BERKS COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
July 21, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of the Berks County Solid Waste Authority (the "Authority") was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on July 21, 2026, in the Harvest Room at the Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, Pennsylvania.

The following members were present:

Charles Jones, PE
Michael Gombar, Jr.
Mr. Ron Rutkowski
Mr. Brian Clements
Mr. Don Moll
Mr. Tony Sacco
Mr. Charles Mowbray
Mr. Tony Rymar
Ms. Jane Witheridge

Also present:

Ms. Jane Meeks, Executive Director of the Berks County Solid Waste Authority
Soc Georgeadis, Esquire, Georgeadis Law

The Chairman declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present.

MINUTES

Upon a motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Ms. Witheridge, the minutes of the regular meetings of May 19, 2026, were unanimously approved.

FINANCE

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Rutkowski distributed the Treasurer's Report and invoices for payment and reviewed them with the Board. Upon a motion by Mr. Mowbray, seconded by Mr. Gombar, the Board approved the payment of all invoices and ratified the payment of invoices previously paid and accepted the Treasurer's Report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Georgeadis requested that the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation.

Upon a motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Sacco, the Board entered into Executive Session at 3:05 PM.

Upon a motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Ms. Witheridge the Board meeting reconvened at 3:35 PM.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Baler Replacement

Ms. Meeks distributed and reviewed information on two balers that she had requested quotes on, which would replace our current Harris Baler, that is currently used to bale cardboard. Attached is a copy of the spreadsheet outlining those costs. Ms. Meeks recommended purchasing through Mid-Atlantic, who is a COSTAR dealer, the Marathon Gemini 3560, which she believes will suit the needs of the recycling center and will not require any new electric service to be installed. Ms. Meeks indicated that all costs associated with this baler replacement and any income received for the current baler will be submitted to PADEP for funding, under the next round of 902 recycling grants. Ms. Meeks indicated that Mid-Atlantic, is not a Harris dealer and therefore is not able to take our current baler on trade. Ms. Meeks indicated that she will place the baler on Municibid and see what type of interest there is in the machine. Any funds received for the current baler will be put towards the cost of the current baler, since this baler was entirely paid for by PADEP.

Upon a motion by Mr. Rymar, seconded by Mr. Clements the Board unanimously approved purchasing the Marathon Gemini 3460 at a cost not to exceed $ 120,452.50, through Mid-Atlantic under the COSTAR contract.

b. 2027 Special Collections – Approval of dates

Ms. Meeks recommended setting the following dates for our 2027 collections and recommended handing out magnets this fall with those dates:

Hazardous Waste Collection:

April 10, 2027 – Governor Mifflin Intermediate School
October 16, 2027 – Berks County Agricultural Center

Paper Shredding Event:

April 17, 2027 – Governor Mifflin Intermediate School
October 9, 2027 – Berks County Agricultural Center

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Meeks updated the Board on the electronic recycling center. She indicated that 9,000 residents have used the site, in the first six months of this year, collecting 470,000 pounds of electronics, which is similar to 2025.

Ms. Meeks indicated that the Commissioners have approved filing the 904 Performance Grant for the County and she has filed the grant through the DCED website. She is continuing to assist our municipalities with their grants, which are due December 31, 2026, which must be filed electronically through the DCED website.

Ms. Meeks indicated that she is working with ten of our municipalities regarding their existing 902 recycling grant applications. DEP is currently reviewing the applications and additional clarification is being requested, as part of that review process.

Ms. Meeks indicated that PADEP has approved and we have received our Act 190 grant funding, covering fifty-percent of our hazardous waste and electronic costs in the amount of $42,584.29. These grants cover fifty-percent of our expenses incurred for both hazardous waste and electronics, up to a maximum of $100,000 per County per year. PADEP has also awarded two other grant applications. The first in the amount of $7,279.28 covering 80% of our public education costs and our 903 Recycling grant, covering 50% of my salary and expenses in the amount of $ 87,587.99. Both of these grants have also been received.

Ms. Meeks reported that we will be holding a small shredding event on Friday, July 31, 2026, which will be held at the Berks County Ag Center. The event will run from 8 am until 11 am, with two hundred people currently registered, which is the maximum number we believe can be handled with one shred truck.

Ms. Meeks indicated that most of the other items outlined in her report have been discussed throughout today's meeting and offered to answer any questions that members may have, regarding her report.

Next Meeting Date

Mr. Jones indicated that the next Authority meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 3:00 PM, at the County Recycling Center, 1316 Hilltop Road, Leesport.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:05 p.m., upon a motion by Mr. Rutkowski, seconded by Mr. Clements, the Board unanimously resolved to adjourn.