

PORT & RESOURCE RECOVERY DEPARTMENT



2561 SOUTH BROADWAY

GREEN BAY, WI 54304

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DEAN R. HAEN

DIRECTOR

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY SOLID WASTE BOARD

A regular meeting was held on **Monday, September 15th, 2025**
at the Resource Recovery Office, 2561 South Broadway, Green Bay, WI 54304

1) Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Solid Waste Board Chair John Katers at 2:30 pm.

2) Roll Call:

Present:

John Katers, Chair
Mark VandenBusch, Vice Chair
Norb Dantinne
Mike VanLanen
John Myers
Michael Lefebvre
Sean Gehin
Bill Seleen

Excused:

Kevin Gannon

Also Present:

Dean Haen, Brown County P&RR
Chad Doverspike, Brown County P&RR
Mark Walter, Brown County P&RR
Theresa Slavek, Brown County Administration
Brian Rickert, Village of Ashwaubenon
Other interested parties

3) Approval/Modification – Meeting Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Norb Dantinne and seconded by Bill Seleen. Unanimously approved.

4) Comments from the Public

Tom Vande Wettering – 7838 Vande Wettering Road, Greenleaf, WI – Not a Lobbyist

Vande Wettering spoke as a landowner of a farm that is neighboring the South Landfill, expressing concerns about the reclassification of contaminated soils to beneficial use materials in a request sent to the DNR. Vande Wettering spoke on the environmental and financial burden on residents and asked that Brown County honor the existing terms of the 1998 contract with the Town of Holland and rescind the WDNR request.

Gloria Kennedy – 7928 S. Patrick's Church Road, Greenleaf, WI – Not a Lobbyist

Kennedy spoke as a lifelong resident of the Town of Holland and a person heavily involved in local town government over the past three to four decades. Kennedy asked for cooperation from the Solid Waste Board and Brown County to work together with the host community to find the fair thing for both sides of the table. Kennedy expressed her concern about the tipping fees that she felt were unpaid to the Town of Holland, and that good definitions of beneficial use should be established.

Kathy Grahek – 1509 Bright Penny Couty, Greenleaf, WI – Not a Lobbyist

Grahek spoke as a landowner of a property nearby and downwind to the South Landfill regarding the risk of microscopic dust particles potentially containing PFAS and their effect on the land, livestock, and humans they encounter. Grahek asked for the safest method of disposal to be used when it comes to contaminated waste and that contaminated waste not be used for any other purpose in the landfill.

Marty Huss – 345 Lamers Clancy Road, Kaukauna, WI – Not a Lobbyist

Huss spoke as a concerned citizen from the Town of Holland, speaking on concerns of hazardous waste being stockpiled and uncovered. Huss further asked those in attendance to consider potential pollution to the rivers and Great Lakes.

Mike Smits – 1661 Staeven Lane, Greenleaf, WI – Not a Lobbyist

Smits spoke as a resident of the Town of Holland, stating that his most pressing concerns had already been addressed by previous comments. Smits talked about conversations with other residents about their fear of contamination getting into the air as well as being tracked by tires onto roads.

Steve Deslauriers – 2889 Wayside Road, Greenleaf, WI – Not a Lobbyist

Deslauriers spoke about what other landfill siting agreements state about beneficial use, what the 1998 contract states, and Brown County's past liability to the Town of Holland (which is over \$830,000 reportedly).

Matt Verbeten – 1096 Mill Road, Greenleaf, WI – Not a Lobbyist

Verbeten spoke about the positive progress that has been made regarding corrective action taken against shingle haulers who are not driving along the approved trucking route to the South Landfill. The advice given at a previous meeting of the Solid Waste Board worked well and traffic along Mill Road from the West has lessened. Verbeten brought his concerns regarding potential contamination from exposed contaminated soils by way of birds which land on the landfill and then migrate to nearby farmland. He expressed concerns about the tipping fees and the disbursement to the effected neighboring landowners.

Terry Clancy – 7226 Old Hwy 57, Greenleaf, WI – Not a Lobbyist

Clancy spoke as a resident of Greenleaf but also as a trustee of the Clancy Family Trust who are direct neighbors to the South Landfill. Clancy briefly spoke on respecting the legacy of Bill Clancy, who served on the County Board for 30 years, and respecting the contract with the Town of Holland. Clancy explained that the agreement allowed the South Landfill to accept contaminated soil for internment, not for daily cover, and that one party cannot abide changes to an agreement when it benefits only them. Clancy further expressed concerns about the health and safety of the community from potential air and water pollution that might occur. Red clay which was first excavated to create the landfill cell was to be used as daily cover, and some of that was instead sold, which Clancy requested that the Brown County Resource Recovery Department meet with the Landfill Monitoring Committee to discuss why that occurred. After quoting conservationist Aldo Leopold, Clancy presented to the Board Members and those present a bag of nails that were picked up alongside the road near the South Landfill.

William Verbeten – 7073 Blake Road, Greenleaf, WI – Not a Lobbyist

Verbeten spoke as the Chairman of the Town of Wrightstown, a neighboring community, about his concerns of how exposed contaminated soil could affect the neighboring areas.

Mark Wall – 1966 Hill Road, Greenleaf, WI – Not a Lobbyist

Wall spoke as a resident of the Town of Holland requested that a daily report be created of where contaminated soil is placed on the landfill site, and used the example of local dairy farms that are required to report manure placement.

- 5) Approval/Modification – Minutes of July 21st, 2025 Meeting
A motion to approve the minutes of the July 21st, 2025 meeting was made by Mike VanLanen and seconded by Sean Gehin. Unanimously approved.

- 6) Announcements/Communications

Director Dean Haen reminded the Board Members that Customer Appreciation Days will be held on September 16th at the Waste Transfer Station and on September 17th at the South Landfill and Recycling Transfer Station.

- 7) 2026 Budget – Request for Approval

Mr. Haen presented the 2026 Budget for the Port & Resource Recovery Department, which had already been reviewed by Brown County Finance and the County Executive. After review by the Harbor Commission and Solid Waste Board, the budget will pass to the Planning, Development & Transportation Committee, and then to the County Board for approval.

Mr. Haen gave an overview of the Port & Resource Recovery Department, with 28 employees, managing over 2,300 acres in the County, and a budget that exceeds \$75 million. Mr. Haen thanked Theresa Slavek for her work to provide the statement of funds along with the budget.

Mr. Haen spoke about upcoming solid waste projects that are budgeted for 2026 such as a gas collection and destruction system and also engineering for bulk excavation and construction of landfill Phase II. Contract Rates with Brown County, which are mostly municipalities, will see a 2.7% increase due to CPI. Mr. Haen discussed that the Outagamie County Landfill will reach capacity in mid to late 2026 and will open the Northwest Landfill in 2026. The additional cost of onboarding a new facility may cause Brown County to utilize the Rate Stabilization Fund.

Mr. Haen briefly discussed recycling commodity markets decreasing and a purchase of a new front-end loader for the Recycling Transfer Station.

Next, Mr. Haen explained plans for performance measure, statistical charts in the budget, and the Statement of Funds. The South Landfill is estimated to see 2% less waste as Winnebago County's waste will be diverted to the new Outagamie landfill to create the fluff layer. Regarding the Statement of Funds, Mr. Haen explained that the 2025 data is a snapshot of budgeted accounts and not the actual expenditures. There were a number of expenditures that were deferred in 2025 and to be expended in 2026. Overall, the solid waste and resource recovery areas are in good shape by putting monies into long-term care, closure, and self-funding the landfill.

The discussion of the 2026 budget finished with a short conversation on rates and fees and construction projects at the Waste Transfer Station. Bill Seleen asked if all positions in the department were filled, which Mr. Haen answered that the department was at full staffing, with four new employees within the past six to eight weeks. The Department elected to leave one position vacant.

A motion to approve the 2026 Budget was made by John Myers and seconded by Bill Seleen. Unanimously approved.

8) Project 2701 RFP South Landfill Gas Beneficial Use Project - Update

Mr. Haen gave a quick review of Project 2701 before Chad Doverspike explained its current status. A Request for Proposals was released allowing proposals to be received, evaluated, and chosen for interview. Eight submittals were narrowed to four, and interviews were conducted. One vendor, Sagepoint (formerly Dynamics), was selected.

The project is in the contracting phase. Mr. Doverspike is optimistic to have a signed contract by mid to the end of October. Mr. Seleen asked if any of the gas produced would be used at the Dynamics site adjacent to the South Landfill on Mill Road or would it be put into the pipeline, which Mr. Doverspike answered the latter. Mr. Doverspike also explained that each project is independent of the other, with a processing plant on Brown County's property where the 99% pure methane will be sent to the Guardian pipeline.

9) Project 2761 RFB Recycling Transfer Station Floor Repair - Update

Mr. Haen explained that the floor repair at the Recycling Transfer Station was underway and could be viewed by those in attendance from offices above the tip floor. The purpose of the repair is to preserve the existing concrete instead of the large expense involved with removing and replacing the floor.

Mr. Doverspike went into more detail on the condition of the floor which was replaced completely in 2017. Worn areas of the floor have eroded just short of two inches near the doors and compactor. After looking into solutions from around Wisconsin and speaking with BOW partners, the company Greenstone was recommended by Outagamie County. Greenstone uses an aluminum oxide and silicon carbide mixture that has a hardness very similar to diamonds. The mixture is planned to be applied at the end of the week on Friday evening and Saturday over the course of two weeks. Mr. Seleen asked if this process could be repeated to continue extending the life of the floor, which Mr. Doverspike confirmed could be done.

Mr. Haen explained briefly that Brown County purchasing changed the purchase amount necessary for Board approval from \$25,000 to \$250,000. Projects and purchases under \$250,000 will come to the board as updates and not approvals.

10) 2nd Quarter Budget Status Report - Update

Mr. Haen presented and discussed the Budget Status Report for the 2nd quarter of 2025. In summary, revenues are \$14 million, and expenses are \$12.8 million with most categories at less than 50% for the year. With more tons comes more expenses which can be seen. Outliers where numbers show variations are due to timing of projects such as gas collection, which was budgeted for 2025 and moved into 2026. John Katers and Mr. Haen had a short conversation on a change in how payments from BOW partner counties were accounted.

11) South Landfill

Mr. Doverspike gave an update on the South Landfill staffing and that the landfill is on its fifth lift. The fifth lift will have horizontal gas collection and horizontal leachate recirculating lines installed. The gas system (as previously discussed) requires a flare and skid to be placed within five years of first waste placement. Current plans show the flare and skid are planned approximately one year early. Mr. Seleen asked what the gap of time from flare installation to beneficial use would be. Mr. Doverspike answered that it would be an estimated six months from when the flare is installed to when Sagepoint begins their construction.

12) Director's Report

Mr. Haen spoke on a complete and successful hardware and software update for the scale systems at three sites. The east and west landfill gas collection system buildings received new roofs. Milbach Construction will begin construction on the planned maintenance building at the Waste Transfer Station within the week.

13) Such other Matters as Authorized by Law

None.

14) Adjourn

15)

A motion to adjourn was made by Norb Dantinne and seconded by John Katers.
Unanimously approved.

Meeting ended at 3:22 pm.

John Katers, Chairman
Solid Waste Board

Dean R. Haen, Director
Port & Resource Recovery Department