

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 10, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority was held on February 10, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the First Floor Conference Room at the MCMUA Offices located at 370 Richard Mine Road, Wharton, New Jersey in person as well as remotely using conference call software.

Immediately following the conclusion of the Reorganization meeting, Chairman Dour called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Since the meeting notice below was read out loud during the preceding Reorganization Meeting seven minutes earlier, it was not read out loud at the beginning of this Regular Meeting

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of the location, date and time of this meeting was made by posting on the MCMUA website, the Morris County Clerk's bulletin board and the officially designated newspapers for the MCMUA. The meeting may be attended in person or through remote communication in conformance with the directives of the State of New Jersey. Additional notice regarding remote public access is provided at the MCMUA entrance, on its website and in the Daily Record.

Chairman Dour requested a roll call.

PRESENT: Mr. Christopher Dour, Mr. Frank Druetzler, Ms. Maria Farris, Dr. Dorothea Kominos, Dr. Arthur Nusbaum, Mr. Larry Ragonese and Mr. Ronald Smith

ABSENT: Mr. James Barry, and Ms. Laura Szwak

Also present were Larry Gindoff, Executive Director; Michael McAloon, Suburban Consulting Engineers; Larry Kaletcher, Treasurer, Brad Carney, Esq., Maraziti Falcon LLP; Sara Uzatmaciyan, Esq., Maraziti Falcon LLP; James Deacon, Solid Waste Coordinator, Anthony Marrone, District Recycling Coordinator and Michael Kobylarz, Alaimo Engineering Group

Chairman Dour asked for the Board's approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 13, 2026.

MOTION: Mr. Druetzler made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2026 and Ms. Farris seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 5 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: 2

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Kaletcher presented the Treasurer's Report for the Solid Waste Operating and Water Operating for the month of January 2026. Also included are the Solid Waste and Water Comparative Balance Reports through the month of January 2026 and an Investment Report showing no new investments for the month.

Chairman Dour asked the Board for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

MOTION: Dr. Kominos made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Ms. Farris seconded the motion.

Mr. Dour inquired about the investment report and the number of investments we have that we need to track and roll-over when they come due. Mr. Kaletcher explained it is around 12 to 15.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

Mr. Kaletcher stated he has the Bill Resolution 2026-029 slated for approval after members review the schedule of warrants.

BILL RESOLUTION NO. 2026-029

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the bills as shown on the SCHEDULE OF WARRANTS all having been approved by the Board of officials where legally required, be and the same are hereby paid. The SCHEDULE OF WARRANTS designated as Bill Resolution No. 2026-029 containing 3 pages for a total of **\$4,294,207.43** dated and made a part hereof by reference.

SUMMARY

CHECK NUMBERS

WATER OPERATING FUNDS	7198-7224	\$ 377,003.91
SOLID WASTE OPERATING	16658-16751	<u>\$ 3,917,203.52</u>
		\$ 4,294,207.43

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that all vouchers listed above have been reviewed and found to be in proper form for payment, and I have compared the SCHEDULE OF WARRANTS to the vouchers for payment and have determined it to be correct.

DATE: February 10, 2026

BOARD CHAIRMAN APPROVAL

Christopher Dour, Chairman

SIGNED: _____
Larry Gindoff, Executive Director

TREASURER'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that there are sufficient funds in the appropriations charged, or accounts listed to cover the expenditures included in the SCHEDULE OF WARRANTS dated: February 10, 2026.

DATE: February 10, 2026

Larry Kaletcher, Treasurer

MOTION: Mr. Smith made a motion that the vouchers be approved for payment and Mr. Ragonese seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

PURCHASING (Consent Agenda #2026-030 – #2026-032)

Chairman Dour asked for a Board member to make a motion to approve purchasing resolutions #2026-030 through #2026-032 as a consent agenda.

Mr. Druetzler asked Mr. McAloon to provide a more detailed description of the Alamatong Well #4 and #5 improvement project for him and the Board. Mr. McAloon showed on the TV screen drawings from the project and explained that we're upgrading the electrical equipment, the motor control centers, new VFDs. At Well #5 we are placing what used to be our temporary generator off its trailer and onto a permanent concrete pad. Since we now have new generators at all facilities this generator no longer needs to serve as a portable unit. We're doing new perimeter fencing, interior lighting upgrades, HVAC. Also included in the scope of this project at Flanders Valley number two, we had the well pump that burned up recently, so we are installing a new motor on that well pump. Mr. Druetzler asked about the age of the Alamatong equipment we are replacing and Mr. McAloon responded about 16 years old. Mr. McAloon then provided a visual tour on maps of the locations of all the wells and the infrastructure we were discussing. The Morris Greenway trail that traverses the Alamatong Wellfield was discussed including the locked access gate at Righter Road that can provide alternate access if needed and the fact that the Park Commission maintains that trailed based on a trail agreement it has with the MCMUA and that the trail is well used but our wellhouses in the Alamatong are all protected by perimeter fencing. Mr. McAloon showed the location of the Flanders Valley well two explaining that is where we're replacing the motor and where our new central PFAS treatment facility will be. Mr. Druetzler asked about the pipes coming from Flanders Valley if we will need to replace them like we are on Pleasant Hill Rd and Mr. McAloon replied these pipes are fine as they are all ductile iron and showed the path of how this ductile iron section will be linked to Phase 1 of the Pleasant Hill pipe replacement project.

Mr. Druetzler expressed his appreciation for the explanation and was satisfied and made a motion to approve the 3 resolutions in the consent agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Druetzler made a motion to approve the purchasing Resolutions 2026-030 through 2026-032 as a consent agenda and Mr. Ragonese seconded the motion. There were no questions about or requests to consider any of the resolutions on their own.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

Resolution No. 2026-030
Resolution Awarding Contract No. 2025-W04 To Sovereign Consulting, Inc. For “Alamatong Well #4 And Well #5 Electrical And Water System Improvements”

WHEREAS, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (the “Authority”) advertised for the receipt of public bids for Contract No. 2025-W04 “Alamatong Well #4 and Well #5 Electrical and Water System Improvements” and received two (2) bids on January 30, 2026 from the companies listed below at the bid price shown:

	Base Bid
Sovereign Consulting, Inc. Robbinsville, New Jersey	\$1,225,000.00
DeMaio Electrical Company, Inc. Hillsborough, New Jersey	\$1,452,384.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority as follows:

1. The Authority waives any immaterial defects of the bid from Sovereign Consulting, Inc. and awards Contract No. 2025-W04 “Alamatong Well #4 and Well #5 Electrical and Water System Improvements” to Sovereign Consulting Inc., having a business address of 111 North Gold Drive, Robbinsville, NJ 08691, as the lowest responsible bidder, in the base bid amount, not to exceed the bid price of \$1,225,000.00.
2. The Executive Director is authorized to execute Contract No. 2025-W04 “Alamatong Well #4 and Well #5 Electrical and Water System Improvements” to Sovereign Consulting Inc., having a business address of 111 North Gold Drive,

Robbinsville, NJ 08691, as the lowest responsible bidder, in the base bid amount, not to exceed the bid price of \$1,225,000.00.

3. The Notice to Proceed with the contract awarded herein to Sovereign Consulting Inc., shall not be issued until after full execution of the Contract, approval by MCMUA of the Contractor's performance bond, the submission of all required documents, including insurance certificates required by the Contract, said insurance shall be in a form acceptable to the Risk Manager of Morris County.
4. The Executive Director, staff and consultants are authorized to take all other actions necessary or desirable to effectuate the terms and conditions of this Resolution.
5. All bid security, except the security for the three apparent lowest bids, Sundays and holidays excepted, shall be returned and the bids of such bidders shall be considered withdrawn. After the award and full execution of the contract and the approval of the contractor's performance bond, the bid security of the remaining unsuccessful bidders shall be returned to them within three days thereafter, Sundays and holidays excepted.
6. The Treasurer certifies that Funds are available for this Contract from Budget Line Item 02-6-300-800-015 and a copy of this Resolution shall be submitted to the Authority's Treasurer and kept on file in the offices of the Authority.
7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on February 10, 2026.

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL
UTILITIES AUTHORITY

By: _____
Chris Dour, Chair

ATTEST:

Larry Gindoff, Executive Director

Resolution No. 2026-031

Resolution of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority Authorizing the Purchase of One (1) 40 Cubic Yard Container, Three (3) 30 Cubic Yard Containers & Three (3) ROC Covers Through the Sourcewell Cooperative Pricing system 010825-WQI Purchasing Contract for 2026 (Shared Service Agreements)

WHEREAS, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (MCMUA) is authorized by N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2 to make purchases and contracts for services through the use of a nationally-recognized and accepted cooperative purchasing agreement that has been developed utilizing a competitive bidding process by another contracting unit within the State of New Jersey, or within any other state, and further provided that the contracting unit has made a determination that the use of a cooperative purchasing agreement will result in cost savings after all factors have been considered; and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) for the MCMUA has determined that the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program (Sourcewell) is a nationally-recognized and accepted cooperative purchasing system and agreement that has been developed utilizing a competitive bidding process by another contracting unit, as it is a service cooperative created by the Minnesota legislature as a local unit of government. Minn. Const. art. XII, sec. 3. As a public corporation and agency, Sourcewell is governed by local elected municipal officials and school board members. Minn. Stat. § 123A.21 Subd. 4 (2017); and

WHEREAS, the MCMUA QPA has further determined that Sourcewell utilizes a cooperative purchasing system and agreement that complies with the competitive bidding process set forth in the Local Public Contracts Law at N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., and meets the criteria of the New Jersey pay-to-play law at N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and

WHEREAS, Sourcewell has advertised and awarded cooperative purchasing agreements for a variety of goods and equipment, including Containers; and

WHEREAS, on January 16, 2026, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority publicly advertised a Notice of Intent to Award a Contract for the purchase of One (1) 40 Cubic Yard

Container, Three (3) 30 Cubic Yard Containers & Three (3) ROC Covers through the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program under a National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement. The associated public comment period ended on February 9, 2026 and no comments were received; and

WHEREAS, through the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program, the purchase of One (1) 40 Cubic Yard Container, Three (3) 30 Cubic Yard Containers & Three (3) ROC Covers is available for purchase through Wastequip in the total amount of \$42,224.00; and

WHEREAS, a cost savings analysis was done by the MCMUA QPA and it was determined that the MCMUA would save \$3,588.35 by obtaining the One (1) 40 Cubic Yard Container, Three (3) 30 Cubic Yard Containers & Three (3) ROC Covers from the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program; and

WHEREAS, all required documentation, including, New Jersey Business Registration Certificate; Statement of Corporate Ownership; Public Contract EEO Compliance Form (Affirmative Action) and Non-collusion Affidavit has been obtained from the vendor in accordance with New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law; and

WHEREAS, in lieu of a separate certification of funds, the maximum dollar value of this contract is \$42,224.00 as per N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4(a) 3; and

WHEREAS, the funding for this purchase shall come from account #01-1-900-000-128.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that it does hereby authorize the award of contract through the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program for the purchase of One (1) 40 Cubic Yard Container, Three (3) 30 Cubic Yard Containers & Three (3) ROC Covers in the amount of \$42,224.00.

This Resolution shall take effect as provided by law.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on February 10, 2026.

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL
UTILITIES AUTHORITY

By: _____
Chris Dour, Chair

ATTEST:

Larry Gindoff, Executive Director

the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and to take all other actions necessary or desirable to effectuate the terms and conditions of this Resolution.

3. The Executive Director is authorized to release the bid security submitted on behalf of PTR Baler and Compactor Company.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately and a copy of this Resolution shall be kept on file at the offices of the Authority.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on February 10, 2026.

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL
UTILITIES AUTHORITY

By: _____
Chris Dour, Chair

ATTEST:

Larry Gindoff, Executive Director

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Gindoff reported that he had no updates nor additional correspondence to present.

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:

WATER

1. Letter dated January 8, 2026, from Michael McAloon, P.E. to Larry Gindoff forwarding a bid review and recommendation regarding Alamatong Well #4 and Well #5 Electrical and Water System Improvements and recommending awarding the project to the low bidder, Sovereign Consulting, Inc.

ADMINISTRATION

1. County Commissioner Resolution No. 2026-90 adopted January 21, 2026, appointing Ron Smith and Laura Szwak for 5 year terms to the MCMUA.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. McAloon provided the following updates:

1. **Reappointment** - Mr. McAloon expressed his appreciation to the Board for its reappointment of Suburban Consulting Engineers during the Reorganization meeting. He stated this is our 11th year together and he is excited to continue moving forward with the positive momentum we have developed.
2. **Water Sales for January 2026** - Sales totaled 137 million gallons for the month which is above quantities sold in 2024 or 2025. Southeast had a significant break during the month resulting in their usage being about 43% higher than the previous month.
3. **Current and Future Projects** –
 - i. **Flanders Valley Wells 1 and 2 PFAS treatment** – Mr. McAloon explained we've submitted our bureau of safety drinking water permits and the goal is to have the final plans ready to bid once we get all the permits in hand, anticipating 3rd quarter of 2026. He reminded everyone that's for new iron exchange vessels which he went on to describe how the process will work to remove the PFAS from the MCMUA's drinking water to non-detectable limits. Located at Flanders Valley Well 2, near the perimeter of the golf course, a total of four vessels under one roof, with two trains will be constructed so the flow will split hydraulically and then half the flow will be treated through each of those vessels, so water goes through the lead vessel, then through the lag vessel and then into the distribution system. Dr. Kominos asked about the frequency of changing out the resins in the vessels. Mr. McAloon replied it all depends on breakthrough, but we're anticipating conservatively once a year. There are two schools of thought because you have a lead vessel and then a lag vessel and once breakthrough happens to the lead vessel, some think that is the point where you change the resins. It's a big discussion topic in the industry because you have essentially two passes, so it goes through the 1st vessel, then 2nd vessel so we're projecting about a year to 18 months before we start to see breakthrough through on the 1st vessel. Dr. Kominos stated from her experience, changing out the resins is very expensive, and Mr. McAloon stated it will be a substantial increase in the operating costs for the MCMUA's water division. Mr. Dour asked about how we discard the spent resins and Mr. McAloon replied we're recommending we go to bid for a contractor to come in and dispose the old media and bring new media. Mr. McAloon went on describing the reasoning of why the MCMUA system was better suited for going with ion exchange as opposed to granulated active carbon treatment as was originally contemplated. Mr. Carney commented that the EPA's 4 part per trillion rule becomes enforceable April 2029, so it sounds like the MCMUA is years ahead of that deadline. Mr. McAloon stated we needed to get ahead of this before the demand for materials to construct these systems becomes difficult to obtain. With the project going out to bid in Q3 of 2026 we would think at the earliest, the system could be operational in one year or by Q3 of 2027.
 - ii. **Pleasant Hill Road 24-Inch PCCP Retirement – Phase Two** - Phase two for the PCCP pipeline replacement is picking up from the Greenway past Park Avenue with the contractor being Underground Utilities Corp.

- iii. **Power Wash Water Storage Tanks**, as we painted the tanks that a couple years ago Mount Arlington water storage tank a few years before that with Markewicz, so over time they get an algae on the outside and it's good every two to three years to power wash to get the algae off which will extend the life of the coating.
- iv. **Howard Blvd. Watermain Extension** - Mr. McAloon explained and showed on a map the Craker Barrel Watermain extension project off Howard Blvd.
- 4. **Freezing Pipes** – Mr. Dour asked about if the Water Department has had any issues with freezing pipes. Mr. Gindoff stated he checked with Mr. Milonas earlier and he reported no issues in the Water Department but stated the transfer stations and the curbside armory have had freezing pipe issues during this cold spell which we are still dealing with.
- 5. **Development and Capacity to Provide Water** - Mr. Dour asked about the new developments and if the MCMUA has capacity to provide water for all these new users. Mr. McAloon responded that there are a few systems like Jefferson, where they exceed their contractual amounts but some of the other systems are still well under their contractual limits so it all really depends on each of the respective municipalities for which we have contracts. While the MCMUA met with and discussed development needs with contracting towns several years ago, it's up to them to manage their own water supplies.
- 6. **Water Exploration Report** — We had a good work session with H2M on their water exploration engineer report, so we're hoping to get a water committee meeting together soon to discuss their findings and develop a plan on where to go for there.
- 7. **MCC at Mt. Olive Transfer Station** — The contractor (DeeEn) completed the installation of one section of the MCC, the undamaged section, about 52 % of the load is now on the new piece of equipment,

PROJECT STATUS

1. General System:

- A. Through the month of Jan 2026, MCMUA sold approximately **137.547 MG**. This amount is approximately 13.884 MG more than the amount sold in the same time period in 2025 and approximately 25.053 MG more than the amount sold in the same time period in 2024. It should be noted that the total amount sold during the month of Jan to **SMCMUA** has **increased** nearly **43%** in comparison to the previous month, from around 1.301 MG to 2.266 MG, it is believed to be associated with a watermain break they experienced on Hanover Avenue.
- B. In 2026, SCE is going to be working to advance/complete the following projects:
 - A. **Flanders Valley #1 and #2 PFAS Treatment** – BWSE Permits have been submitted, once the permit is approved, SCE will work to have the final plans publicly bid. This project includes the installation of new Ion Exchange Vessels for the PFAS Treatment for Flanders Valley Well #1 and #2.
 - B. **Pleasant Hill Road 24-Inch PCCP Retirement – Phase II** - Construction Administration & Observation for the next section of the 24-inch PCCP retirement project. The limits are from the connection point under Phase I, to past Park Avenue.

- C. **Replace Mt. Arlington Booster Pumps** – The Mt. Arlington Booster Pumps #1 and #2 are nearing the end of their useful life and require full replacement. The utilization of the newly installed swing pump, will allow this work to be completed without impacts to the delivery of water.
- D. **Power Wash of Water Storage Tanks** – The exterior power wash of the water storage tanks is a critical maintenance operation to preserve the exterior coating life. It also removes any dirt and algae growth on the exterior.
- E. **Howard Blvd. Watermain Extension** – Construction Administration & Observation for the watermain extension along Howard Blvd. to connect the “Cracker Barrel” complex to the new master meter.
- F. **New Electrical Service for Howard Blvd. Chambers** – Coordinate new electrical services for the below grade chambers necessary for dewatering and SCADA equipment

2. Flanders Valley #1 and #2 Generator Replacements

No progress to report for this meeting.

Project Completion Summary Through January 13, 2026

Contract Start Date		May 13, 2024
Original Contract Completion Time		365 Calendar Days
Days Elapsed:	366	100%
Days Remaining:	0	0%
Original Contract Completion Date		May 13, 2025

Project Financial Summary Through January 13, 2026

Original Contract Amount	\$520,798.00
Payment Application #1	\$19,230.54
Payment Application #2	\$34,300.00
Payment Application #3	\$42,605.50
Payment Application #4	\$7,840.00
Payment Application #5	\$369,082.84
Payment Application #6	\$14,084.53
Total Value of Work Complete	\$497,085.11
Percent of Work Complete	95%
Total Retainage to Date	\$9,941.70

3. Pleasant Hill Road 24-Inch PCCP Retirement – Phase I

Underground Utilities Corp. has completed the final cut and caps as part of the Phase I.

The Contractor has submitted Payment Application #3, in the amount of **\$160,298.60**, SCE has reviewed this payment application and finds this reflective of work completed.

Project Completion Summary Through February 10, 2026

Contract Start Date		June 23, 2025
Original Contract Completion Time		120 Calendar Days
Days Elapsed:	120	100%
Days Remaining:	0	0%
Original Contract Completion Date		October 21, 2025

Project Financial Summary Through February 10, 2026

Original Contract Amount	\$1,282,980.00
Payment Application #1	\$965,510.11
Payment Application #2	\$156,027.76
Payment Application #3	\$160,298.60
Total Value of Work Complete	\$1,281,836.47
Percent of Work Complete	99.9%
Total Retainage to Date	\$26,159.93

4. Pleasant Hill Road 24-Inch PCCP Retirement – Phase II

The Contracts have been signed by ***Underground Utilities Corp.*** and will be signed by the MUA. We will work to setup a pre-construction meeting with the Contractor and representatives from Randolph to facilitate the project commencement.

5. Water Exploration Engineer

A work session was held on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, and included the following individuals: Larry Gindoff and Tony Milonas from the MUA, Karen Benson, Patrick Cole, Rachel Kim and Julia Gonzales from H2M, and Mike McAloon from SCE. During the work session, H2M presented its preliminary findings, which generally included critical information about existing wells which are currently not performing near its permitted capacity, are not being utilized (no water pumped from the source), and wells which have a higher tested pumping capacity compared to currently allocation permits. This information is useful to identify potential under utilized resources, or potential for development of future resources.

Additionally, the discussions also included an evaluation of neighboring water systems which may have additional capacity.

Project Financial Summary Through February 10, 2026

Original Contract Amount	\$86,000.00
Payment Application #1	\$5,222.40
Payment Application #2	\$13,002.00
Total Value of Work Complete	\$18,224.40
Percent of Work Complete	21%

6. Mt. Olive Transfer Station Motor Control Center Improvements

Following last month's board meeting, the contractor proposed an alternative design to utilize the equipment that was not damaged to facilitate the project completion. After review and consideration, this alternative design was rejected, and the Contractor was directed to obtain a direct replacement of the damaged equipment. The Contractor completed the installation of the equipment which was not damaged, which results in the transfer for approximately 52% of the active loads from the old equipment to new equipment. The Contractor is awaiting a realistic timeline for the replacement equipment, the Contractor will complete the remaining project work.

Project Completion Summary Through February 10, 2026

Contract Start Date		May 13, 2024
Original Contract Completion Time		240 Calendar Days
Amended Completion Time		174 Calendar Day Extension
Days Elapsed:	450	100%
Days Remaining:		0%
Original Contract Completion Date		January 8, 2025
Amended Completion Date		July 1, 2025

Project Financial Summary Through February 10, 2026

Original Contract Amount	\$159,900.00
Payment Application #1	\$7,199.08
Payment Application #2	\$1,715.00
Payment Application #3	\$17,434.20
Payment Application #4	\$57,677.90
Total Value of Work Complete	\$85,741.00
Percent of Work Complete	53.6%
Total Retainage to Date	\$1,714.82

7. Howard Blvd. Watermain Extension (Cracker Barrel Connection)

SCE has prepared and distributed the Contractors for signature by **John Garcia Construction Corp. Inc.** Once the contracts are signed and returned, a pre-construction meeting will be coordinated and scheduled.

8. Alamatong Well #4 and #5 Electrical Improvement Project

On Friday, January 30, the bids were received for the above referenced project were opened. Two (2) bids were submitted with the total bid amounts ranging from \$1,225,000.00 to \$1,452,384.00 as shown on the summary below. The engineers cost estimate for the project was \$1,289,200.00. Review of the bids indicated **Sovereign Consulting, Inc.**, whose offices are located in Robbinsville, NJ is the apparent low responsive bidder. The Contractor provided

necessary qualifications and previous work experiences, and SCE performed a review of provided references. Therefore, it is recommended awarding the project to ***Sovereign Consulting, Inc.***, A resolution will be presented to the Board for consideration authorizing execution of this contract.

BIDDER	TOTAL BID AMOUNT
Sovereign Consulting, Inc.	\$1,225,000.00
DeMaio Electrical Company, Inc.	\$1,452,384.00

SOLID, HAZARDOUS AND VEGETATIVE WASTE REPORT:

Mr. Deacon provided the following updates:

1. **SWAC Meeting and Plan Amendment** - A Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) meeting occurred on January 21 where they adopted a resolution recommending a Plan Amendment for upgrading Dan Como & Sons in Montville (formerly an exempted leaf transfer facility) to a multi-class B/C recycling facility. Mr. Deacon stated he has a similar resolution prepared for the Board's consideration providing the MCMUA's recommendation regarding the adoption of this Plan Amendment to the County Commissioners. Mr. Ragonese made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-033 recommending adoption of the Plan Amendment and it was seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously approved by all who were present.
2. **Mr. Christopher Burns** – The MCMUA's new safety and compliance employee is now assisting with this year's right to know surveys which has been done in the past by Mr. Deacon. Mr. Burns also hit the ground running with hosting different training events for all our solid waste facilities, curbside and he anticipates working with water in the near future.
3. **Challenges With the Cold** – Mr. Deacon reiterated how cold the month was and how we were blessed to have a team we have who continue to power through the issues with the cold, our machinery and freezing sprinkler systems. Mr. Deacon reported that we're hoping to have both sprinkler systems corrected by the end of this week. When asked about performing fire watch, Mr. Deacon stated we met with our fire marshals office and as long as we clear the floor and let the machinery cool down for an hour, they are allowing us not to do fire watch. Up to that point we have been performing fire watch over night,
4. **Roof Project at Parsippany Transfer Station** - Work with Arco continues toward completion, with a punch list walkthrough scheduled for late February 19. The completion of the project was delayed due to the snow on the roof.

Mr. Kobylarz provided the following solid waste engineering updates:

1. **Reappointment** - Mr. Kobylarz also expressed his appreciation to the Board for its reappointment of Alaimo Engineering and looks forward to working with everyone in the upcoming year.
2. **Water Main Extension at Mt. Olive Transfer Station** – Mr. Kobylarz reported he received confirmation from the lead power of legal at New Jersey America's water that a public hearing has been scheduled to take place on February 20. Subsequent to the hearing the New Jersey Division of Rate Council must file a letter with the BPU stating their position on the filing, and once the BPU receives the Rate Council's comments they will place the matter on an agenda for approval and they are anticipating that this matter will be on the March or April agenda for BPU approval. In the meantime, Mr. Kobylarz stated he will be reaching out to New Jersey American and see when they can get people to schedule their contractor to do the main extension. Hopefully I'll have a report on that for next meeting.

- 3. North Tipping Floor Project** - We had the preconstruction meeting January 28 where the project scope was reviewed with the contractor and MCMUA staff. We're still awaiting the performance bond, some product submittals, construction schedule and schedule values from the contractor to be submitted for our review and approval, and once all those documents have been received, approved, we will issue the notice to proceed. Mr. Carney requested seeing that performance bond when received for review and Mr. Kobylarz agreed to send it to Mr. Carney.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Troller Electric, LLC of Ocean Township, New Jersey completed repair of wiring issues controlling the lighting at the MCMUA Main Office. Work was completed on all three (3) floors and included the replacement of 116 six-inch high-hat lights and 20 four-inch high-hat lights, for a total of 136 fixtures. The project also required the installation of approximately 1,200 feet of new, correctly configured wiring.

Mr. Christopher Burns, MCMUA's new Solid Waste Health, Safety, and Regulatory Compliance Manager, has been actively training and working with staff throughout the month of January. Mr. Burns has coordinated with vendors to ensure required monthly and quarterly compliance activities at both transfer stations, including pond sampling, vector control, fire inspections, safety equipment inspections, spill kits, eyewash and safety showers, and fire extinguishers. On January 21, Mr. Burns spent the day with Garden State Environmental Health and Safety Consulting (GSE) reviewing and interviewing employees for new MCMUA and County positions, including Laborers (Tipping Floor Inspectors), Heavy Equipment Operators, Tractor Trailer Drivers (Jockey CDL Class A), and Diesel Mechanics at both transfer stations. GSE, retained by County Risk Management, is responsible for developing Job Hazard Analyses (JHAs) for these positions and will continue working with Mr. Burns on this project. These JHAs are a systematic process used to identify potential hazards associated with specific job tasks and to determine the safest methods for performing that work. These analyses will demonstrate that the Authority is proactively identifying potential risks and implementing controls to protect employees and ensure regulatory compliance at the facilities currently operated by MCMUA. And last, on January 30, Mr. Burns also completed training related to the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) Right to Know (RTK) surveys for all MCMUA facilities and site locations. Although the statutory submission deadline is July 15, 2026, MCMUA intends to complete and submit all 2025 surveys to NJDOH by the end of February.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Dan Como & Sons, Inc. (Como)- also known as "The Mulch Depot", located at #3 Como Court (Block 41; Lot 1) in the Towaco section of Montville Township. Back in the Fall of 2022, Como requested a Plan Inclusion from an exempt leaf transfer facility to a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) approved Multi-Class (B&C) Recycling facility. A Morris County Solid Waste Advisory Council (SWAC) meeting was held on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 3:00PM in the conference room of the MCMUA Main Office. Public notice of the meeting was published in the Daily Record. As a result of the January 21 SWAC meeting, the Solid Waste Plan Amendment dated January 2026 was approved through

SWAC Resolution #01-2026. A similar resolution will now be presented to the MCMUA Board for consideration at its February 10, 2026, meeting recommending approval of the Plan Amendment to the Morris County Board of County Commissioners . If approved by the MCMUA Board, the County Commissioners are tentatively considering Wednesday, March 11 at 7:00PM as the date/time for the public hearing.

TRANSFER STATIONS

Tonnage Summary- A total of 33,609 tons of solid waste was accepted at the two (2) MCMUA transfer stations during January 2026, representing a 3.89% decrease compared to the 34,969 tons accepted in January 2025. The reduced tonnage is largely attributable to the frigid weather conditions experienced throughout January 2026, which were similar to those encountered in January of 2025. Both transfer stations were impacted by the January 25–26 snowstorm, as well as by frequent “frozen loads” that required container scrap-outs and further affected throughput. Please refer to the attached Transfer Station Disposal Report by Month and the comparison statistics provided below for additional details.

January Monthly Transfer Station Comparison Statistics (2025 to 2026):

Mount Olive Transfer Station:

Inbound Tonnage- About 12,663- 1,227 less tons than 2025
Total Customers- 3,213- 290 less than 2025
Self-Generated/ Residential Customers- 657- 76 more than 2025

Parsippany-Troy Hills Transfer Station:

Inbound Tonnage- About 20,947- 132 less tons than 2025
Total Customers- 4,715- 100 less than 2025
Self-Generated/ Residential Customers- 348- 41 more than 2025

With operational responsibilities commencing on December 16, 2025, the MCMUA has officially assumed operations at its two (2) transfer stations located in Parsippany-Troy Hills and Mount Olive Townships. As part of this transition, several ongoing and necessary site improvements are well underway. The MCMUA has received two (2) 660-gallon Blue-1 DEF (urea) solution tanks (cubes), which are pending installation of external nozzle dispensers. Additionally, two (2) new Miller Bobcat 230 Kohler welders/generators have been delivered and are awaiting the installation of 100-foot leads and quick-connects for welding rods. Once outfitted, these units will be staged on the diesel mechanic’s utility shop trucks for on-site use. Both MCMUA Transfer Station Managers, Brett Snyder and Justin Doyle, remain in constant communication to support day-to-day operational needs and to ensure efficient and successful station operations. The team also continues to coordinate closely with J.P. Mascaro and Sons regarding transportation and disposal services under the new contract, with station personnel remaining responsive and accommodating throughout the transition. While extreme cold weather conditions continue to present operational challenges at both facilities, the MCMUA operations team remains committed to overcoming these obstacles and steadily improving overall performance on a daily basis.

Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services- 2025-2026 planned projects and improvements involving the Alaimo Group (Alaimo), H2M, and Suburban Consulting Engineers (SCE) at the two (2) MCMUA transfer stations. Updates will be provided to the Board at the February 10 meeting:

Parsippany-Troy Hills Transfer Station

- Parsippany Property Boundary Survey and Fencing- Project Update- SCE completed a partial boundary and topographic survey of Lots 17, 18, and 19, Block 770, which border the current AJACO property in Parsippany. The MCMUA received the signed and sealed survey on December 19 and subsequently requested pricing from multiple fencing contractors. Pursuant to Resolution #2026-006, approved at the January 13 Board meeting, the contract was awarded through the New Jersey State Cooperative Purchasing Program to Fox Fence of Clifton, New Jersey. The scope of work includes installation of chain-link fencing and two (2) separate gates around the MCMUA's property. AJACO has been requested to relocate equipment and vehicles from the affected area to allow construction activities to begin.
- The North Tipping Floor/Small Floor project at the Parsippany-Troy Hills transfer station involves the complete replacement of the deteriorated floor using Euclid Chemical's EucoFloor 404 system. The scope of work also includes enhancements to and replacement of the existing trench drain system, which currently utilizes the same plasma-cut steel grate system installed at the Mount Olive facility. Additional work includes replacement of the emergency valves that control the underground holding tank, as well as installation of new safety bollards and concrete attenuators to help mitigate future damage to the building. On January 28, Alaimo Group conducted a preconstruction meeting onsite at the Parsippany transfer station with representatives from the MCMUA and Persistent Construction, Inc. of Fairview, New Jersey. During the meeting, Alaimo reviewed the project plans, scope of work, and outstanding submittals required prior to construction. Due to temperature limitations associated with the Euclid materials, Alaimo will delay issuance of the official Notice to Proceed to Persistent Construction until suitable conditions are met.
- The Parsippany-Troy Hills transfer station Roof and Partial Fascia Replacement project includes replacement of the 32,300 square foot standing seam metal roof, approximately 10,000 square feet of metal siding, 560 linear feet of metal gutters, and full replacement of the EPDM membrane roof over the transfer station offices. The project is being performed by Arco Construction, Inc. of West Caldwell. Arco has reached the final stages of the main roof replacement, including installation of gutters, fascia, soffit, and roofing. Board approval of Change Order No. 1 in January authorized Arco to remove and replace deteriorated metal C-channel bracing over the office section, which was found to be beyond repair. The change order also included installation of a self-adhering underlayment over the existing metal panels. Due to the presence of C-channels rather than the originally anticipated Z-girts, the underlayment now extends the full height of the panels, improving waterproofing and helping to prevent future leaks. Arco was also authorized by the MCMUA to utilize the full contract allowance to remove and cut back trees located along the northwest (rear) side of the main transfer station building. While the project has experienced several weather-related delays, it remains on track for a punch-list walkthrough scheduled for Friday, February 6, to be conducted by H2M and

MCMUA staff. If the work is deemed acceptable, project closeout will be presented to the Board at the March 10 meeting.

Mount Olive Transfer Station

- Pit Scale Replacement Project (Bid #2025-SW05)- This project involves the removal of the existing pit scale and the installation of two sets of axle and gross-weighting truck scales, including all necessary labor, materials, and equipment. Each scale system will consist of three (3) separate 15-foot platforms designed to accommodate the truck's steering axle, drive axle, and trailer axle, with approximately 20 feet of dead space maintained between the drive and trailer axles in accordance with the existing foundation. During the January 13, 2026, MCMUA Board meeting, the Board adopted a resolution to rescind the previous rejection of Atlantic Scale's (Mettler Toledo Brand) bid. Following this action, the contract was awarded to Atlantic Scale, and a Notice to Proceed has been issued. Staff have received all required documentation from the contractor and will coordinate the work schedule to ensure that daily operations at the transfer station are not disrupted.
- Motor Control Center (MCC) Replacement Project (Bid #2024-SW01)- This project is being performed by electrical contractor DEE-EN of Linden, New Jersey. In coordination with SCE and Mount Olive transfer station staff, on January 27 through the 29, DEE-EN energized Section 1 of the new MCC and transferred nine (9) circuits, leaving seven (7) circuits remaining. All associated piping and wiring are now complete. The remote start/stop push buttons are not yet operational, as Section 2 of the MCC is required to complete this control functionality. The project is currently awaiting an updated delivery schedule from Graybar for Section 2 of the MCC. DEE-EN will not return to the site until the remaining section is delivered. Ongoing coordination with SCE will continue, and progress updates will be provided as they become available.
- Mount Olive Transfer Station Public Water Service Project- This project involves the installation of 800 feet of DICL domestic service and an 8-inch fire service along Gold Mine Road, in front of the Mount Olive transfer station property. Alaimo Group will provide an update to the Board at the February 10 meeting.
 - **Summary of Future Related Events:**
 1. Approval from BPU for NJAWCo regarding the proposed franchise area.
 2. NJAWCo engages a contractor for the water main extension on Gold Mine Road.
 3. The contractor proceeds with the installation of the water-main extension.
 4. Following completion of approved plans and documents from Alaimo Group, a Notice to Bidder will be published for:
 - Installation of a meter chamber/hot box
 - Domestic and fire service line connections
 - Installation of a new fire pump to ensure adequate pressure for the sprinkler system
 - Installation of one (1) facility fire hydrant within the HHW facility
 - **Once the Water Connection Project is Finalized:**
 5. A new full-site emergency generator (EG) will be installed, sized to power the new fire pump (budgeted for 2027).
 6. The building's sprinkler system will be upgraded or completely replaced (budgeted for 2028).

7. The existing Public Non-Community Water System (commercial use) or well will be decommissioned, and the 55,000-gallon above-ground holding tank currently used for fire suppression will be removed.

VEGETATIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT

The MCMUA vegetative waste sites have been covered in snow and ice for a prolonged duration, which has hindered incoming customer traffic. During this period, the staff has been engaged in catching up on equipment repairs that were deferred from the previous year. Administrative training programs are ongoing with MCMUA's Jaime Ayala and his management team, and a new order for bulk ticket books from print services is presently being processed for both locations. Looking forward, Program Manager Stephen Adams intends to meet with HVI Services and Kirk Allen Trucking to discuss commercial sales and delivery logistics, respectively, in preparation for the spring season of 2026. Additionally, collaboration continues with Suburban Consulting Engineers (SCE) on the NJDEP Wood Waste Recycling and Leaf Composting (WRC) General New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) stormwater permits and the related Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SPPPs). The staff are also working with the Morris County Fire Marshal's Office to revise the Mount Olive Fire Control Plan.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) MANAGEMENT

On Thursday, January 29, MCMUA Hazardous and Vegetative Waste Manager Stephen Adams and Recycling Coordinator Anthony Marrone attended the annual holiday luncheon meeting of the Association of Household Hazardous Waste Coordinators (ANJHHWC) in Ewing, New Jersey. Having completed his third year as President of the organization, Stephen Adams will remain involved to assist with the dissolution of ANJHHWC as a standalone 501(c)(3) nonprofit and its transition into a subcommittee of the Association of New Jersey Recyclers (ANJR). This transition is being driven by a lack of availability and interest among current members to volunteer for positions on the Board of Directors.

Program Participation- During the month of January 2026, the permanent HHWF had a total of 223 serviced appointments, which included 206 Morris County residents, 1 VSQG/small business, and 16 out-of-County residents. As comparison for the Board, in January of 2025, the permanent HHWF had a total of 190 serviced appointments, which included 163 Morris County residents, 23 out-of-County residents, and 4 VSQG/small business.

2026 MCMUA HHW One-Day Drop-Off Events:

- **Saturday, April 25, 2026**, at the Jefferson Township DPW Yard- 1033 Weldon Road, Lake Hopatcong section of Jefferson Township, New Jersey 07849
- **Saturday, June 20, 2026**, at Chatham High School- 255 Lafayette Avenue, Chatham Township, New Jersey 07928
- **Saturday, September 26, 2026**, at the County College of Morris (CCM)- Parking Lot #1, 214 Center Grove Road, Randolph, New Jersey 07869
- **Saturday, October 24, 2026**, at Pequannock Valley Park- Marvin Road/PV Park Road, Pompton Plains section of Pequannock Township, New Jersey 07444

Resolution No. 2026-033

Resolution Recommending The Morris County Board Of County Commissioners Amend The Morris County District Solid Waste Management Plan To Include The Dan Como & Sons, Inc. Exempt Leaf Transfer Facility located in Montville Township As A New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Multi-Class (B&C) Recycling Facility

WHEREAS, in July of 2022, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (MCMUA) received a Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan) Inclusion request submitted by MianECKi Consulting Engineers (MianECKi) representing Dan Como & Sons, Inc. C/O Daniel R. Como Jr. Facility (Como), also known as “The Mulch Depot” located at #3 Como Court (Block 41; Lot 1) in the Towaco section of Montville Township, New Jersey 07082, as a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) approved Multi-Class (B&C) Recycling facility; and

WHEREAS, on December 6, 2022, the Morris County Solid Waste Advisory Council (SWAC) then held a site tour at the Como to review and discuss the potential inclusion.; and

WHEREAS, in December 2022, the MCMUA started communicating with the Township of Montville about the Plan inclusion process; and

WHEREAS, in late October 2025, Montville Township contacted the MCMUA about moving forward and approving the Como Plan Inclusion and providing the municipal input discussed in December 2022; and

WHEREAS, on November 17, 2025, the MCMUA received Resolution #2025-401 from the Township Committee of the Township of Montville, in the County of Morris, and State of New Jersey, that the Township of Montville consents to the inclusion request on behalf of Dan Como & Sons, Inc. C/O Daniel R. Como Jr. Facility, also known as “The Mulch Depot”, located at 3 Como Court (Block 41, Lot 1), from an exempt leaf transfer facility to an NJDEP approved Multi-Class (B&C) Recycling facility; and

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2026, the Morris County Solid Waste Advisory Council adopted Resolution #02-2025, being of the opinion that the amendment to the Morris County District Solid Waste Management Plan to include the Como facility as a Multi-Class (B&C) facility would be in the best public interest and would advance the Morris County District Solid Waste Management Plan.

WHEREAS, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority being of the same opinion that the amendment to the Morris County District Solid Waste Management Plan to Include the Como facility as a Multi-Class (B&C) Recycling facility would be in the best public interest and would advance the Morris County District Solid Waste Management Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority approves the Inclusion of Dan Como & Sons, Inc. C/O Daniel R. Como Jr. facility (Como), also known as “The Mulch Depot” from an Exempt Leaf Transfer facility to a New

Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Approved Multi-Class (B&C) Recycling facility, and recommends to the Morris County Board of County Commissioners that said board **adopt** the Plan amendment into the Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, February 10, 2026.

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL
UTILITIES AUTHORITY

By: _____
Christopher Dour, Chair

ATTEST:

Larry Gindoff, Executive Director

MOTION: Mr. Ragonese made a motion to approve the resolution 2026-033 and Mr. Smith seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

RECYCLING REPORT:

Mr. Marrone reported on the following:

1. Recycling Market and Operations Report Update The January 2026 rate for Single-Stream Recycling at Republic Services was finalized at a **(Negative)** -\$87.40/ton. This represents a \$0.50-per-ton decrease in cost for MCMUA and its customers from the December rate of -\$87.90 per ton.

- In January, recycling markets remained stable across commodity categories, with minor fluctuations in plastics and metals but no change in fiber prices. However, in early February, prices increased very slightly, particularly for metals, HDPE natural commodities, and cardboard.
- Several market experts noted increased buying activity in fiber markets from previously withdrawn outlets, especially from Mexico. This is promising for an oversupplied market and helps reduce landfill use as processing costs rise. While pricing conditions in January showed only slight improvement, pricing at the beginning of February rose by \$5 per ton, as many experts expect increased buying activity and selling opportunities as trade restrictions ease in the second quarter.
- Plastic resin prices have experienced fluctuations: while prices for PET and colored HDPE have decreased, the price of natural HDPE has increased. The plastics

industry is facing challenges such as low-cost resin imports and declining consumer sales, which have made recycled materials less competitive. As a result, recovery facilities are increasingly focusing on automation amid a broader decline in material volumes. Furthermore, as recycled-content goals rise under various government mandates and internal business objectives across states, the domestic supply is flooding the market. This situation, combined with reduced consumer spending and decreased production, is further driving down prices.

- Ferrous and non-ferrous metal prices rose in late January and early February due to reduced scrap supply from winter weather and holiday slowdowns. Steel mills raised prices and maintained steady order levels, although aluminum demand remains weak amid tariff uncertainties.
- In summary, while the short-term outlook appears challenging, a recovery is anticipated in the second quarter.

2. Shared Service Agreement Updates: With last year's large SSA renewals behind us, we received several new agreement proposals and followed up on others, as covered in the report.

- Of those, we received a request for proposals for the collection of vegetative recyclables from the Township of Chatham's Recycling Depot, as they look to close their existing composting site and streamline service with the MUA.
- Follow-up conversations were performed with the Township of Harding for servicing their recycling depot.
- Contract customer service was performed to assist our curbside recycling department in Boonton Town with commercial businesses along their Main Street route, optimizing collection service and ensuring correct and efficient recycling practices.
- Several private small businesses were provided with quotations for service, such as Suburban Propane and PCS Chambers in Hanover Township, which are still pending at this time.

It should also be noted that our only Shared Services Agreement up for renewal this year is with the Township of Boonton, with which we have already begun discussions with their new MRC and the Town.

3. Projects with the Solid Waste Planning Division, Solid Waste Planning Division Personnel Updates: Recycling Outreach Coordinator & Program Assistant Position Update:

- As for an update on the hiring process for our Recycling Outreach Coordinator & Program Assistant position:
- We recently concluded the process yesterday, and after careful consideration with several highly qualified applications, we have chosen Ms. Ashleigh Clenord, who will start sometime in mid-March for the position.
- Ms. Clenord brings a strong background in environmental and sustainability programming, environmental education with various age groups, and stakeholder engagement, with experience from various nonprofit and institutional agencies.

- We look forward to the valuable expertise she will contribute and the new direction she will provide for the Division.
- Regarding the vacancy created by Ms. Toomey's departure, we have decided to postpone posting for the second opening until the end of April / beginning of May. While we received a large pool of applicants for this position, this timing aligns better with the conclusion of the current school's spring semester and the graduation period for higher education, which would further broaden our applicant pool and help us attract more qualified candidates.

I also would like to acknowledge the division's exceptional efforts during this time. Despite being down two members and having another on reduced hours, the team has consistently exceeded expectations as we work to restore full staffing.

4. MCMUA General Projects:

- In January, we finalized our Morris County School Recycling Toolkit along with our new recycling in schools subpage on our website. Hard copies are on the table for those in person today, and the link to the digital copy is in the board report. These will be mailed to both public and private schools with a cover letter introducing the toolkit and the services we provide to schools.
- We continued our work on the Morris County Food Waste Prevention and Redirection Toolkit. As mentioned last month, we completed an interview at Riamede Farm in Chester regarding synergies between farms, reducing food waste, and gleaning from those locations. As a result of our meeting, we were invited to speak at the April Morris County AG meeting about our work and how we can further this goal in an upcoming edition.
- Lastly, in January and February, the division has been working on planning and finalizing the details of our upcoming Municipal Recycling Coordinators meetings and getting our MRCs ready for this year's work on their municipal tonnage grants, as well as our county recycling enhancement act grant duties.
 - This includes reviewing municipal websites for correct recycling education, educating our MRCs on recycling and solid waste education, making sure all are set up and trained on the MTG processes, completing one-on-one training sessions with newer coordinators on the solid waste management plan and state obligations, as well as the MCMUAs' available resources, and reviewing each of their ordinances and making suggestions for updates to assist them in their duties

Recycling Market and Operations Report Update

In January, the preliminary single-stream recycling rate with Republic Services was calculated at -\$87.99 per ton, a \$0.09 increase from the previous month's finalized rate of -\$87.90.

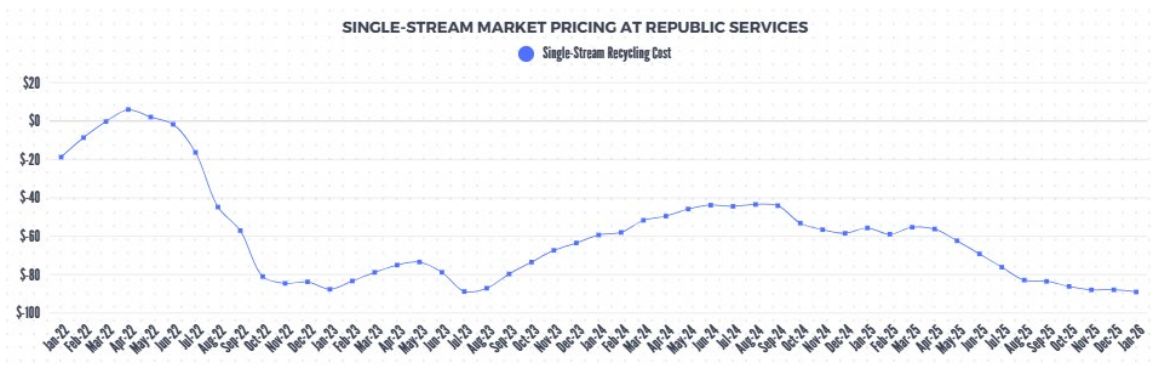
Recycling markets in January remained relatively stable across all commodity categories, ending the month nearly at the same price as at year-end. Some fluctuations were observed in both plastics and metals, but no movement was noted in fiber. On an encouraging note, pricing for the start of February notes some increase, namely for metals and HDPE natural.

At the end of the month, several market experts and commodity brokers observed increased buying activity in fiber markets from outlets that had previously withdrawn from the marketplace last year. This renewed interest, particularly from markets like Mexico, is significant in an oversupplied market, especially considering the recent headlines about mill mergers and closures. This new purchasing strategy has begun to move materials more effectively and reduce landfill use at a time when warehouses were becoming overcrowded, and processing and storage costs have risen above disposal costs. While this additional demand has provided some relief for our Northeast Market Region, market analysis firms such as Fastmarkets RISI reported that it has not significantly improved pricing conditions in January, with only a slight increase noted at the beginning of February. Nonetheless, many experts are optimistic about a rise in buying activity in the second quarter as we move past the post-holiday slump. They are also hopeful for more opportunities to sell our materials as trade restrictions begin to ease.

Plastic resin prices fluctuated throughout the month. PET plastics, commonly used for beverage bottles, and colored HDPE, used for consumer products such as detergents, are both losing value. In contrast, Natural HDPE, used for milk jugs, began to increase gradually in February. The plastics industry is facing challenges from cheap resin imports, oversupply of low-cost virgin resins, and declining consumer product sales, which make recycled materials less competitive. Furthermore, tariffs on imported recycled PET and Natural HDPE resins are hampering international sales and contributing to oversupply in domestic markets. As a result of these adverse conditions, recovery facilities are increasingly focusing on cost-cutting automation, as evidenced by the rise in Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) in our area, all of which are seeking materials as overall volumes decline.

As we approach the new year, prices for both ferrous metals (such as steel) and non-ferrous metals (such as aluminum) increased in late January and early February. Market experts reported that the nationwide scrap metal supply declined last month due to cold winter weather and a holiday slowdown. At the same time, steel mills successfully raised prices on new steel products, operated at higher capacities, maintained steady order levels, and decreased their purchases in December. This resulted in increased purchasing at the start of the new year. Although aluminum prices rose slightly last month, demand remains weak amid tariff-related uncertainties, but there are signs of growing demand.

Looking ahead, while the immediate outlook may not seem bright, we can anticipate a meaningful recovery starting in the second quarter.



Monthly MCMUA single-stream recycling tip fees at Republic Services.

Resolution(s) for Board Consideration

Resolution Authorizing Equipment for Newer Shared Services Agreements:

The MCMUA Board will be asked to consider adopting a resolution authorizing the purchase of (1) 40 Cubic Yard Container, (3) 30 Cubic Yard Containers, and (3) ROC Covers through the Sourcewell Cooperative Pricing system 010825-WQI Purchasing Contract for 2026. The containers will be allocated under their new agreements to the following locations:

- (1) 40 CY enclosed container for rigid plastics to Mount Arlington under their new agreement, replacing their existing container beyond feasible repair.
- (3) 30 CY open top containers with retractable lids for newly expanded collection services in the Townships of Long Hill, Chatham, and East Hanover.

Shared Service Agreements and Contract Activities in Progress

In January, Marrone worked on incorporating the following shared service agreements into our curbside collection program, as follows:

Township of Chatham Vegetative Materials Depot Collection SSA Proposal:

In mid-January, Marrone met with the Township’s DPW Director to discuss amending the existing shared services agreement to include vegetative materials recycling services at the recycling depot. This discussion comes as the municipality considers closing its current composting site due to increased operating costs and other factors, which would result in a transition of all recycling services to the MCMUA. Currently, the Township does not provide curbside collection of vegetative materials and relies on a drop-off system at its compost yard. The proposed plan would involve providing container services for collecting vegetative materials, including two 30-cubic-yard containers for brush, one 30-cubic-yard container for leaves, and one 30-cubic-yard container for grass. In late January, a proposal was submitted to the Township for consideration, with the determination pending their approval.

Township of Harding Recycling Depot SSA Proposal:

In September, the MCMUA was approached by the Superintendent of Harding Township's Department of Public Works (DPW) regarding recycling collection services for the Township's municipal recycling center. Currently, the Township uses in-house staff and vendors to transport materials to the market, and it is seeking to consolidate these services under a single contract with the MCMUA. The Township requested several items: a single-stream compactor, one open-top container for rigid plastics, one for scrap metal, and an overflow container, all required under the new contract.

In the following months, a final proposal was submitted to the Township for approval, along with a revised service proposal at the Township's request. In December, the Township postponed its decision until the new year; no updates have been received from the Township regarding MCMUA's proposal.

Borough of Mendham Curbside Recycling and Depot SSA Proposal:

In November, the Planning Division Team worked on pricing and details for a shared services agreement proposal for bi-weekly curbside recycling collection, which is expected to begin on February 1, 2026. On Thursday, December 18, at the end of the day, Marrone submitted the MCMUA's recycling collection proposal to the Borough.

On Friday, December 19, Marrone and Chavanne attended the bid opening at Town Hall. In addition to our proposal, bids were submitted by Blue Diamond, the current service provider, and Affordable Cartage. Although our price was significantly lower than the other bids, it did not include the weekly service currently provided, and we did not offer a proposal for bulk solid waste collection.

On Friday, January 30, Marrone was informed that the Borough had completed its review of the submissions with its attorney and had issued a rebid for these services, with an opening on March 31. The bid follows the same guidelines, with new services further broken down into year options and service collection frequencies, based on the previously received bid options. The municipality also forwarded a resolution rejecting the two bids, along with our shared services agreement for reference. The MCMUA plans to submit a revised proposal for these services before the opening.

Suburban Propane Business Recycling Collection Proposal:

In early January, the MCMUA received a request for paper-only collection at its business park site in Hanover Township, located off Route 10. Marrone was informed that the previous hauler was no longer willing to pay for paper collected at this site and could not maintain a dedicated paper route due to insufficient paper generation and low commodity values. When asked about providing this service, the site was informed that, at this time, the MCMUA could only offer single-stream services for businesses due to similar constraints and the current route configurations. Additionally, the site has collections for commingled containers and cardboard, which different haulers handle. Based on the communicated collection frequency and costs, a

proposal was drafted to consolidate these services under a single contract. This proposal is currently with Suburban Propane, and a decision on whether to move forward is pending.

Solid Waste Planning Division Personnel Updates

MCMUA Advertises a New Opening with the Division:

Recycling Outreach Coordinator & Program Assistant Position Update:

During the 2026 Division budgeting process, we recognized that all three of our current part-time staff members are likely to transition away from the MCMUA for personal reasons, to pursue other employment, or to continue their education throughout the year. Given these anticipated changes, we have decided to eliminate the two part-time positions currently funded through the REA grant and replace them with one full-time employee. This adjustment aims to provide greater stability within the department by consolidating both job duties into a single position. Additionally, it will streamline the grant process by establishing a set annual salary. To facilitate the hiring process for the new position, a job description was created and posted with the County Personnel Office, on our Indeed portal, and at local higher education institutions. We received an overwhelming response, resulting in a pool of over 100 applicants. Thirteen interviews were scheduled over four days. However, the final interviews, initially scheduled for January 26, were rescheduled to February after a snowstorm closed the County office. A decision on the new hire for this position, as well as the vacancy created by Ms. Toomey's departure from the MCMUA at the beginning of December, is expected to be finalized by the end of the second week of February.

Recycling/Clean Communities Education, Inspections, and Customer Service Support

Below are summaries of Recycling and Clean Communities' projects, public outreach, and education programs in January 2026. Details regarding these activities are provided in a supplemental report.

Recycling and Clean Communities Projects, Public Outreach, Education, and Inspections:

- MCMUA and the Borough of Madison Senior Housing Recycling Presentation
- MCMUA Attends the Association of New Jersey Environmental Educators Winter Conference
- MCMUA, New Jersey County Recycling Coordinator, and the New Jersey Association of New Jersey Recyclers (ANJR) Joint Efforts
- MCMUA Conducts Research on Food Waste and Strategically Plans Its Future Initiatives
- MCMUA Presents on Recycling and Waste Reduction to Scouting America
- MCMUA Recycling Public Outreach Educational Materials and Efforts
- MCMUA Attends the Rutgers 2026 Green Infrastructure Champions Training Program
- MCMUA Attends the Rutgers Certified Recycling Professionals Course
- MCMUA and MCDPH Collaborations
- MCMUA and MCOC Collaborations

Solid Waste Planning Activities and Special Projects

MCMUA Plans its Meeting/Event Schedule for the 2026 Calendar Year:

Throughout January, the Solid Waste Planning Division held meetings to plan and finalize its program for the Municipal Recycling Coordinator, Clean Communities Coordinator, Association of New Jersey Recyclers, and other educational events for the year. With five Municipal Recycling Coordinator (MRC) meetings, two Clean Communities Coordinator meetings, a variety of sustainability events, educational sessions, and workshops, and partnerships with organizations to expand our educational efforts, the 2026 calendar year is already full of public events. Note that the first two meetings are scheduled, and the educational components are currently being developed.

MCMUA's First MRC Meeting of 2025:

In January, the Solid Waste Planning Division met several times to prepare for its first Municipal Recycling Coordinator (MRC) meeting at the Morris County Library on February 18. Key topics will include:

- Educational requirements for the Recycling Enhancement Act (REA) grant and Municipal Tonnage Grant.
- Municipal notification requirements for generators and website accuracy for recycling information.
- Municipal Tonnage Grant overview, expectations for municipal coordinators, generator tonnage request letters, timeline of events leading up to and after report submission, and best practices for increased tonnage and grant funding.
- A thorough review of existing municipal recycling ordinances across the County. Highlights will be covered, including excellent examples for replication and areas needing general improvement.
- Presentation by Steve Adams and James Deacon from the MCMUA on the HHW, Vegetative Waste, and Solid Waste Transfer Station Programs and updates.
- Presentation on enforcement and inspections from the Morris County Division of Public Health.
- Presentation on recycling markets, overview of 2025, and expectations for 2026 from Republic Services.
- Presentation on Recycle Coach, hands-on overview and walkthrough of access to the administration portal for educational materials, editing of information, sending out of alerts, leveraging metrics and statistics from resident searches, etc.
- Hands-on and step-by-step entry reporting practice for entering recycling reports by the NJDEP.

MCMUA's Second MRC Meeting of 2025:

In January, the Solid Waste Planning Division met several times to prepare for its second Municipal Recycling Coordinator (MRC) meeting, scheduled for April 1st, to be held virtually on Webex. For this meeting, the NJDEP will once again present on last-minute entry procedures,

reviewing the materials covered at the February meeting for those unable to attend or as needed for a refresher. In addition, the Battery Network, formerly Call2Recycle, will present battery-handling best practices for recycling, battery education to the public, how to set up a recycling program for free through their Extended Producer Responsibility programs for rechargeable batteries, as well as their paid programs for high-wattage, single-use, damaged, defective, and recalled (DDR) batteries. One reason for the training is a battery fire at one of our municipal depots' electronic-waste containers, likely caused by a damaged lithium-ion battery, which rendered the entire container and its contents unsalvageable. Immediately following this meeting, we will host a virtual tour of the MCMUA/Republic Services facility, followed by a live Q&A with the Republic Services Operations Manager.

MCMUA and Morris County Municipal Website Revisions and Recycling Education Improvements:

In December, Chavanne and Civitella successfully contacted all municipalities to update our records of their recycling activities for 2026. In January, Chavanne began reviewing each municipality's recycling websites to provide suggestions for improving them in 2026. Marrone and Chavanne created a template email and trained the Municipal Recycling Coordinators (MRCs) on the importance of keeping their recycling websites accurate and up to date. This ensures effective communication and compliance, as the town's website is often the first resource residents consult when seeking information on how to dispose of solid waste and recycle in accordance with municipal guidelines. Additionally, the Recycling Enhancement Act (N.J.S.A. 13:1E-96) requires counties to assist municipalities in providing clear, easily accessible recycling information to residents and to fulfill the education and notification requirements outlined in the NJDEP-approved Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan.

Of the 39 municipalities contacted, 18 coordinators began implementing the suggested changes, and about half completed them. The main suggestions included formatting changes, updates on 2026 Household Hazardous Waste information, and revisions to flyers and recycling schedules. As part of this initiative, Chavanne has begun creating bilingual flyers for each of the main Materials Recycling Facilities used in Morris County. This aims to improve communication with residents who do not use MCMUA as their waste hauler. An example of one of these draft flyers is provided below:



MCMUA Boat Shrink Wrap Recycling Stewardship Efforts:

In January, Marrone began work on a program to recycle boat shrink wrap generated within the County of Morris for a fourth year. Over the month, Marrone worked with Roxbury Township's Municipal Recycling Coordinator, the owner of Ultra-Poly Corporation, which will recycle the collected materials, and the Executive Director of the non-profit Lake Hopatcong Foundation (LHF) to finalize details for implementing the 2026 boat shrink-wrap recycling program, with an April 1 start date. Marrone also worked with the Sussex County Recycling Coordinator to once again coordinate efforts across sites on both sides of the Lake and expand recycling opportunities. Additionally, there will be a public drop-off day at the Jefferson Health Center on Saturday, May 2nd. In addition, we will reach out to boating clubs and water recreation outlets in advance to provide them with the public drop day, so they have time to plan to store the uncovered wrap and transport it to the recycling site on collection day. Flyers and educational materials were created for both the drop-off event and the recycling program. They will be distributed with a press release scheduled for release at the end of March. A second meeting is scheduled for February with the participating Marinas and the LHF to reiterate the program and raise awareness of its start date for the spring season.

Legislative Update on Environmental Bills Signed into Law during Lane Duck Session:

The Following Bills have passed both houses and were signed by Governor Murphy:

- Bill S2426/A2090: Requiring all SWMDs to amend their SWMPs to develop and implement plans for reducing their generated food waste by at least 50% by 2035, utilizing 2022 generation numbers. This allows for revised rules for composting facilities.
- Bill S3399/A6005: Requiring owners, producers, distributors, or manufacturers of solar and photovoltaic generation facilities and structures to remove and recycle or refurbish any related equipment or infrastructure after the termination of their use.
- S3195/A5157: Prohibits food service businesses from providing single-use utensils and condiments to customers under certain circumstances. (Further outlined below)
 - 1st step towards setting up Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for these panels/equipment.

Other bills that have passed both houses and are awaiting the Governor's signature are:

- S3802: Requiring the use of plastic recycled content in certain construction projects.
- S4877: Modifies provisions concerning licenses for persons who transport, broker, or process solid waste or soil and fill recyclable materials (Dirty Dirt Amendment)
- 3889: All universities to write and pass a food waste reduction plan.

Morris County Clean Communities Program

2026 School Cleanup Mini-Grant Updates:

In December, all Morris County public and private schools received our newly revised program guidelines and application instructions. Both the cleanup and art contest flyers streamline contest guidelines and have already increased excitement and participation among the public. On Friday, January 30, the 2026 Clean Communities School Cleanup Mini-Grant application period closed. All budgeted funds were allocated to 12 different schools, grades K-

12, to conduct cleanups. Most cleanups are planned to take place between April 22 and 25 for Earth Day. This increase in participation from our educational institutions is compared with last year's participants. Each school that completes its cleanup will be awarded \$500 to be applied to a sustainability stewardship or educational program. Many applicants selected "education program" as their funding use, helping Clean Communities advocate for additional litter abatement education programs throughout the county and aligning with the educational goals of the Clean Communities Grant.

"Skip the Stuff" Legislation Signed into Law:

In his final days in office, Governor Phil Murphy signed A-5157/S-3195, commonly referred to as the "Skip the Stuff" bill. This legislation, which takes effect on August 1, prohibits food service businesses from providing single-use utensils and condiments to customers under certain circumstances. It also requires the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), in partnership with the New Jersey Clean Communities Council, to launch an education campaign about the benefits of reducing these items.



Some important details are as follows:

- Full-service restaurants are required to provide reusable utensils and condiments to customers who are dining on-site.
- For take-out customers, single-use utensils and condiments can only be provided upon request.
- Casual dining establishments may also only provide single-use utensils or condiments upon request.
- For online orders from any food service business, single-use utensils or condiments may be offered if the default option is set to "no utensils or condiments."

Some other important points:

- Beginning next January, food service businesses will no longer be allowed to provide bundled packages, such as napkins and utensils.
- Restaurants are not required to offer single-use utensils or condiments unless they choose to do so. They can continue to provide single-use portion cups for dressings, sauces, and similar items.

It's important to note that school cafeterias, healthcare facilities, and correctional facilities are exempt from these restrictions. Additionally, food court restaurants will not be subject to these rules until two years after they go into effect.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Gindoff reported that we hopefully will close on one of the open space projects we approved at the end of 2025, which is a Wildcat Ridge project in Rockaway Township. A draft Conservation Partnership Agreement with the MCMUA's deed restrictions was prepared and is being reviewed by Counsel and will hopefully close on this in about a month.

NEW BUSINESS:

There being no new business, this portion of the meeting was closed.

PUBLIC PORTION:

There being no comment from the Public, this portion of the meeting was closed.

CLOSED SESSION:

Mr. Carney requested the Board go into closed session to discuss client privilege information and pending litigation regarding the Joint Consent Order with respect to NJDEP and DuPont and 3M regarding PFAS claims and potential settlement.

MOTION: At 8:00 Mr. Druetzler made a motion to go into closed session to discuss this matter and it was seconded by Mr. Smith and the Board went into closed session at 8:00 p.m..

ROLL CALL: AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

MOTION: At 8:03 Mr. Druetzler made a motion to leave the closed session and go back into open meeting and it was seconded by Ms. Farris and the Board went back into open session at 8:03.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 7 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Dour asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03p.m., seconded by Ms. Farris and carried unanimously.

Larry Gindoff
Executive Director

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