to June meeting. (emailed Mr. Depriest and he accepted same day)
- RFP suggested to advertise in trade papers to get interested vendors.

- Selecting locations for collection sites as vendors may have preferred process
- Commercial Recycling significant opportunity exist, many businesses do not due to infrastructure or convenience
- Concrete recycle is relatively new concept to this area
- Who collects the concrete, should county be involved?
- Board discussed using recycled materials for road construction to manage cost, especially with rising pricing for hot mix
- Maybe use pulverized glass as a road base
- Experience in New York showed that using unwashed recycled glass in asphalt was problematic
- Pulverized glass is being used to create sand, being reintroduced into concrete and subbase mixes.
- Could cities require contractors to use specific recycled materials
- For recycling facilities, like concrete, volume is critical, a significant investment such as a million dollar machine, requires consistent flow of materials to be profitable
- Discussion emphasized the need to clarify responsibility for waste management (county, residential, commercial)
- Noted that Sumner County currently depends on Rasco for residential trash, with residents paying Rasco directly.
- Idea of county funded convenience centers in unincorporated areas as a potential solution for residential waste.
- A well managed landfill requires constant oversight.
- The Jackson Law recently adopted by Sumner County requires a new landfill permit approved by the Board, giving the county control over future landfill development
- The State is unlikely to mandate that every county must have its own landfill due to the financial burden on smaller counties like Trousdale County
- Rasco temporarily turned away waste after their fire is now struggling. Decreased volume/increased expenses
- Dirt, Blocks and Rocks being established, concerns were raised about becoming illegal dump site for general trash

- Priority to find businesses that can handle commercial and industrial recycling.
- Interest in understanding the volume and types of residential recycling collected by Gallatin to gauge the potential scale of operations

- Motion to adjourn by Chairman Taylor,

Adjourned 4:00PM

Minutes approved by Chairman Taylor 

Next Meeting June 23, 2026