

WASTE COMMISSION OF SCOTT COUNTY  
COMMISSION MEETING

Scott Area Recycling Center  
5640 Carey Avenue  
Davenport, IA 52807

October 1, 2026

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

Ken Beck called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Jason Gordon moved to approve the minutes of August 6, 2026. Sally Rodriguez seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Robert Gallagher moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and Revenue/Expenditure Summary. Bryce Stalcup reported that reserves totaled \$12.6 million as of July 1, 2026, and fund balances totaled \$13.5 million as of August 31, 2026, remaining on budget. Total revenue was at 19% of budget, while expenditures were at 15%. Stalcup noted that Recycling and Household Hazardous Materials (HHM) revenues were slightly below expectations due to depressed market conditions; however, there were no significant concerns at this time. Stalcup reported that the Recycling Center finalized a newly negotiated paper contract expected to generate additional revenue based on paper quality, averaging about \$30 per ton above the market average. Beck questioned why Administrative expenses were at 10%, showing below budget, and asked whether certain annual fees had not yet been paid. Stalcup explained that the timing of some annual expenses had not yet impacted the current financial statements. Heddlesten seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Gallagher moved to approve the invoices. Stalcup reported that he had completed an invoice review with Mayor Sally Rodriguez, Secretary/Treasurer of the Commission, and addressed questions identified during the review. Stalcup reviewed invoices from Accent Wire Tie for baler wire from the company previously known as Central States; CP Manufacturing for replacement disks at the Recycling Center, which are replaced twice annually but purchased once per year to obtain a discount; Eurofins Environmental Testing North America, LLC, for groundwater monitoring services; and ISOSWO Treasurer for staff registration and sponsorship expenses for the Iowa Recycling and Solid Waste Management Conference. Additional invoices included reimbursement to Kari Smith for minor vehicle damage sustained during electronics removal at the Electronics Recovery Center (ERC), Per Mar Security Services for security services and service calls at the Recycling Campus, Rize Creative Group for photography at the Scott Area Landfill, Vander Vending for coffee and water in employee breakrooms, and Vermeer Sales and Services of Central IL, Inc., for repairs to the mini skid steer. Beck requested additional information regarding invoices from Kilburg Equipment, LLC; RDO Equipment Co.; Rudd Equipment Company; and Velocity EHS. Stalcup explained that the Kilburg Equipment invoice was for the purchase of a roll-off truck previously approved by the Commission. The RDO Equipment invoice was for the annual service agreement for the Carlson GPS on equipment at the Scott Area Landfill. The Rudd Equipment invoice covered repairs to a Volvo excavator, and Stalcup noted that Rudd Equipment Company is the new owner of the former Hosby business. Stalcup explained that Velocity EHS provides the Environmental Health and Safety software used to support workplace safety and regulatory compliance. Rodriguez seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Stalcup presented the monthly operations and facility report, highlighting the Scott Area Landfill's first EPA Title IV air inspection to verify compliance with methane emissions requirements. Stalcup reported that the EPA requested clarification on a few items, which were provided, and verbally indicated that the inspection had gone well. Discussion followed on inspection requirements. Approximately 15 months after the inspection, WCSC received an email notifying the Commission of a violation and a proposed \$12,000 settlement related to the installation of a horizontal gas collection line without notification of the line installation. Stalcup engaged FOTH, the Commission's environmental engineering firm, to review the notice and coordinate a meeting with the EPA. Representatives from FOTH, WCSC, and the EPA discussed the applicable requirements, noting that the rule did not specifically address horizontal lines or clearly establish the notification requirement in this circumstance. Stalcup explained that the horizontal lines were installed beyond the regulatory requirements to provide additional environmental benefits and requested reconsideration of the finding. Following review, the EPA reduced the proposed settlement by \$1,000, bringing the total to roughly \$11,000. Stalcup reported that, after consultation with the Commission's attorney and FOTH, it was determined that there were grounds to challenge the finding; however, the cost of pursuing an appeal would exceed the cost of paying the settlement, and an unsuccessful challenge could result in an increased penalty. FOTH agreed to cover a portion of the fine, with the Commission responsible for the remaining amount to satisfy the \$11,000 penalty. Stalcup further reported that the attorneys are working to finalize the settlement language and complete the payment process. Commissioners expressed no concerns and indicated their understanding of the proposed settlement and the plan to move forward. Stalcup reported that the fiber project at the Scott Area Landfill is complete and awaiting final connection. Stalcup shared that Cell 10 has been completed, with final payment being made soon. Stalcup highlighted that the litter fence installation to help protect neighboring properties from windblown litter is also complete. Stalcup further shared that Davenport will host the Iowa Recycling and Solid Waste Management Conference at the RiverCenter on October 5-7, welcoming nearly 300 attendees. The conference will include tours of Amazon, Cinnamon Ridge Farms, Linwood Mining, and the Scott Area Landfill. Stalcup reported on a presentation he delivered with Mayor Gallagher at a pre-conference event for the National RCon Conference in St. Louis. The presentation highlighted the Waste Commission of Scott County and the City of Bettendorf and their respective roles and efforts in waste management and recycling infrastructure. Stalcup reported on the constructed space available and the increase with Cell 10 being completed. Stalcup reviewed the renewable natural gas (RNG) graph illustrating the volume of gas produced for WAGA, followed by discussion. Stalcup highlighted the market values of recyclable materials to demonstrate the volatility of recycling markets. Additionally, Stalcup reported an increase in resident visits to the Household Hazardous Materials (HHM) Facility.

Gallagher moved to approve the consideration of the Vehicle Stipend Policy. Stalcup reviewed the Commission's current practice of providing vehicles to the Executive Director and Deputy Director for both personal and Commission-related use. Stalcup shared that, as part of the Compensation Study, a recommendation was made to replace personal use of Commission vehicles with a monthly vehicle stipend. Stalcup incorporated feedback from the Commissioners and developed a revised policy proposing a \$500 monthly stipend for the eligible positions. Discussion followed regarding the number and use of the Commission's current vehicles. Gallagher asked which positions would be eligible for the stipend. Stalcup explained that the policy would apply to the Executive Director and Deputy Director, who would receive the stipend to operate personal vehicles meeting the requirements outlined in the policy. Recipients would be responsible for covering vehicle-related expenses using the stipend. Stalcup further clarified that the Commission's remaining vehicles would continue to be used by staff for daily operations, with replacement vehicles budgeted for facility and site use. Following additional discussion, Heddlesten seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Gallagher moved to approve the consideration of the excavator purchase recommendation. Brian Seals, Deputy Director, explained that cooperative purchasing contracts were used to research available equipment and specifications and verify pricing for public agencies. Seals reported that four bids were received and evaluated based on purchase price, operating costs, warranty coverage, service, availability, equipment specifications, and references. Seals shared that, based on the evaluation, it is recommended to purchase a 2026 LinkBelt 370X4S excavator from Rexco Equipment for \$285,850, including a seven-year/10,000-hour premier warranty. Seals noted that the recommended purchase was the lowest bid received and fell within the FY27 budget allocation. Heddlesten seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Heddlesten moved to approve the consideration of Baler recommendations. Stalcup reviewed the current and past issues with the Recycling Center balers and emphasized their importance to facility operations. Stalcup reported that five bids were received through the RFP process and evaluated based on price, throughput guarantees, warranty options, delivery timelines, and overall equipment specifications. Mike Keppy, Recycling Facility Manager, discussed completing recycling facility tours to gain a better understanding of the differences among baler models and specifications. Keppy also shared that his experience with Excel baler customer service and parts has been excellent. Gallagher asked for clarification on three balers being traded in. Keppy responded that two balers would replace the existing balers at the Scott Area Recycling Center, and the third baler that is being traded in is no longer being used at the Electronics Recovery Center. Keppy shared that, based on the evaluation, it is recommended to purchase two Excel 2R10 balers from Apex Equipment for \$902,380 after trade. Gallagher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Gordon moved to approve the consideration of the strategic plan. Stalcup introduced Dan Bacehowski of HDR, who presented the Commission's Strategic Plan. Bacehowski introduced his team and provided an overview of the strategic planning process, encouraging Commissioners to share questions and feedback throughout the presentation. Bacehowski outlined the planning process, which included reviewing strategic goals and priorities, conducting engagement activities and workshops with the Commission team, gathering feedback through surveys, evaluating existing facilities and operations, and touring other facilities to explore industry trends and potential improvements. Bacehowski shared feedback from Commissioners and community leaders, and highlighted the importance of technology, operational improvements, employee development, fiscally responsible and affordable services, consideration of projects with high initial costs but long-term community benefits, and collaboration through regional partnerships. Stalcup reviewed staff survey feedback, which identified priorities including adequate staffing, employee training and mentoring, improved traffic flow at facilities, consistent internal and external communications, enhanced public education, maintenance training, and development of an equipment lifecycle plan to guide equipment replacement. Bacehowski discussed the evaluation of Commission facilities, including reviews of facility layouts, operational processes, existing constraints, and opportunities for improvement. Bacehowski also described tours of other facilities to observe different facility types and processing methods, explore emerging technologies, and consider options for the Commission's future operations. Stalcup outlined the Commission's vision for the next 10 years, with an emphasis on increasing waste diversion, improving diversion efforts at the Recycling Campus, and extending the useful life of the Scott Area Landfill. Stalcup reviewed the strategic roadmap, which identifies actions and program improvements extending through 2038. Stalcup shared additional priorities included improving the employee experience and retention through continued workplace development; expanding education and outreach, particularly for multifamily housing, community group engagement, and customer service; and advancing environmental stewardship through staff and community involvement. Stalcup concluded the presentation with an overview of the implementation

process, including annual planning, financial modeling, and key decision points to guide project priorities, resource allocation, and progress toward the Commission's strategic goals. No further questions. Rodriguez seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Stalcup informed the Commission that the Executive Director's annual performance evaluation will be distributed to all in November.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, December 10, 2026, at the Scott Area Recycling Center. There was no public comment.

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