



**WABASH COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
JOINT BOARD OF CAC/BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MONDAY, January 12th, 2026 1:30 P.M. at the DISTRICT OFFICE**

MINUTES

The Wabash County Solid Waste Management District held a joint CAC & Board of Director's Meeting on Monday, January 12th, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. in the district office located at 1101 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, Indiana.

Attending:

Board Members: Mayor Scott Long – President, Tyler Niccum – Vice President, Cheryl Ross – Secretary, Jeff Dawes – Member, Mitzi Pilgrim – Member, Nick Kopkey – Member, Gary Montel – Member

Absent Amber White – Grow Wabash Co. Rep., Matt Stone – Wabash City Schools

Staff Attending: Leann Kooi – Director, Marisa Shrock – Recording Secretary

CAC Member – John Haney – Ford Meter Box

Others: Ken Ahlfeld – Controller via Zoom, Doug Lehman - Attorney

Call to Order: Mayor Long called the Board of Directors meeting to order.

Election of Officers:

Mayor Long called for nomination of officers.

Mr. Niccum motioned to retain all current officer placement: Mayor Long as Board President, Mr. Niccum as Vice President, and Cheryl Ross as Board Secretary; Mr. Dawes seconded. Motion passed (6-0).

Designation of Recording Secretary:

Mayor Long motions for Marisa Shrock to retain title of Recording Secretary; seconded by Mr. Montel. Motion approved. (6-0)

Approval of December 9th, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes:

Board members reviewed the meeting minutes from December 9th, 2025 meeting.

Mr. Montel motioned to approve the meeting minutes; Mr. Niccum seconded. Motion carried (6-0)

Financial Report & Claims:

- Mr. Ahlfeld delivered the financial report.
- Mr. Ahlfeld announced that WCSWMD used approximately \$37,000.00 of its own funds to cover operations.
- Mr. Ahlfeld reported that the special assessment user fee should not be reduced.
- Mr. Ahlfeld passed the floor to Ms. Kooi to present unusual claims if any.
- Ms. Kooi announced that outside of the preapproved roof replacement, there are no other unusual claims to discuss.
- Mr. Ahlfeld resumed control of the floor to report that the \$200,000.00 from WCSWMD's savings account has finally been placed into a short-term CD at Crossroads per the previous meeting's motion.

Mr. Dawes motioned to approve the financial report and claims; Ms. Ross seconded. Motion approved. (6-0)





Director's Report:

- Ms. Kooi reported WCSWMD served 5,312 residents and took in approximately 300,000lbs of hazardous waste. Kooi added that these numbers are on par with the activity of the last few years.
- Ms. Kooi informed that she continues to see hazardous waste numbers decrease, but that she attributes this trend to the lighter electronics being produced. Kooi noted that WCSWMD is still taking in the same quantities, they just do not weigh as much.
- Ms. Kooi informed that between both residential recycling drop sites WCSWMD collected 700,000lbs of recycling. Kooi explained that this number is significantly less than the 1,000,000lbs WCSWMD is used to and attributes the drop to reducing accessibility to business hours only; she noted contamination has significantly decreased due to the changes.
- Ms. Kooi announced that she will have the full annual report to provide at the February Board Meeting.
- Ms. Kooi announced that 5 Star Commercial Roofing finished the roof replacement for the main building. Kooi noted that the glitter surrounding the building is from the roof project and will be power-washed away.
- Mr. Haney inquired as if the glittery substance was some form of aggregate.
- Ms. Kooi informed that she was unsure of the material.
- Mr. Kopkey informed that he believes the material to be an additive to help reflect sunlight.
- Ms. Kooi informed that she was able to procure the 5% minimum discount from Fairmount Door in regards to the 3 bay door operation systems. Kooi noted that Fairmount had to delay service to tomorrow, January 13th.
- Ms. Kooi announced that in further correspondence with Fairmount Door, she has determined that the office and warehouse should be closed while the work is being performed. Kooi added that residential drop site recycling will still be available during the regular business hours.
- Ms. Kooi informed that eventually all bay door lift systems will need replaced as they no longer make the model installed at WCSWMD, but as of now only the main doors of #2,6, and 9 are scheduled for service.
- Ms. Kooi announced that tomorrow she will be holding a presentation at the Wabash Middle/High School auditorium over lithium batteries. Kooi explained that the presentation would be held for grades 5th through 12th and that securing this opportunity is a huge win for WCSWMD.
- Ms. Kooi explained that WCSWMD has had trouble getting into schools to present to the higher grades since before COVID as many schools prefer showing students a video over disrupting class schedules.
- Ms. Kooi announced that the student who won WCSWMD's mascot competition will be visiting with her teacher for a photo opportunity with Rain the Racoon after school.
- Ms. Kooi informed that toward the end of January, WCSWMD will be hosting Huntington University students for a full facility tour.
- Ms. Kooi stated that as she looks forward to 2026, her main focus will be education opportunities.
- Ms. Kooi announced that she plans to have e-classes available as well as activities hosted through WCSWMD. Kooi added that she wants to provide quarterly educational segments and gave examples.
- Ms. Kooi explained that she intends to implement a Master Recyclers program for WCSWMD as this type of program has been successful for other districts. Kooi informed that she has been working with the educator from Porter County to develop WCSWMD's own class. The course would take place over 4-5 weeks, with one class a week likely in the evenings.
- Ms. Kooi announced that she is looking into partnering with Wabash County relators to give handouts to new county residents about WCSWMD services. Kooi added that she is looking at a company through the AISWMD (Association of Indiana Solid Waste Management Districts) as they have experience with this specific infographic.





New Business:

- Ms. Kooi presented Resolution 2026-1; a resolution that adds the Cincinnati Insurance Company, a company that handles employee bonds, to the first of the month pre-approved bills.

Mr. Niccum motioned to approved Resolution 2026-1; Mr. Dawes seconded. Motion approved (6-0).

Public Comment:

Adjournment:

Mayor Long adjourned the Joint Board/CAC meeting.

Next Meetings:

- Board of Directors & Board of Finance – Monday, February 9th, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.

Marisa Shrock, Recording Secretary

Mayor Scott Long, Board President

Tyler Niccum, Board Vice President

Cheryl Ross, Board Secretary

