

OSS BOARD MEETING AUG 5TH, 2026

Transcript

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Overview

The OSS Solid Waste District board meeting began with the approval of previous minutes and the treasurer's report, which showed a \$4,129,416.62 balance despite a \$146,384 expense in June due to a delayed check. Director Baty highlighted community engagement activities, including educational programs and social media initiatives. The board discussed employee compensation adjustments, approving increases for key staff members. They also reviewed the progress of the Solid Waste District planning for Seneca County, with three consultants under review and a \$70,000 budget allocated. The meeting concluded with a discussion on remote meeting policies and the future operations of the district post-split.

Action Items

- [] Brief incoming commissioners on the remote-meeting policy requirements and the OSS transition timeline so they understand what compliance steps will be needed after the district splits.

Outline

Mission Statement and Roll Call

- Commissioner Douglas calls the OSS board meeting to order and reads the mission statement emphasizing waste stream management and long-term positive solid waste habits.
- Roll call is conducted with commissioners present: Coppeller, Douglas, Smith, Zimmerman, Busdeker, and Frankart. Commissioners not present: Stahl, Miller, Paradiso
- Previous meeting minutes are reviewed and approved by a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

- Director Baty presents the treasurer's report, detailing the cross fund report and main bank account activities.
- The beginning balance was \$4,239,228.25 with total revenue of \$218,231.45 and total expenses of \$332,043.08, resulting in an ending balance of \$4,125,416.62.

- Director Baty explains a discrepancy in June's revenue due to a delayed check, but reassures that the year-to-date expenses and revenue are on track.
- The board approves the treasurer's report by a unanimous vote.

Community Engagement and Education

- Director Baty highlights various community engagement activities, including thank-you letters and educational programs.
- The OSS summer bucket list is mentioned, aimed at promoting responsible recycling and environmental awareness.
- Director Baty discusses specific educational events at East Harbor State Park, Meadowbrook Park, Memorial Public Library, and other locations.
- The importance of educating the community on proper recycling and waste management is emphasized, including addressing common questions about disposal of items like mattresses and tires.

Executive Session and Employee Compensation

- A motion is made to enter an executive session for employee compensation.
- The executive session is held with all commissioners and Director Baty present.
- Upon returning to regular session, Director Baty recommends merit-based compensation adjustments for key team members to streamline operations and realize cost savings with back pay from June 22, 2026. Effective date of pay increases is June 22, 2026 with approval on August 5, 2026.
 - Pay rate increase as follows: Patricia Dahlie - \$1.00 per hour, Nicholas Reinbolt - \$1.64 per hour, Jennifer Sherman - \$.50 per hour, Charlene Watkins - \$2.00 per hour.
- A motion is made and seconded to approve the recommendation to adjust key team members compensation with back pay.
- The board approves the recommended wage adjustments by a unanimous vote.

Preparation for Solid Waste District Plan

- Commissioner Frankart updates the board on the preparation for the Seneca County Solid Waste District, mentioning the receipt of three RFPs from consultants.

- The board discusses the selection process and the need for Ottawa and Sandusky Counties to proceed with their own planning.
- Director Baty and Commissioner Frankart discuss the financial aspects, including the allocation of \$70,000 for planning.

Legal and Policy Considerations

- Alvin Bauer provides an update on the attorney's opinion regarding the ability of joint districts to conduct remote meetings.
- The board discusses the implications of conducting remote meetings, including limitations on major non-routine expenditures and significant hiring decisions.
- The need for a policy to allow remote meetings is emphasized, with a potential adoption at the next board meeting.

Future Operations and Budget

- Alvin Bauer explains the legal framework for the separation of the OSS district into two separate districts: Seneca County and the remaining district (Ottawa and Sandusky Counties).
- The board discusses the preparation of solid waste management plans for both districts and the need for EPA approval.
- The importance of maintaining compliance with state and federal regulations is highlighted, including the need for competitive bidding for procurement of goods and services.

Public Comments and Closing

- A public comment is made, praising Nick Reinbold's communication and expressing interest in future collaboration on waste-related projects.
- Commissioner Douglas entertains a motion to adjourn the meeting, which is seconded and approved by the board.
- The meeting is adjourned at 10:55 a.m.