

**Minutes of Special Meeting
Solid Waste
January 6, 2026
11:00 a.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chair Bruce Mattare, Commissioner Leslie Duncan and Commissioner Marc Eberlein met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Solid Waste (SW) Director John “JP” Phillips, SW Business & Finance Manager Angela Feusier, BOCC Communications & Project Manager Sara Masters and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio.

- A. Call to Order:** Chair Bruce Mattare called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Public Comment (Discussion)** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. Idaho Law prohibits Board action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Comments related to future public hearings should be held for that public hearing.

There were no public comments.

- D. Business:**

Projects (Discussion)

Leachate Treatment Pilot

Solid Waste (SW) Director John “JP” Phillips reviewed the history of this pilot project and the reasons it had been initiated. He stated that the pilot system had been operated for about six months and the resulting water had met the requirements of the HARSB (Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board) plant. He reported that treated water had been hauled to the HARSB facility since October 2025. He stated the project had been declared a success and the final payment for the equipment had been made in November 2025. He noted that the total cost had been about \$1.6 million, well under the budgeted amount of \$2 million.

Mr. Phillips said that the system had been winterized and would be started back up in March, weather permitting.

Phase E3 Construction

Mr. Phillips reminded those present that the project had been sent out for bids in December 2023 and the bid had been awarded to Selland Construction. He stated that the entire job had been completed and final payment was made by SW in November 2025.

Closure Turf and Vera Cap

Mr. Phillips explained that, before waste could be added to the new cell, some older areas of the landfill needed to be capped to minimize leachate collection and emissions. He said Parametrics Engineering developed bid specifications for the project and the work was planned for 2026. He reported that a professional services agreement with Parametrics was signed August 18, 2025 for design and construction oversight of the project. He remarked that they were developing the bid documents at this time and promised to keep the BOCC updated.

Wolf Lodge Property – Future Rural Garbage Collection Site

Mr. Phillips reviewed the progress made on this project. He remarked that this would allow SW to consolidate some rural collection sites in the area and allow them to more closely monitor use to prevent abuse. He said SW and J-U-B Engineering had been working together on the design and the special use permit. He predicted the project would go out to bid in early 2026.

Fighting Creek Landfill (Discussion)

Operations

Mr. Phillips reported that garbage volumes were up slightly for this time of year. He described the work the staff was concentrating on currently, including litter clean up and storm water control.

Landfill Gas System

Mr. Phillips stated that the landfill gas system continued to function well and that the crews were laying gas collection devices ahead of refuse placement. He described the gas collection, the amount that went to the gas-to-energy plant, and the disposal of the remainder.

Transfer Stations (Discussion)

Operations

Mr. Phillips said the traffic and waste volumes were slightly up for this time of year, but that might be due to the warm weather and the recent windstorm.

Personnel/Recruitment

Mr. Phillips announced that SW had no full-time positions open at this time.

Rural Sites (Discussion)

Operations

Mr. Phillips reported that Sunshine Recycling was still doing a good job of hauling the refuse from the rural sites to the transfer stations. He noted there had been some issues during Christmas week due to volume, equipment issues and inexperienced drivers. He confirmed that the unmanned sites were not closed on holidays. He added that there was an employee who cleaned up around those sites each day. He reviewed the rules for the rural sites for the benefit of the public.

New Surveillance Cameras

Mr. Phillips announced the placement of surveillance cameras at a couple of rural sites.

Patrol and Public Education

Mr. Phillips praised the efforts of the Sheriff’s Department in monitoring the sites and educating the public. He remarked that abuse had slightly increased recently.

Solid Waste Statistics – 2024 vs 2025 (Discussion)

SW Business & Finance Manager Angela Feusier provided a comparison of the SW statistics from 2024 and 2025.

- E. **Public Comment:** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. Idaho Law prohibits Board action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Comments related to future public hearings should be held for that public hearing.

There were no public comments.

- F. **Adjournment (Action):** Chair Mattare adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JENNIFER LOCKE, CLERK

BOCC SIGNATURE

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk