

NEW RIVER SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 8, 2026

The New River Solid Waste Association Board of Directors met for the Regular Board Meeting at 12:00 p.m. on January 8, 2026 with the following members present:

Chairman Chris Dougherty
Vice-Chair Donna Jackson
Secretary/Treasurer Tyler Mobley
Commissioner Channing Dobbs
Commissioner Ronald Mann

Others present: Perry Kent, Executive Director
 Joel Woolsey, Assistant Director
 Melissa Waters, Finance Officer
 Lydia Greene, Office Manager/Admin. Asst.
 Russ Wade, Board Attorney

Commissioner Dobbs called the meeting to order and led in prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Mr. Wade, Board Attorney, proceeded to conduct the election of Chairman for 2026. Mr. Wade called for nominations for Chairman. Commissioner Mann made a motion to keep the same officers for 2026 which was seconded by Commissioner Dobbs. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Dougherty called for a motion on agenda item #4, Approval of Expenditures for October, November and December 2025. Commissioner Mobley made a motion to approve the October, November and December 2025 Expenditures. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Dougherty called for a motion on agenda item #5, Approval of Regular Board Minutes for October 9, 2025. Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Minutes for October 9, 2025. Commissioner Mobley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Dougherty asked if there were any questions or comments from the public. There were none.

Chairman Dougherty called for discussion of agenda item #7A, Discuss Engineering Updates, Jones Edmunds. Ms. Sawyer said there is a second amendment to the engineering agreement to present to the board for a one-year extension. Commissioner Mobley made a motion to approve the amendment to the agreement with Jones Edmunds. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kent asked that the Geosyntec discussion precede the Rate Study Presentation by Jones Edmunds.

Chairman Dougherty called for discussion of agenda item #7B, Engineering Updates, Geosyntec. Mr. Latham, Geosyntec, said they have submitted the 2025 groundwater sampling report to DEP which was completed with nothing of significance to report. Mr. Latham added they are currently looking at the 2026 calendar for monitoring to take place in April and that all is good with surface and groundwater results.

Chairman Dougherty asked Ms. Sawyer, Jones Edmunds, to present the Rate Study. Ms. Sawyer said that this Tipping Fee Presentation is a follow-up to Part 1 of the Master Planning presented at the October 9, 2025 board meeting which was primarily to show lifespan and capacity and the impact of the upcoming contracts for renewal at the end of 2028. Jones Edmunds has completed previous rate studies for New River, back in 2009 and again in 2017. The intent of the current tipping fee analysis presentation is to share information with the board in order to help make the decision affecting the future of the landfill. The two objectives are to show the tipping fee evaluation for a Status Quo scenario where current waste continues to come to New River and also a tipping fee evaluation for a Reduced Tonnage scenario where only member county waste is accepted. Ms. Sawyer said that the current Alachua and Levy County contracts expire December 2028 and renewal notifications are due by December 2026 if the intent is to renew the contracts. The Phase 1 Status Quo lifespan is 8 years; the Reduced Tonnage lifespan is 23 years. The on-site Phase 2 Status Quo lifespan is 33 years; the Reduced Tonnage lifespan is 67 years. Commissioner Jackson asked for more information on the statement in the presentation about Operating Cost not a one-to-one reduction comparison. Ms. Sawyer said that the current 99 acre landfill still has to be maintained which includes permitting, monitoring and reporting by regulation among other things. Mr. Kent added that it takes a certain amount of staff to handle maintenance and waste received whether we get one pound or 10,000

pounds for disposal, although there may be some room to reduce staff and equipment in a reduced tonnage scenario. Additionally, we are required to collect gas by regulation which requires staff. Mr. Kent said that part of the tipping fee analysis includes purchasing dirt for cover since we are running out of on-site borrow areas which will be a big cost in the future.

Commissioner Jackson asked how much investigation had been done on this analysis for costs. Mr. Kent said that staff prepared numbers based on actual costs and knowledge of how to most effectively run the landfill. This tipping fee analysis is for a 5 year period only. Commissioner Jackson asked how many employees could be reduced in the reduced tonnage scenario. Mr. Kent said possibly 6 landfill employees, however certain staff positions would be required in either scenario. He reminded the board that our landfill staff provides a lot of construction labor which would have to be considered when staff reductions is up for discussion as it takes extra staff for construction projects while accepting waste. The savings on construction using staff will be discussed further when we talk about the next agenda item, EGC Phase 2. Chairman Dougherty asked Ms. Sawyer if it would be possible to use prior geotechnical information to create borrow pits on-site. Ms. Sawyer said that information is available for Phase 2 but that New River is maxed out for soil due to the amount of property that is dedicated to stormwater management. Mr. Kent said that wetland mitigation on that property would be difficult and costly. We also only have off road trucks so going outside the landfill to move dirt ourselves would not be feasible.

Tipping Fee cost per ton for disposal at a landfill facility is determined by looking at Operating Costs divided by Tons of MSW received. The cost per ton has to cover day to day costs along with future costs. The biggest factor in the equation is the tonnage. Operating Costs consists of 4 major items; Direct Costs, Professional and Contract expenses, Miscellaneous Expenses (mainly fuel, repair and maintenance, operating supplies) and Capital Improvement Projects and Regulatory Requirements. Ms. Sawyer said that she wanted to share big changes in the last tipping fee analysis in 2017 and the current one. Inflation has more than doubled, soil costs have to be included since our on-site supply has nearly been depleted, and the assumption is construction will be completed by third parties instead of landfill staff going forward. Mr. Kent added that staff will continue to complete as much of the construction projects as we can but that will depend on the trained staff employed at the time.

Ms. Sawyer said that the rate study is based on a 5 year period as too many things can change to affect costs. The analysis for the Tipping Fee for the Status Quo Scenario has been determined to be \$47 per ton and this rate

will cover current and future costs. Commissioner Jackson asked where we are today. Mr. Kent said our current tipping fee is \$30 per ton. Ms. Sawyer added that New River currently has one of the lowest tipping fees in the state, everyone else is between \$50-\$70 per ton. Commissioner Mann asked if this rate is at the current tonnage. Mr. Kent said yes, this rate is for our current customers whose contracts will expire December 2028.

Ms. Sawyer said that the next slide is Effective Tipping Fee which means the rate charged is fair to New River and its customers and will cover expenses.

The Tipping Fee for Reduced Tonnage Scenario has been determined to be \$110 per ton. This is the rate if we accept member county waste only. This rate covers moving out expenses for landfill growth to the future where it will cost more. Mr. Kent added that certain things would continue to have to be done regardless of the amount of waste accepted. Commissioner Jackson asked about the 2029 shown. Ms. Sawyer said this represents the effective date of the new contracts since tipping fees will not change until then. Commissioner Mobley asked about the 2 year notice to our contract counties. Mr. Kent said we will need to let them know this year if we intend to start new contract negotiations but the board will need to adopt a Tipping Fee Analysis rate first. We will also need to receive notice from our current customers this year as to their intent. Commissioner Mobley asked to confirm that if we reduce the tonnage and only accept member county waste then the rate will go to \$110 per ton. Mr. Kent confirmed this would be the new rate.

Ms. Sawyer asked if there were any questions for her. Mr. Kent advised the board that he needs board approval to use this rate to begin contract negotiations and that everything would be brought back to the board for approval.

Commissioner Dobbs said if we are negotiating, he would like to set Alachua's rate at \$60 per ton and if they don't haul their waste here, where else would they go. Mr. Kent said there are a few other landfills and they could also decide to go out for bids which could mean that we would no longer get their waste. Commissioner Jackson said she believes in conscientious negotiations that start with realistic parameters and thinks that everyone in this room knows the meeting is not a closed meeting and that everyone we will be negotiating with will hear what is being said. She said she would suggest starting with \$50 per ton range to cover the unknown factors. Commissioner Jackson added she would look to staff for their recommendation which is what has been done and that she trusts that. Mr. Woolsey said that if we go too high then other players for that waste will

come in and the customer will have to seriously look at their other options. Commissioner Jackson said we need to have realistic negotiations and be somewhere in the middle average which will make us competitive in our negotiations. Commissioner Mann said he agrees with Commissioner Jackson and that we need to plan for the unexpected and if we can get more we should try to. Commissioner Mobley said he believes the \$47 per ton is fair based on the level of service provided here. Commissioner Dobbs asked if this would be a 5 year contract. Mr. Kent confirmed it would be a 5 year contract with CPI increases recommended. Mr. Kent also stated that we have been contacted by City of Gainesville for discussions on accepting their waste. Commissioner Jackson said she agrees with Commissioner Mobley and that the rate in the tipping fee analysis is based on fact and she trusts the information has been researched before being presented.

Mr. Kent said that Alachua County is a good customer who is always willing to address any issues quickly and fairly. Their waste is also good for our gas generation and improves the quality and quantity of the gas we produce for sale. Mr. Kent said this might not be the case with other customers who have different types of waste.

Commissioner Mann said he would like to make a motion to accept the tipping fee analysis as presented and to authorize Mr. Kent and staff to proceed with contract negotiations. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Dougherty asked for discussion of agenda item #8, Discuss Bid Received for IFB 24-01 EGC Phase 2. Mr. Kent reminded the board that the liner for the EGC has already been purchased and is on the ground here at New River. The liner needs to be installed soon. We received one bid from Comanco for installation of the EGC liner for Phase 2. When the bid was reviewed staff asked Comanco to negotiate the bid due to the cost of \$5.5 million submitted. We have received the revised bid in the amount of \$3.6 million. New River staff assumed a lot of the work and the risk saving \$1.95 million on the project. The expenses for this project comes from the closure account and affects future closure cost per acre which is calculated by DEP. The savings will greatly benefit closure calculations.

Chairman Dougherty asked the board for a motion to approve the revised bid from Comanco for IFB 24-01 EGC Phase 2 construction in the amount of \$3.6 million. Commissioner Mobley made a motion to approve the bid for IFB 24-01 EGC Phase 2 in the amount of \$3.6 million. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Dougherty called for discussion of agenda item #9, Discuss Bid Received for IFB 25-01 LFG Flare Equipment Replacement. Mr. Kent said our flare is getting older and is currently not operating due to needed repairs. The flare is something that is required by regulation. We received one bid from Aptim Environmental in the amount of \$56,403.00. This amount was included in the budget and is lower than estimated.

Chairman Dougherty asked for a motion to approve the bid submitted from Aptim Environmental in the amount of \$56,403.00 for IFB-25-01, Landfill Gas Flare Equipment Replacement. Commissioner Mobley made a motion to approve. Commissioner Dobbs seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Dougherty called for discussion under agenda item #10, Discuss Proposal Received for RFP 25-01 Recycling Services. Mr. Kent stated that due to the request for a 100% increase from the new recycling company to continue the current agreement, an RFP for Recycling Collection and Processing for our 3 member county's collection sites was issued at the board's direction during the October, 2025 board meeting. A total of 7 bid packages were mailed out and 2 bid responses were received. A no bid was submitted by Waste Management and a bid from Waste Pro was submitted for \$550 per collection site per month for a total cost of \$125,400.00 annually. This is more than double the current cost. Commissioner Mobley added that complaints have been received about the pickups not currently being made as stated in the agreement. Mr. Kent said the business was sold last year to the new company, Waste Pro. Mr. Kent asked for direction from the board. Commissioner Dobbs asked how many tons would this add to the total disposal cost for Union County. Mr. Kent said for 2024 a total of 19.7 DEP certified tons were collected for recycling in Union County which would be a cost of \$591.00 if disposed.

Chairman Dougherty asked for a decision from the board on whether to approve the increase to continue recycling collection and processing. Commissioner Dobbs made a motion to discontinue recycling collection due to the significant increase in cost. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Dougherty called for discussion of agenda item #11, Discuss Quotes received for Limerock Materials for 2026. Mr. Kent asked Ms. Greene to discuss with the board. Ms. Greene said as documented in the handout provided, 3 companies submitted quotes for big and regular

limerock for 2026. The list is in order of prices, low to high with Liberty Trucking being lowest for both sizes, Pritchett Trucking being second lowest and Robby Worrell Construction being third. Ms. Greene explained that we ask the board to approve all quotes each year so that we can contact them in order of pricing when limerock is needed based on who is able to provide the material when ordered.

Chairman Dougherty called for a motion to approve the limerock quotes submitted for 2026. Commissioner Dobbs made a motion to approve the limerock quotes submitted. Commissioner Mobley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Dougherty called for discussion under agenda item #12, Discuss Quotes Received for Sod Materials for 2026. Mr. Kent asked Ms. Greene to discuss quotes received. Ms. Greene said as documented in the handout provided, 3 companies submitted quotes for sod material for 2026. The list is in order of prices, lowest to highest with Corecon Solutions being lowest for both rolled Bermuda and hydroseed, Banty Enterprises being second for rolled Bermuda and third for hydroseed and Suwannee Valley Grassing being third for rolled Bermuda and second for hydroseed. Ms. Greene explained that we ask the board to approve all quotes so that when sod is needed we can contact in the order of pricing, low to high based on who has the material available.

Chairman Dougherty called for a motion to approved the sod quotes submitted for 2026. Commissioner Dobbs made a motion to approve the sod quotes submitted. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Dougherty asked for discussion under agenda item #13, Attorney Issues/Items. Mr. Wade said he did not have anything to report.

Chairman Dougherty asked for discussion of agenda item #14, Executive Director Issues/Items. Mr. Kent said he did not have anything further for discussion.

Chairman Dougherty asked for discussion of agenda item #15, Board/Chairman Issues/Items. There was no further discussion by the board.

NRSWA BOARD MEETING MINUTES January 8, 2026

Chairman Dougherty asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mobley made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Mann. The meeting was adjourned.