

**Solid Waste District of La Porte County  
Joint District Board/CAC Meeting**

**April 9, 2025  
1:30 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

**CHAIRPERSON Councilman Przybylinski**

**Pledge**

**APPROVED**

**Roll Call District Board**

Mayor Dermody  
Commissioner Holifield  
Councilman Mollenhauer  
Councilman Przybylinski

**Absent**

Commissioner Gramarossa  
Commissioner Haney  
Mayor Nelson-Deutch

**Roll Call CAC**

Paul Brooks  
Amy Feikes  
Chris Havens  
Jim Irwin

**Absent**

Amber Seiler  
Samantha Joll  
Jim Micheals  
Juli Charlesworth

**Others Present**

Clay Turner, Executive Director  
Robin Havens, Office Manager  
Lyn DeGroote, Controller  
Sacha Gee-Burns, Educator  
Jodi Dudeck  
Alco/TV

**MINUTES District Board – January 8, 2025**

Mayor Dermody made a motion to approve the January 8, 2025 District Board minutes as presented. Councilman Mollenhauer seconded the motion. Voice vote taken. All in favor. Motion approved.

**MINUTES District Board – March 10, 2025**

Councilman Mollenhauer made a motion to approve the March 10, 2025 District Board minutes as presented. Commissioner Holifield seconded the motion. Voice vote taken. All in favor. Motion approved.

**MINUTES CAC – April 3, 2025**

Amy Feikes made a motion to approve the April 3, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Chris Havens seconded the motion. Voice vote taken. All in favor. Motion approved.

**CLAIMS / February, March, April 2025**

Councilman Mollenhauer made a motion to approve the claims through April. Mayor Dermody seconded the motion. Voice vote taken. All in favor. Motion approved.

## FINANCIAL REPORT – Balances through March 31, 2025

Commissioner Holifield made a motion to approve the Financial Reports through March. Councilman Mollenhauer seconded the motion. Voice vote taken. All in favor. Motion approved. Commissioner Holifield suggested a column be added to the financial report with a YTD running total.

## COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### A. Spring Clean Up

Mr. Turner explained the annual "Clean It Up" will be going on in the months of May and June and anyone that wants to sign up can contact our office to schedule the needed supplies for an individual or group clean up. Mr. Turner also reported that the District did receive a large amount of bottled water from Family Express for the clean up program.

#### B. Special Collections/Tire Grant

Mr. Turner informed the Board and CAC members, the first annual HHW Collection will be held May 11<sup>th</sup>, which also coincides with the large 7 In 1 Collection. Mr. Turner further stated, Education Coordinator Sacha Gee-Burns, obtained a tire grant from IDEM, in the amount of \$10,000.

#### C. Compost Site Saturday Hours

Mr. Turner stated the Compost Site opened April 6<sup>th</sup> for Saturday hours and will be open throughout the summer with Saturday hours, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM through November.

#### D. Mulch

Mr. Turner informed the Board and CAC members the Compost Site has a huge amount of mulch which will be given away. He explained there are two grades, grade A and grade B. Grade B will be given away to LaPorte County residents, until it's gone. However, grade A will still be sold at the advertised cost.

## OLD BUSINESS

#### A. CAC – Vacant Seat

Mr. Turner presented Justin Kiel's resignation from the CAC Board, to the District Board. He further stated the CAC Board discussed the candidates to fill the vacant seat and have recommended Jodi Dudeck (present) to fill the vacancy. **After Board discussion, Commissioner Holifield made a motion to appoint Jodi Dudeck to the vacant CAC seat. Councilman Mollenhauer seconded the motion. Voice vote taken. All in favor. Motion approved.**

## NEW BUSINESS

#### A. 2025 Mileage

Mr. Turner presented the 2025 mileage rate of \$0.50 per mile; which has been approved for LaPorte County employees. Mr. Turner stated he would like approval to set the 2025 mileage rate at the same amount as the LaPorte County employees. **Mayor Dermody made a motion to approve the updated mileage rate at \$0.50 per mile. Councilman Mollenhauer seconded the motion. Voice vote taken. All in favor. Motion approved.**

B. 2025 Salary Study Kick-Off Call/Update

Mr. Turner informed the Board that he had the salary study kick off call with Director Jill Prendergast of Barnes Dennig and Katie McCartney. He explained that Ms. Prendergast would be reaching out to Chairman Przybylinski as well as Mayor Dermody, to get a better understanding of what the Board is looking for in the salary study. Ms. Prendergast further stated the salary study should be completed no later than April 30, 2025.

C. Permission to Advertise For Payloader

Mr. Turner explained the compost site is a two-person payloader operation but the Caterpillar is a 1998 and the Doosan is a 2017. He further explained the District is beginning to invest a lot of money for repairs to the Caterpillar and he would like to get permission to request quotes for a new/newer Caterpillar at this time. He also informed the Board he would use the current Caterpillar as a trade-in for the new one to decrease any loan amount necessary to obtain the new equipment. Commissioner Holifield recommended the District reach out to Sourcewell as a vendor possibility. **Mayor Dermody made a motion to approve advertisement for a payloader. Councilman Mollenhauer seconded the motion. Voice vote taken. All in favor. Motion approved.**

D. Permission to Attend County Commissioners' Meeting/Tire Amnesty

Mr. Turner explained that the District would need permission from the property owner for the 7 In 1 Collection in order to accept tires. He requested that the Board allow him to attend the County Commissioners' meeting to request this permission. **Commissioner Holifield made a motion to approve Director Turner's attendance at the upcoming County Commissioners' meeting. Councilman Mollenhauer seconded the motion. Voice vote taken. All in favor. Motion approved.**

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.