

**CENTRAL VIRGINIA WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA
AUGUST 21, 2026
2104 WEST LABURNUM AVE.
RICHMOND, VA 23227**

MEMBERS/ALTERNATES PRESENT

Voting

Cary Drane (M-Chesterfield), Chairman
Jordan Stewart (M-New Kent), Vice-Chair
Randy Hardman (M-Hanover), Secretary
John Mitchell (M-Henrico), Treasurer
Elizabeth Hall (M-Richmond), Director
Robert L. Dunn (M-Chesterfield), Past-Chair
Stephen Chidsey (M-Ashland)
Clay Bowles (M-Chesterfield)
Andrew Barnes (A-Colonial Heights)
Don Leftwich (M-Goochland)
Marcia E. Kelley (M-Henrico)
Marilee Tretina (M-Henrico)
Monique Robertson (M-Hopewell)
Joshua Mathews-Ailsworth (M-Richmond)
Robert McMillen (M-Richmond)

MEMBERS/ALTERNATES NOT PRESENT

Todd Evan (A-Ashland)
John Neal (A-Chesterfield)
Mindy McKinney (A-Chesterfield)
Dawn Rowell (A-Chesterfield)
Doug Smith (M-Colonial Heights)
Jeff Stoneman (M-Hanover)
John Saunders (A-Hanover)
Theresa Arnold (A-Hanover)
J. Bentley Chan (A-Henrico)
Rodney Hathaway (A-New Kent)
Randall Williams (A-Petersburg)
Bob Powers (M-Powhatan)
Tim Glidewell (A-Powhatan)
Scott Enos (M-Prince George)
Kristen Pudlow (A-Prince George)

Non-Voting:

Phillip Grayson (A-Goochland)
Jon Clary (A-Henrico)
Josh Byerly (A-Henrico)
Zach Pauley (A-Richmond)
Joy Shaw (A-Richmond)

Staff:

Kimberly A. Hynes, Executive Director
Katrina Entzminger, Dir. of Recycling & Waste Man
Terry Eckhout, Finance and Admin Manager
Stephanie Breaker, Sr. Contact Center Manager
Julie Buchanan, Public Relations Coordinator
Reginald "Reggie" Thompson, Operations Analyst
Olivia Beidler, Recycling Coordinator
LaTanya McBride, Administrative Assistant

Visitors:

Valerie Brockett-Mann, Prince George County

Mr. C. Drane, Chairman (M-Chesterfield), welcomed all attendees to the meeting and thanked them for coming. He asked all attendees to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. With a quorum in attendance, he called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Item No. 1: Installation of Officers

Ms. L. McBride, CVWMA Administrative Assistant, administered the Oath of Office to the elected officers for fiscal year 2026–27 and asked them to stand and repeat the oath after her.

Item No. 2: Public Comment Period

Chairman Drane opened the public comment period and asked any members of the public present who wished to address the Board to come forward. Seeing no one, Chairman Drane closed the public comment period.

Item No. 3: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 18, 2026

Chairman Drane opened the floor for a motion to consider the minutes of the June 18, 2026, meeting as submitted. The motion was made by the Past Chair, Mr. R. Dunn (M-Chesterfield), and seconded by the Vice Chair, Ms. J. Stewart (M-New Kent), and carried that the minutes of June 18, 2026, Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA) Board of Directors meeting are approved as submitted.

Item No. 4: Chairman's Report

Chairman Drane welcomed Board members and staff back following the summer break.

Item No. 5: Consideration of Resolution 27-01: Renewal of Recycling and Solid Waste Consulting Contracts

Mrs. K. Hynes, CVWMA Executive Director, introduced **Resolution 27-01**, requesting renewal of the Recycling and Solid Waste Consulting Services contracts. She noted that CVWMA entered into contracts with Gershman Brickner & Bratton Inc. (GBB) and HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR) for consulting services. The original contracts terms were for one-year with four one-year renewal options. This renewal term expires September 30, 2026, and this request would renew both contracts for one additional year, from October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027. She reported that both firms wish to continue under their contracts with only minor changes, primarily a small percentage increase in billing rates. She added that CVWMA and its member jurisdictions continue to benefit from these firms' solid waste and recycling expertise. After reviewing the renewal proposals, the TAC recommended renewing both contracts for another year. Mrs. Hynes opened the floor for questions.

Ms. M. Kelley (M-Henrico) inquired about the terms of the contractual agreements and asked whether the Authority maintains a retainer under these contracts. Mrs. Hynes explained that the agreements allow CVWMA and its member jurisdictions to use the firms for recycling and solid waste management projects. If CVWMA uses either firm for a specific project, staff would return to the Board to request approval of any required funding. She noted that some member jurisdictions are using the contracts and are billed directly for those services.

Chairman Drane asked for a motion to approve **Resolution 27-01: Renewal of the Contracts for Recycling and Solid Waste Consulting Services**. A motion was made by the Past Chair, Mr. R. Dunn (M-Chesterfield), and seconded by Ms. E. Hall (M-Richmond) and was approved as presented.

Item No. 6: Operations, Education, and Customer Service-Fiscal Year 2026 Highlights

FY26 Operation Highlights

Ms. K. Entzminger, CVWMA Director of Recycling and Waste Management, reported on FY2026 operational highlights. She presented slides comparing year-over-year collections and program performance and noted slight decreases from FY2025 in residential recycling, municipal solid waste (MSW), drop-off tonnage, and set-out rates. She attributed these declines to several factors, including the ice storm in January/February that limited access to drop-off sites and disrupted curbside service in several jurisdictions. MSW tonnage was lower but remained relatively close to prior levels, while residential recycling tonnage and set-out rates declined slightly, with participation generally remaining near 55 percent. Ms. Entzminger stated that staff will be further evaluating strategies to increase tonnage and participation. She also noted strong performance and continued growth in several other CVWMA programs.

Ms. Entzminger reported that scrap metal continues to be a strong performer. The year-over-year change shown for used tires is likely somewhat higher than the 1% indicated as we continue to work with the contractor on reporting and billing. Battery recycling has also remained strong, even without a formal contract with Battery Barn. They continued to provide service and remit funds. The amount of electronics recycled also remains strong. Used oil is down slightly, due to changes in Chesterfield's participation in the program in the last quarter of the year.

Mrs. Hynes noted that the curbside and drop-off fund numbers were down and agreed that the ice storm likely had a significant impact during the year. She also stated that the Authority recently completed an audit with TFC of its material stream. She noted that changes in the material mix over the past several years can affect reported recycling tonnage because volumes are measured by weight.

Mr. S. Chidsey (M-Ashland) noted that the number may be slightly underestimated because Hanover County self-delivers material, likely from drop-off centers, and that tonnage is not included in the reported figure. Mrs. Hynes confirmed that Mr. Chidsey was referring to drop-off material and delivered paper. She noted that CVWMA has experienced some delays in receiving timely information from Recycling Management Resources (RMR), which may also be contributing to the reported numbers.

Ms. Entzminger continued with an overview of program revenue, noting decreases in several areas. She stated that metal remains relatively strong and continues to generate the most program revenue, while co-mix and paper revenues have declined in fiscal year 2026. Used oil revenue is also down, largely due to the significant drop in used oil prices, though some improvement is beginning to occur. Battery revenue has increased. She added that, year over year, revenue changes generally correspond with changes in tonnage as well as market prices.

Mrs. Hynes provided additional context on program revenue, explaining that several Authority contracts generate revenue from the sale of recyclable materials. For most contracts, all revenue is returned to the localities, while the Authority retains only a small portion of co-mix and paper revenue in the drop-off fund to support operations.

Ms. Entzminger elaborated on the audit results, noting that under the Authority's contract TFC is required to conduct periodic audits of incoming materials. For comparison, she reviewed the 2026 audit alongside the 2020 audit, explaining that intervening years included only smaller, partial audits that did not cover the full material stream; thus, the 2020 audit is the closest match to the comprehensive audit completed this year. She reported that cardboard tonnage has decreased but remains very strong overall, which is largely due to a shift in packaging practice. Companies like Amazon and FedEx are using more paper mailers and pouch-style packaging instead of traditional corrugated boxes. That shift could be part of the overall change in the mix of materials.

Ms. Entzminger reported a decrease in residue, explaining that this is directly related to how materials are categorized in the audit, with small glass pieces now being counted as alternate daily cover (ADC) rather than landfill residue. She noted that in the 2020 audit, this category reflected glass only. In the 2026 audit, it includes

both glass and ADC. These are not necessarily mixed together, but TFC reported them together because the small, grainy glass and other fines can be used as ADC in the landfill instead of being disposed of as residue, and that use also qualifies for a beneficial use credit. As a result, some material that previously showed up as residue is now counted as ADC, which helps offset and balance out the residue numbers.

Ms. Entzminger mentioned that when the staff met with TFC to review the audit, they were very pleased with the quality of material coming from our curbside program and described it as very clean. This reflects the good work our citizens are doing in paying attention to what they place in their recycling containers and what we see coming through TFC's facility. Ms. Entzminger opened the floor for questions on the audit.

Ms. M. Kelley (M-Henrico) asked how the Authority is doing with plastic bags and whether TFC had indicated any decrease in residents placing plastic bags in their recycling bins. Ms. Entzminger stated that TFC did not specifically address plastic bags in the audit results; however, they reported that the overall material stream is cleaner than in previous years.

Ms. M. Tretina (M-Henrico) commented that plastic bag contamination is likely more common in curbside carts than at drop-off sites, suggesting that drop-off recyclers are less likely to put bags in the recycling since they are making an extra effort to bring items to those locations. Mrs. Hynes responded that the opposite tends to be true. Plastic bag contamination is often higher at drop-off sites because many residents bring their recyclables in plastic garbage bags, which can end up in the drop-off containers. She noted that plastic bag contamination increased somewhat when carts were rolled out system-wide, but that CVWMA's ongoing education campaigns and work with TFC, including the use of "Oops" stickers and identifying alternative uses for certain residue, have been beneficial and have improved overall material quality.

FY26 Compost Program Highlights

Ms. Entzminger then turned the floor over to Ms. O. Beidler, CVWMA Recycling Coordinator, to provide highlights of the new food waste collection and composting program and multi-family recycling.

Ms. Beidler reported on the success of the CVWMA Food Scrap Composting Program, noting that in its first year, beginning with Henrico in July and expanding to Richmond and Chesterfield in November, the program diverted approximately 142,000 pounds (71 tons) of material from the landfill, resulting in significant greenhouse gas reductions and demonstrating strong and growing resident interest in additional drop-off locations.

Ms. Beidler shared data for reported food loss and waste statistics from the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) workshop. She noted that SARE is affiliated with the USDA, and the workshops were funded by an EPA grant. She noted that an estimated 30–40% of food is wasted nationwide. Citing 2024 ReFED data, she reported that Virginia generated nearly 1.5 million tons of surplus food, almost half from the residential sector, with much of it ultimately landfilled. Given CVWMA's role in residential waste management, she emphasized the region's opportunity and responsibility to divert more of this material from disposal.

Ms. Beidler noted that ReFED has identified centralized composting, the model used in CVWMA's program, as the best solution for managing food waste. She reviewed program data showing low initial volumes when only Henrico's two sites were operating in July, a sharp increase after adding 20 sites in Richmond and Chesterfield in November, and a temporary dip during the January ice storm, with overall participation trending steadily upward. She reported strong public interest across nearly all localities and observed that as community outreach increases and residents learn about the program, usage continues to grow.

Ms. Beidler reminded the board that CVWMA provides comprehensive "starter" support for the food scrap composting program, including custom signage, construction or assistance with kiosks at some locations,

compostable bags for residents, and ongoing educational programming. She noted that residents across the region, including those in rural areas who already compost at home, have expressed strong interest in our program because CVWMA accepts materials such as meat, dairy, bones, and certified compostable tableware that typically cannot go into backyard compost systems. She emphasized that the service cost is modest at approximately \$24 per cart per collection, particularly when viewed against avoided MSW handling and hauling costs, and that localities can begin with as little as one cart at a single location.

Ms. Beidler emphasized the broader benefits of the program. Beyond environmental gains, she noted that centralized composting can enhance a locality's public image at a time when residents are increasingly focused on environmental initiatives and landfill impacts. She highlighted that diverting food waste will reduce MSW hauling costs long term, preserves landfill space, and benefits the environment. In addition, for every ton composted through NOPE, localities receive a quantity of finished compost as a nutrient-rich soil amendment for community projects.

Chairman Drane asked whether diverting food waste from landfills to composting might reduce the breakdown of other materials in the landfill and inquired if any longitudinal analyses or studies have been conducted to determine whether removing this "brown" material could slow the long-term decomposition of the remaining waste.

Mrs. Hynes responded that staff is not aware of any studies on that specific question at this time. Ms. Beidler added that she expects solutions and additional research to emerge overtime and emphasized that current participation levels are far from diverting all our regional food waste from landfills. Even if each locality hosted one composting cart, this would not come close to capturing 100% of the region's food waste. However, the data shows that this program is a very important starting point for increasing diversion in our region over time.

Ms. M. Tretina (M-Henrico) asked whether there is a breakdown of compost tonnage by county. Ms. Beidler confirmed that a breakdown by county is included in the monthly program statistics, noting that it can also be accessed on the CVWMA website, or provided via email upon request.

Ms. M. Tretina (M-Henrico) shared her personal experience using the composting program, noting that she is typically the one transporting material to the convenience center in her family. She commented that additional drop-off locations in Henrico beyond the Springfield Road Convenience Center would improve access and convenience for residents, and she briefly described some of the practical challenges when using the compost carts.

Ms. Beidler indicated that she would be happy to work with Henrico on evaluating additional compost drop-off locations. She mentioned that Richmond's Office of Sustainability has developed an efficiency tool that ranks potential sites based on factors such as walkability, equity, and access to multifamily housing. She suggested that this type of analysis could help identify underutilized cart locations in Henrico and potentially relocate carts to higher-demand sites, noting that the program cost is a flat \$24 per cart per dump regardless of location.

Chairman Drane asked whether the \$24 tipping fee is charged per cart, and Ms. M. Tretina (M-Henrico) asked if the fee applies regardless of how full the cart is. Ms. Beidler confirmed that the \$24 fee applies to each compost cart serviced, regardless of location or how full the cart is.

Ms. M. Tretina (M-Henrico) suggested that additional compost carts could potentially be placed at locations such as the county government center to improve convenience for residents. Ms. Beidler noted that compost volumes at CVWMA headquarters may increase, as she has arranged for Fodrey's Café and catering company to begin utilizing the program, which should further boost participation numbers.

Chairman Drane asked where the windrows for the composting operation are located. Mrs. Hynes responded that NOPE, the Authority's composting contractor, currently hauls collected material to McGill's composting facility in Waverly, Virginia. She noted that the contract provides an opportunity to reduce costs, if and when NOPE is able to identify and build their own facility location within the region.

Chairman Drane inquired about the amount of land NOPE would need to build a composting facility. Mrs. Hynes stated that NOPE would need approximately two to five acres of land.

Ms. M. Kelley (M-Henrico) asked whether the term "surplus food," as used in the presentation, refers to food that is ultimately wasted. Ms. Beidler confirmed that, in this context, "surplus food" refers to food that ultimately goes uneaten and is wasted.

FY26 Multi Family Highlights

Ms. Beidler introduced CVWMA's work on multifamily recycling, noting that when she joined the Authority in May 2025 this was identified as a priority area where significant progress was needed. She emphasized that the issue is complex, noting that if it were easy, it would already be fully implemented. She mentioned that the longer timeline may allow the development of a more robust, lasting solution rather than a "band-aid" approach.

For context, she shared that she has researched and consulted with several localities with successful multifamily recycling programs (including Northern Virginia jurisdictions, Orlando, and others), but found that most examples involve single localities, whereas CVWMA coordinates across 13 jurisdictions and has less direct control over local policies and ordinances. As a result, staff elected to pursue a pilot in the City of Richmond, chosen because of its priority in the Office of Sustainability, significant existing and planned multifamily housing, and its current zoning and code refresh, which presents a timely opportunity to incorporate recycling considerations.

Ms. Beidler reported that CVWMA is working with Richmond's Office of Sustainability to insert preliminary language into the city's draft code refresh, encouraging new developments to consider providing space for trash and recycling. She acknowledged that the current "should consider" language lacks strong enforcement and that staff would ultimately like to see ordinances that require dedicated space or recycling subscriptions but characterized this as an important first step. She noted that the multifamily effort is paused pending completion of the code refresh, and that staff plan to conduct a cost-benefit analysis and engage property managers and landlords. Potential reductions in MSW costs and the appeal of recycling as an amenity for renters can be strong motivators. In the meantime, CVWMA is developing a multifamily recycling landing page, which is not yet public as staff are still refining the content.

Vice Chair, Ms. J. Stewart (M-New Kent) mentioned that New Kent County is also undertaking a code and zoning ordinance refresh and invited CVWMA to participate, particularly from the perspective of a more rural locality. She explained that, although New Kent currently has little multifamily housing and no apartments, growth is anticipated, and she has begun asking developers of new projects, such as a senior home and a daycare, how recycling and waste management are incorporated into their plans. She emphasized the value of embedding recycling considerations into the updated code so that expectations are not solely relationship-based or left entirely to citizens and the locality. She thanked CVWMA staff for initiating the broader conversation. She concluded by welcoming staff to visit New Kent to see how the county is approaching growth and development.

Ms. M. Tretina (M-Henrico) asked Vice Chair Stewart if Colonial Downs offers recycling. Vice Chair Stewart noted that Colonial Downs does recycle, based on her personal observations at the facility, although she is not familiar with the specific methods they use.

Chairman Drane shared an observation from a recent visit to a children's party at Surge, noting that he saw what appeared to be hundreds of recyclable bottles discarded in trash cans because no recycling receptacles were available. He suggested that similar facilities could present a strong outreach opportunity for CVWMA to promote recycling access and education.

FY26 Education and Outreach Highlights

Mrs. J. Buchanan, CVWMA Public Relations Coordinator, reported on education and outreach highlights for fiscal year 2026. She began by reporting on website analytics for cvwma.com, noting that the site received nearly 450,000 page views in FY26—and approximately 183,000 users, slightly higher than FY25. She observed that average engagement time decreased modestly from 56 seconds to 51 seconds, which she interpreted as a potentially positive sign that visitors are finding information more quickly, consistent with CVWMA's efforts to make web content more digestible and easier to read on small screens with minimal scrolling. She reported that more than half of site traffic is accessed from mobile devices. She noted that the busiest day for website activity in FY26 was January 28, during the peak of the winter ice storm, when many residents were seeking updates on curbside collection and recycling service status.

Mrs. Buchanan reported that the most frequently visited pages on cvwma.com remain consistent year to year and include the curbside collection schedule, event pages for electronics recycling and household hazardous waste, and locality-specific pages such as those for Richmond and Henrico. She added that the service alerts page, which is updated primarily during weather-related disruptions, also ranked high in FY26, likely due to the winter ice storm, and that "what to recycle" content and electronics recycling information were likewise among the top-visited pages.

Mrs. Buchanan reported that CVWMA conducts extensive electronic outreach via email across the region. For the curbside recycling program, an opt-in email reminder is sent to remind subscribers to put their recycling out. The list grew by more than 2,300 new subscribers, bringing the total to about 42,000 recipients. She also highlighted the Authority's monthly "Waste Reduction" e-newsletter, which is open to anyone in the region and covers topics such as the newly accepted paper cups and pizza boxes and other relevant news. This list added 641 new subscribers in the last year, for a total of just over 31,000. While detailed open-rate data are not available for the collection reminder emails, she noted that the e-newsletter consistently achieves an estimated 30–35% open rate, which is well above typical government standards.

Mrs. Buchanan reported that in FY26 CVWMA completed 91 in-person programs, including school presentations and community events across member localities, reaching just over 5,000 people face-to-face. She noted that several of these events were tied to the Authority's 35th Anniversary, such as the October Reception in the courtyard, the Recycling Circularity Fair, and CVWMA's sponsored VCU basketball game at which Mrs. Hynes had the opportunity to present the game ball.

Mrs. Buchanan thanked the board members for attending these events and for their participation and support. Chairman Drane on behalf of the board thanked Mrs. Buchanan.

FY26 Customer Service Highlights

Ms. Stephanie Breaker, Senior Contact Center Manager, reported on customer service performance related to Goal #2 of the Strategic Plan which states that CVWMA will provide a positive customer experience and 24/7 access. She noted that most residents prefer to contact the call center by phone, noting that many of those calls are related to recycling requests and approximately 8% of contacts reflect non-residential education inquiries (such as how to

dispose of HHW or where to find drop-off sites). Overall requests increased by about 3.6% year over year and each Customer Service Agent handled an average of 11,000 calls during FY26, with an average call length of approximately 1 minute 22 seconds (meeting the goal of staying under 90 seconds), and an average wait time of about 33 seconds before callers reach a live agent.

Ms. Breaker explained that the “Zero Hero” theme supports the team's goal of providing a positive customer experience. Each year, the team sets goals for what it wants to accomplish, and this year's goals focus on minimizing waiting times, showing empathy for residents, resolving requests quickly, and taking ownership through follow-up. Customer Service Agents receive monthly feedback on their performance in each area. She added that CVWMA added an agent in the last quarter of FY26 whose primary responsibility is service monitoring, including follow-up calls to residents regarding missed pickups, cart deliveries, and other service issues.

Several Board members commended Ms. Breaker for her presentation and the customer service team's performance. Mrs. Hynes praised Ms. Breaker's work and jokingly noted that she should have worn a cape in recognition of the “Zero Hero” theme. She added that FY26 included many positive outcomes.

Item No. 7: Operations Report

Ms. Entzminger transitioned back to the July Operations and TAC report and provided an update on commodity rebates. Mixed paper increased by \$10 to \$50 per ton; newsprint increased by \$10 to \$65 per ton, and OCC (cardboard) increased by \$15 to \$105 per ton. The steel rebate decreased by \$25 to \$200 per ton, while the used oil rebate increased to \$0.75 per gallon. She noted that the August price of \$200 is slightly lower than June's \$225 but has remained consistent with previous July numbers, indicating relative stability despite the modest decline.

Chairman Drane asked whether the change in market pricing reflected yearly or seasonal variation. Mrs. Hynes stated that paper prices typically increase this time of year as companies prepare for the holidays and demand rises for cardboard boxes, paper packaging, and related materials.

Ms. Entzminger shared upcoming regional community collection events. On September 5, Securis will provide electronics recycling, which normally takes place on the first Saturday of the month. On September 12, the City of Richmond will host its quarterly E-cycling, HHW collection, and paper-shredding event.

Ms. Entzminger highlighted the CVWMA Tri-Cities Recycling Event at Southpark Mall, on September 26 featuring electronics recycling, paper shredding, and textile recycling provided by Goodwill. The CVWMA Tri-Cities Recycling Event will provide residents in Prince George County, Hopewell, Colonial Heights, and Petersburg with an opportunity to bring materials for electronics recycling, shredding, and textile donation. She noted that this is a CVWMA-sponsored regional recycling event and invited any interested board members to attend and assist, emphasizing that it represents an exciting opportunity for the Tri-Cities area.

Past Chair Dunn asked where the Tri-Cities recycling event will be held. Mrs. Entzminger replied that the event will be held at Southpark Mall in the parking lot.

Ms. Entzminger reported that the next TAC meeting will be held on Thursday, September 3, at 10 am. She then turned the floor over to Mrs. Hynes to provide additional details on the recent TAC meeting.

Item No. 8: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Report

Mrs. Hynes reported on the August 6 TAC meeting on behalf of TAC Chair Mr. J. Clary (A-Henrico) and Ms. Entzminger, who were unable to attend. She stated that Waste Management (WM) presented an overview of a new project at its Waverly, Virginia landfill to manage biosolids from wastewater treatment plants. Although biosolids are not a primary focus of the Authority, she noted that the presentation helped connect local solid waste

and utilities staff. She added that upcoming regulations and state legislation may limit the number of biosolids that can be land applied, requiring alternative management approaches. WM is developing new technology and systems for this purpose at its Sussex County landfill.

Mrs. Hynes added that the TAC discussed contractual matters beginning with developing a formal contract with Battery Barn for battery collection, noting that it will likely be structured as a sole-source agreement given the lack of competing vendors. The staff will submit the contract to the board for approval. She also reminded the board that all disaster recovery contracts will expire on May 31 with no renewal options remaining, and that staff intend to issue a new procurement this fall, seeking TAC input as part of that process.

Mrs. Hynes reported that she and Ms. Entzminger have been in discussions with a company called Mulch Supply, which operates equipment capable of processing yard waste and debris into biochar, potentially reducing the amount of material that must be ground in member localities. Given the significant volume of yard waste across the region, she noted that this technology could provide an additional management option and stated that staff hope to schedule a site visit to observe the equipment in operation soon.

Lastly, Mrs. Hynes reported that the TAC has been developing a regional white paper analyzing waste and recycling flows, commodity destinations, and potential future recommendations. She noted that GBB, one of the Authority's consulting firms, has completed a preliminary peer review of the draft, and that a GBB representative will attend the September 3 TAC meeting to discuss the document from a planning perspective. She anticipated that the TAC would present the finalized white paper and proposed next steps to the Board at a future meeting, likely in September or October.

Ms. M. Kelley (M-Henrico) remarked that the white paper represents a significant amount of work and observed that the TAC appears to have done much of the work that should have been performed by GBB. Mr. J. Byerly (A-Henrico) clarified that the members of the TAC prepared the white paper themselves, and Mrs. Hynes added that GBB was engaged to provide an industry perspective and a no-cost peer review, not to develop the document. She added that the next step will be to discuss how best to use the white paper once it is finalized and what actions the Board may wish to take based on its findings.

Item No. 9: Public Information

Mrs. J. Buchanan reported on July education and outreach activities, highlighting a major effort to visit more localities' summer camps. Building on the prior year's work with Chesterfield and Henrico County camps, staff conducted programs at camps in Petersburg, Hopewell, and Goochland, where the children created crafts and participated in interactive activities, including a detective-style "escape room" that was well received. Ms. Buchanan recognized Ms. S. Burr, CVWMA Educator who was unable to attend the meeting, for designing engaging programs for both younger and older campers. Mrs. Buchanan noted that during these camp visits staff reached approximately 180 children across the three localities.

Mrs. Buchanan highlighted several outreach activities attended since the last board meeting, noting CVWMA's first-time participation in the Multicultural Festival at Richmond Raceway; the "Hooray for Hopewell" event, the two-day Hanover Tomato Festival at Pole Green Park; the Charles City County Summer Open House, which connects residents with county service providers; and the Henrico County Public Schools Back-to-School Kickoff in Glen Allen. She reported that these events were very well attended, and that staff engaged residents on recycling and waste reduction while distributing educational materials and school supplies, reaching approximately 1,500 people across these activities.

Mrs. Buchanan updated the board on two public education programs on the purple-cart composting initiative, one at Clover Hill Library in Chesterfield and another at Tuckahoe Library in Henrico, with a combined attendance of

about 40 highly engaged participants. Attendees were primarily residents of the host localities and expressed strong interest in learning how to use the program, why composting is important, and CVWMA's role in it, while also reiterating a desire for additional, more conveniently located drop-off sites.

Chairman Drane asked if staff has spoken with any HOAs.

Mrs. Buchanan responded that localities may be reluctant to fund compost carts located on private property, and that CVWMA's current focus is on publicly accessible sites.

Chairman Drane responded that many HOAs include a mix of public and private areas, which could present opportunities for locating compost carts within HOA neighborhoods.

Mrs. Buchanan noted that questions have arisen about this topic. Ms. Buchanan added that while HOAs are an important audience for recycling conversations, the compost program is not yet at the point of broad HOA deployment. She also highlighted that Marshall Hall of NOPE Compost, CVWMA's contractor for the 22 existing sites, has participated in recent public presentations and is able to address many of the more technical, program-specific questions.

Mrs. Buchanan reported that Ms. Burr recently presented at Chesterfield County Public Schools' Secondary Science Teacher Professional Development Day, where middle and high school science teachers gathered in advance of the new school year. Mrs. Buchanan also noted that Ms. Beidler represented CVWMA at a virtual event hosted by the Virginia Environmental Literacy Network.

Mrs. Buchanan reported that CVWMA has announced the acceptance of paper cups and pizza boxes free of food residue for recycling. She added that these items have been incorporated into the online "what to recycle" visuals on the CVWMA website and that, while updated hard-copy materials are not yet available, staff plan to develop them.

Lastly, Mrs. Buchanan reported that CVWMA has begun "soft launching" an anti-contamination campaign for both curbside and drop-off recycling. She highlighted a new "Heart Your Cart" concept, developed by Ms. Beidler, and noted that an initial social media post targeted students moving off campus (e.g., VCU and Virginia Union) to help them distinguish between recycling and trash carts in alleys and manage those containers properly. She added that staff plan to expand this messaging and also conduct more direct outreach at convenience centers, beginning with a new flyer that explains who CVWMA is, outlines available programs at public use sites, and dispels common recycling myths encountered by site staff. She expressed interest in working with localities to schedule in-person visits with convenience center employees in the coming weeks and fall to ensure they are well equipped to advise residents on proper recycling practices.

Ms. M. Tretina asked where the upcoming Girls in STEM conference will be held. Mrs. Buchanan confirmed that the conference will be held at the Science Museum.

Past chair Dunn asked whether CVWMA would participate in the upcoming Chesterfield County Fair which starts on September 28th. Ms. Buchanan responded that CVWMA was not currently planning to participate in the Chesterfield County Fair, noting that multi-day fairs can be difficult for staff. However, she expressed interest in learning about any opportunities to provide information or materials for the event.

Item No. 10: Financial Report for July 2026

Ms. T. Eckhout, CVWMA Finance and Administration Manager, directed the Board to the July financial reports included in the board packet. She reported that July activity is consistent with expected service and budget levels. CVWMA has a combined net income of \$589,319 year-to-date.

Ms. Eckhout reported that the Authority bills for the annual operating assessment in July each year, so net income will continue to decrease as we incur expenses throughout the fiscal year. The accounts receivable schedule is included and reflects the details of the amounts due to the Authority. There is one account that was more than 60 days past due on July 31, but it is now current.

Lastly, the staff is working on the FY26 annual audit with Brown Edwards, and the results will be presented at the October board meeting.

A motion was made by the Past Chair, Mr. R. Dunn (M-Chesterfield), seconded by the Vice Chair, Ms. J. Stewart (M-Henrico), and carried unanimously that the Financial Reports for July 2026 were approved and filed as submitted.

Item No. 10: Administrative

Mrs. Hynes introduced Ms. Joy Shaw as the new alternate to Mr. R. McMillen (M-Richmond) for the City of Richmond and welcomed her to the Board, inviting members to introduce themselves and their localities they serve after the meeting. She also recognized and welcomed Ms. Valerie Brockett-Mann, attending on behalf of Mr. S. Enos (M-Prince George).

Mrs. Hynes reported that she has been meeting with leadership across the member localities to provide a refresher on who CVWMA is, the services we provide, and the value it brings both regionally and to each jurisdiction individually. She noted that these conversations are helpful for both new and long-tenured officials, as they cover current activities and explore additional ways CVWMA can support each locality. She referenced a one-page overview placed at each board member's seat that summarizes CVWMA's role and quantifies its value in "dollars and cents."

Mrs. Hynes provided an update on the PlanRVA recycling study being conducted regionally. She explained that the study is to identify barriers to recycling and strengthen recycling programs across the region. She encouraged Board members to complete the online survey using the QR code on the handout or the previously shared web link. She also asked members to share the survey with friends and neighbors throughout the region to help gather input from residents across CVWMA's diverse communities. Mrs. Hynes added that the project will also include focus groups, one-on-one interviews, and on-site surveys at community events over the next several months. Preliminary results are expected this fall, and staff will report back to the Board at that time.

Ms. M. Tretina (M-Henrico) asked whether staff had received any feedback from PlanRVA on the number of survey responses submitted to date. Mrs. Hynes responded that, as of a few weeks prior, approximately 1,700 surveys had been completed, and noted that the survey would remain open through the end of August. This effort is intended to reach audiences that may not typically follow local government communications, expanding input beyond the usual channels.

Past Chair Dunn suggested to Board members reaching out directly to friends and contacts by phone or via email to personally encourage them to complete and share the PlanRVA recycling survey. He noted that this approach produced additional responses within his own network and could increase participation. Mrs. Hynes added that it may be beneficial to share the survey on social media as well.

Ms. M. Tretina (M-Henrico) added that she had also encouraged participation by having members of her lunch group scan the survey QR code on flyers, while Past Chair Dunn noted he had emailed the survey link to roughly 20 friends, several of whom confirmed they completed it.

Mrs. Hynes encouraged board members to continue sharing the survey link with friends and family who live in the region, noting that the survey will remain open through the end of August. She offered to resend the link to anyone who needed it and added that the survey is also being promoted via CVWMA and PlanRVA social media channels. She stated that the project is expected to culminate in November, after which staff will be able to share survey results and key findings with the Board.

Mrs. Hynes noted that the artwork throughout the CVWMA office has been completed and invited board members to walk through and view the finished installation, commenting that the artist Ms. Emily Herr did an excellent job and staff are very pleased with the results.

Lastly, she provided upcoming meeting dates, reminding members that the next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for September 18. The TAC will meet on Thursday, September 3, and the Executive Committee will meet on Tuesday, September 8. She emphasized that all of these are public meetings and welcomed all board members to attend any or all meetings.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

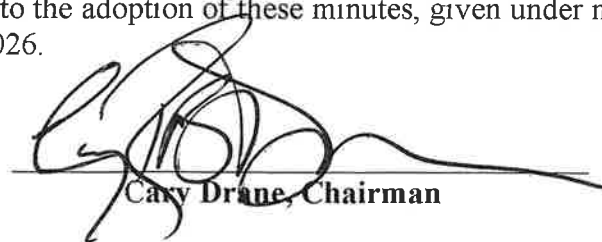
ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Drane opened the floor for a motion to adjourn the CVWMA Board of Directors meeting at 10:17 a.m. The motion was made by the Past Chair, Mr. R. Dunn (M-Chesterfield), and seconded by Secretary, Mr. R. Hardman (M-Hanover), and carried that the August 21, 2026, Board of Directors' meeting be adjourned.



CERTIFICATE

I, Cary Drane, Chairman of CVWMA, certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and accurate copy of the minutes of the August 21, 2026, regular meeting of the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA) Board of Directors. These minutes were adopted at a CVWMA Board meeting held on September 18, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. I, the undersigned, hereby attest to the adoption of these minutes, given under my hand and seal of the CVWMA on this 18th day of September 2026.



Cary Drane, Chairman