

TRI-TOWN JOINT REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES March 17, 2026 10:00 AM-10:31 AM MS Teams

In attendance: Bruce Hoar, Christine Dougherty, Chelsea Mandigo, Aaron Martin, Jess Morris, Regina Mahony, Annie Costandi

1. **Draft meeting minutes from December 15, 2025 approval**
 - a. Time needs to be changed.
 - b. Bruce made a motion to accept the minutes as drafted, Annie second. Approved.
2. **Drying beds project Update.**
 - a. Cost-sharing discussion tabled until we get more info.
 - b. Bruce provided an update on project status that is was reviewed by structural engineer and should have plans and cost estimates to share with group within the week.
 - c. Chelsea indicated once that information is received a separate meeting can be schedule to discuss next steps as a group
3. **Proposed FY27 Budget update**
 - a. Jess gave a budget update as changes were made since last meeting allowing the wholesale rate to drop. It is expected to drop by a very small amount before finalized.
 - b. Chelsea shared some graphs of flow trends for the facility since its related to wholesale rate calculation. These included 5-year trend per community as well as the past 10 year flow by fiscal year for the facility.
4. **Solids Handling Update**
 - a. Land Application Update: The state issued for public notice our draft Solid Waste Certification for another 5 years. Assuming they receive no public comment after 30 days, our certification will be issued early April allowing for a spring land application of biosolids to occur. This is if groundwater test results from the fields come back under the new PFAS regulations. Based on last year PFAS numbers it is projected that two fields will be in the clear to use.
 - b. Digester Failure: January 5th started losing temperature of the tank rapidly which is not normal. February 9th conducted an emergency take down of the digester and discovered that 2 out of 3 mixing canons were broken. Cleaned and repaired cannons. Also determine some of the pipe insulation had gone bad on top of digester leading to frozen heating lines. Digester put back online March 9th but will take two months to reestablish.
 - c. Sludge holding tanks nearly full. Moved from dewatering solids two days/week to fill one trailer to four days/week to fill two trailers. Situation worrisome if we lose the ability to land apply as it takes 2x longer to dewater the same volume that we land apply. Working with engineer firm to optimize process control.to handle the extra load of increase dewatering and treatment of centrate.
5. **Other**
 - a. Discussion occurred on whether all current issues will trigger the need to look at a major upgrade to the facility sooner than 10 years. The answer is most likely.
 - b. Discussion occurred around allocation and available capacity in each community.
 - i. City estimates around 800 units with certain service areas that have capacity constraints
 - ii. Williston updates allocation annually. Project to be okay for 20 years but depends on rate of housing being built.
 - iii. Essex- Working with engineers to update allocation procedure and will have a number to

Adjourned: 10.31 AM

Next meeting Date: TBD for Drying bed conversation