

WASTE COMMISSION OF SCOTT COUNTY
COMMISSION MEETING

Scott Area Recycling Center
5640 Carey Avenue
Davenport, IA. 52807

February 5, 2026

Members Present: Ken Beck (Scott County), Bob Gallagher (Bettendorf), Jason Gordon (Davenport), Jade Burkholder (Davenport), Sally Rodriguez (Buffalo), and Anthony Heddlesten (Riverdale).

Ken Beck called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Nominations for candidates to hold the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer were held. Gallagher moved to approve Ken Beck as Chair, Anthony Heddlesten as Vice Chair and Sally Rodriguez as Secretary/Treasurer. Jason Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Gallagher moved to approve the minutes of December 11, 2025. Anthony Heddlesten seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Gordon moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Revenue/Expenditure Summary. Stalcup reported a total fund balance of \$13.1 million as of December 31, 2025. Stalcup noted that both operating and debt service reserves continue to grow. Stalcup discussed upcoming capital expenditures, including the construction of Cell 10 at the landfill and the purchase of a landfill compactor. Stalcup reviewed state requirements related to the closure and post-closure reserve funds, emphasizing that these funds are restricted and cannot be utilized for other purposes. Beck asked how the Closure and Post Closure Reserve keeps pace with inflation. Stalcup explained that the engineer completes an annual estimate each year in accordance with the state required formula to ensure the reserve remains adequately funded. Discussion followed. Stalcup highlighted that revenues are currently above budget at the Landfill, HHM, and Electronics Recovery Center. However, revenues are below budget at the Recycling Facility due to current market conditions. Stalcup noted that reserves are in place to offset these fluctuations because of the integrated system. Stalcup reported that expenses are generally in line with the budget but highlighted personnel costs show a slight increase, primarily due to increased revenue and activity at the Electronics Recovery Center resulting from a new business contract. Rodriguez seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Gordon moved to approve the invoices. Stalcup reviewed several significant expenses, including Barron Equipment Company for the installation of a speed door at the Electronics Recovery Facility, noting that the project was funded through an EMS grant. Stalcup highlighted Better Shredders for the purchase of a large hard drive shredder. Stalcup also identified E3 Solutions, LLC for the purchase of an evaporator for leachate management. Stalcup referenced Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC for landfill permitting services and consulting related to Cell 10 construction. Rodriguez asked for additional information regarding Closed Loop. Stalcup reported that the Commission has secured zero-interest funding for the purchase of Go All-In carts for Davenport and Bettendorf, as well as for equipment upgrades through Closed Loop. Stalcup explained that the carts are reimbursed by the Cities and that payments are nearly complete. Stalcup added that the optical sorters will continue to follow the established 0% interest payment schedule. Stalcup reported on solid waste fees paid to the Iowa DNR, explaining that the fees are assessed on tonnage disposed of at the landfill, with potential funding returned through grant opportunities. Stalcup reported on McGrath Consulting Group, noting this was the initial payment to begin work on a compensation study to ensure the Commission remains within market standards. Beck asked about Linwood Mining and Minerals related to the Waga ribbon-cutting event. Stalcup reported this expense was for the purchase of rock used at the landfill to accommodate parking for the event. Beck asked about an employee recognition purchase through Hy-Vee. Stalcup

reported this was for the purchase of holiday gift cards for all staff in recognition of their service. Gallagher asked for an explanation of the Scott County bond payment. Stalcup reported that the bond payment relates to the Recycling Center upgrade to Single Stream in 2016. Stalcup explained that bond payments are made twice annually, with the November payment covering interest only and the May payment covering both principal and interest. Beck asked for additional information regarding PS3 Enterprises, Inc. Stalcup reported that PS3 Enterprises, Inc. provided a portable restroom rental for the outdoor Waga ribbon-cutting event in November. Beck asked for clarification on travel and training expenses listed as Putnam Museum. Stalcup reported this expense was for a staff professional development event held at the Putnam Museum for all Commission staff. Heddlesten seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Gordon moved for the consideration of the FY25 Financial Audit. Bobbi Draheim presented the FY25 was conducted by Eide Bailey. Draheim reported that this was the sixth audit completed by Eide Bailly. Draheim stated there were no new findings. Draheim shared the only repeat finding relates to assistance with preparation of the financial statements due to the size of the organization. Draheim explained that this finding will likely continue in future audits, as it would be financially burdensome for the Commission to have staff independently prepare the financial report without outside assistance. Draheim shared that the audit was distributed to the Finance Committee for review and that no additional remarks or concerns were noted. Brian Unsen, Partner with Eide Bailly, was present and available to answer questions regarding the audit. Unsen reported that the audit process went smoothly, with limited changes throughout the draft review process. Unsen also highlighted a few state-related updates and confirmed that no new debt was added during the audit period. No questions were presented. Gallagher seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Stalcup presented the monthly operations and facility reports, starting with a highlight about the community engagement and outreach efforts. Stalcup shared that outreach efforts are accomplished with a staff of 1.5 full-time equivalents who work diligently to provide information and education to residents. Stalcup then turned the presentation over to Megan Fox, Communications & HR Manager. Fox highlighted five key areas of community outreach and engagement: Education and Awareness, Digital and Media Outreach, Public Engagement and Events, Customer Support and Service, and Volunteer and Community Partnerships. Fox noted that updates on one of these focus areas will be shared and highlighted at future meetings. Fox also presented "2025 By the Numbers," highlighting strong engagement metrics, including the number of campaigns conducted, use of social media and other digital platforms, facility tours and presentations provided, resident inquiries answered, website users and page views, views of published content, and direct engagement with residents and customers at Commission facilities. Fox emphasized the continued commitment to enhancing education and awareness of programs and services. Fox highlighted the importance of partnerships with all Scott County communities, providing tools and support to help collaboratively reach residents throughout the county. Stalcup reported recent visits with the City of LeClaire to discuss Commission programs and services and had great engagement and future visits with City of Davenport and City of Bettendorf for presentations. Stalcup moved on to highlight the nine (9) priorities established for 2026 and provided updates on the status of each. Brian Seals, Deputy Director, shared updates on efforts to secure an amended landfill permit from the Iowa DNR to expand capacity on the existing property. Seals reported that the request has been submitted and is currently under review by the Iowa DNR. Seals emphasized that this expansion is critical to maximizing available airspace for the community for as long as possible and noted that the proposed expansion is estimated to add approximately 15 years of landfill life. Seals also highlighted progress on the construction of Cell 10, reporting that substantial completion remains on schedule, pending weather conditions. Stalcup highlighted the priority of Strategic Planning, noting a partnership with HDR to develop a 10–15 year strategic plan. Stalcup shared the plan will address diversion programs, infrastructure needs, customer service, and community needs, with an emphasis on public awareness and education. Stalcup also highlighted the staff compensation study currently

underway to ensure competitive, market-aligned compensation structures that support employee attraction and retention. Stalcup shared the remaining priorities, which include planning and executing a successful Waste and Recycling Conference in Davenport in Fall 2026; advancing leadership and professional development; expanding community education; strengthening environmental stewardship and diversion efforts; and improving operational efficiencies. He noted that these initiatives will be implemented alongside ongoing succession planning efforts. Stalcup reviewed the operations report graphs and clarified the acronyms to ensure a better understanding of the data presented. Stalcup noted that the recyclable market value per ton has dipped below the historical average due to current market conditions. Stalcup highlighted that reuse sales at the Electronics Recovery Center are significantly higher, largely due to a new business contract to manage incoming materials. Heddlesten proposed adding a new graph reflecting the Waga partnership to show the volume of renewable natural gas sold. Stalcup responded that staff will review the reports and explore how renewable natural gas data from the Waga partnership can be incorporated into a future graph.

Gallagher moved to approve the Consideration of Notice of Public Hearing on the Proposed Plans, Specifications, and Form of Contract for Tall Litter Fencing. Seals reported on the need to install permanent litter fencing along the east side of the Scott Area Landfill at an estimated cost exceeding \$206,000. Seals requested approval to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for electronic bidding on March 12, 2026. Seals shared that the goal is to begin installation of the litter fencing upon completion of Cell 10. Stalcup noted that this project has been budgeted as part of the Cell 10 construction project due to the reduction in natural wind blockage in that area following the construction of Cell 10. Heddlesten seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, April 2, 2026 at the Scott Area Recycling Center. There was no public comment.

Gallagher moved to adjourn. Heddlesten seconded. Motion carried unanimously.