

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

August 27, 2025

8:45 A.M.

Attendees:	George Haynes	Bill Layton
	Jarod Boice	Tyson Robb
	Tina Mole	Meta Russell
	Jerry Vernold	Jim Thomas
	Joe Cetta	

GENERAL

- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - The minutes from the July 23, 2025 meeting were approved as presented.
- Equipment Authorization
 - JT, Stihl Kombisystem weed eater for Bloomville, \$525.30. All in favor
- Authorizations to Fill Vacancies
 - JT, HEO II, an employee resigned and CEO II for Compost, temporary for Kevin Brown's position. He's out at least until November.
 - All in favor
- Safety Officer's Report
 - JT, The biggest thing was the spill which was not us. A farm tractor caught fire on CR 18. Made a mess of the road and the ditch.
 - Recertification Course for Hearing testing - \$650.00. All in favor.
- Sidney Brew to Brew 5K – CR 23 – 9/6/2025, received insurance certificate
 - JT, Running from Wakeman coffee in the Village of Sidney to the Muddy River Brewery on CR 23.
- Travel Authorization – NYSASWM Fall Conference – Jim, Tyson, Steve
 - JT, Tyson goes every year. We need to get Steve up to speed and get me up to speed on some of this stuff. \$1,675 for registration and hotel. All in favor.
- Budget?
 - JT, Is that coming soon?
 - TM, I think maybe next week. I overheard that from Penny.

SOLID WASTE

- Compost
 - Transmission fixed, bioreactor up and running
- Computer system
 - TR, We're looking at a new computer system for next year. We got a quote from Graybar, like \$100,000. It's cheaper than I thought it would be.
 - GH, Is that something we should have IT look at, or make them aware of?
 - TR, The computer is for running the compost plant, it's not on the network. If it goes down, we can't run the plant.
 - TM, IT doesn't assist you at all with any of the computer systems down there?
 - TR, No. They helped out with the contact for SquareD, the people who control the motocons.
 - JT, We have to talk to IT about getting the rest of the place on the network. All the e-mails down there are still from frontiernet. It's in the works but I have no idea of the timing on that. We'll keep the plant off the network.

- TR, For the last number of years I have kept 20 or 30 grand in the budget just in case IT comes through with wanting to do the upgrade, there's a little money there to do it.
- JT, IT thought Tyson stopped them at some point. I don't know where that came from, but I told them we want to go ahead and get everything else on the network. So, whenever they get the time.
- TR, So I will keep pursuing the computer system to run the compost plant.
- 4Bioreactor replacement
 - Bid did not go well again
 - Working on sole source replacement – Young and Sommer
 - TR, We got an opinion paper for Young and Sommer to go with the sole source so we're looking for companies to work with on that. Meeting with Homer Ironworks today for the building portion, maybe. Trying to get companies lined up for that and start working through the contracts.
 - GH, The building would be sole source too?
 - TR, I think we would have to bid that out. But so far, we only have one bid, and it was like 3 million dollars.
- Cell 1 Reclamation
 - Almost done
- Rain Cover
 - Almost done
- Leachate
 - Calming down
 - Way over budget, budget amendment coming
 - TR, we've probably already done 7 million gallons this year. Whereas in a typical year the average is 5. Between the reclamation and May was our wettest May that we have on record, we went way over. So, we'll have a budget adjustment for that at next meeting.
- Electric \$
 - TR, In the summertime the electrical prices tend to drop so I've renegotiated the electrical contract. That should save us some 10 grand a year.
 - TR, The other thing, it's not on here, but we're demoing a grinder today. If anybody wanted to go down and see it, it should be kind of cool. The thought is that maybe we could start processing our own tires. I've looked at the disposal cost for tires and it's getting more and more expensive. The grinder is not cheap, but it might pay off.
 - GH, Just grinding tires with that?
 - JT, Tires, wood, C&D
 - GH, What would you do with the tires after grinding?
 - TR, We could find an outlet. We could use it for cover material.
 - GH, What's the cost of the grinder you're demoing?
 - TR, 1.2, it's expensive. This might not be the right year for it.
 - JC, What's our return on investment. What do we typically spend for tires?
 - TR, We're up around a quarter million a year.
 - JC, So you're talking 4 years to ...
 - TR, There's operational expenses, you have to maintain the piece of equipment, it's under 8 years.
 - JC, Either way if you could get it 10 years or use that 10 year mark as the balance, I would go with it.
 - TR, So we're going to see what we can do today. Off-road tires have always been out of our program. This is like 1000 bucks a piece and I believe there's quite a few of them

floating around the county so we're going to try to wad some of those through and see what it can handle.

- GH, Do we have other use for that also?
- TR, We could use it for C&D. We would have to come up with a plan for C&D. Processing C&D might happen on cell 4S. Another option would be building a building going through the grinder.
- GH, Do we grind C&D now that we truck out?
- TR, We don't, we just load it with the excavator so this would probably help some there. We would have to get new permits. There's a separate permit to become a C&D processing facility. Again, it might not be until next year given that we're moving into a cell and trying to get the bio replaced and working on the design for the new cell, 1RE. We're working with the DEC right now trying to get a variance on that. Reclamation went well. The north wall ended up quite steep, like a 2 on 1, where typical designs for landfills are 3 on 1. We're going to see if we can get a variance to make that interior north wall quite a bit steeper. So, becoming a C&D processor might be 2 years out, realistically.
- GH, That would be something for the landfill and knowing that it will be 2 years out, it's something we could budget for, set some aside each year so it's not such a shock.

- Village of Walton Sludge

- TR, We have a bill from the Village of Walton for a couple containers. There was some of their sludge that set off the radiation detectors awhile back, June, so they sent us a bill. Our radiation control plan is we segregate and detain the load until we can figure out what's going on with it. Part of that is getting permission from the State DEC on what we can do with it. During the process their containers had to sit for a period of time, and the Village operationally decided to rent a few containers costing them \$5,000, which they are billing us for. We held their containers because legally, radioactive material cannot go down the road. We can't dispose of it without the DEC's permission. That's why the material sat, we were waiting for a determination from the State.
 - GH, I don't see where we would be responsible for that at all.
- All agreed, do not pay it. Tyson will send a letter back detailing what the regulations are for radioactive material.

- Cell 1RE design

- C&D fire – small

- US Composting Council

- JT, Annual membership fee, \$875.00
- TR, In order to sell compost, we are required to be a member of a nationally recognized group.

All in favor.

ROAD

- Snowplow contracts

Kortright, Stamford, Masonville missing, rest back

- GH, Kortright's is signed and approved.

- Delaware South

Cr 26 project starting 9/8- paving

Cr 21 PPST starting 9/2-

- JT, Nova chip, it's a fancier oil and stone. Something between oil & stone and blacktop. We've been putting it on our heavier travelled roads. It lasts longer than oil & stone. PPST

stands for Paver Placed Surface Treatment. Everything on 21 that wasn't done in the past couple years.

- JB, from Plymouth Church to Walton.
- GH, Are we still hitting them every 4 years?
- JT, Oil and stone? Yes, but not once we put the PPST on them.
- JB, Every 10 years they get PPST.
- GH, Is that a savings or is it more expensive?
- JT, Definitely more expensive, it doesn't bleed like oil and stone
- JB, You get 10 years out of it verses 4.
- JT, CR 11 has been done twice. The first time it lasted 12 years. Basically, it cracks like blacktop but does not pothole or break up and leave the road.
- JB, Cat Hollow is probably the worst one I've seen with the cracking.
- GH, Is this something you may be looking at doing on all the roads or just in certain areas?
- JT, It's expensive, so probably just on our higher travelled roads. Once we do it, we'll stay off that road for at least 8 years.
- GH, So pricewise is it twice as expensive? If it lasts twice as long?
- JB, Probably double what blacktop is but 3 or 4 times as much as oil & stone.

Ditching/Pipes/small projects recently

- Delaware North

- JT, All their big stuff is done. Onto ditching/pipes/brush – small projects

- Paint truck

Hiring centerline out

Truck down more than not

Do we keep fighting with 25 year old truck?

- JT, We have numbers from the last few years on what we spent for the paint truck, crew and paint. Average around \$250,000. To hire out the yellow line painting this year is \$165,000. That's just their painting. We'll have support for that.
- GH, What's the cost of a new paint truck?
- JB, I'm going to guess 1/2 million. There's no way we have a full crew to run it and we're piecing crews together to do it.
- JT, We'll figure it out come bid time if we're going to bid out line striping. If we do it ahead of time, they can do 2 yellow and a white line at the same time. I really don't think we'll spend more money at all hiring it out, but we'll get numbers on that.

- Glen Skinner claim

- JT, We have an insurance claim on oil & stone. Claims one of our trucks drove by too fast and threw stones on his new truck, which was a 2019. Chipped part of it. We sent it down to the insurance committee to see what they want to do with it. I'm definitely not in favor of paying that claim.

- Vac truck Manure cleanup

- JT, We were asked by Paul S. from Cornell if they could borrow the vac truck this Friday, doing some demo pumping manure somewhere and hoping we could vacuum it up and put it back in the tank.
- GH, Is this something they were looking to use if they had an emergency spill?
- JT, Yes I think that was coming. If we work Monday through Thursday in the summertime, what are they going to do if they have a spill on Saturday or Sunday. We'll get people there but it's not going to be quick. The vac truck is run by 1 or 2 people. I told them it was the Friday before a holiday weekend and our guys were busy, which they were.

- Emergency Services radios

- JT, We met with them last spring about a different way to call in our guys for wintertime call ins. They came up with a plan, they had radios on a grant, so they were going to supply different radios than our regular new radios just to keep everything separate. Then they decided they could probably piggyback on our radios which we don't think will work very well.
- JB, About a week ago we put new radios in, so they called and wanted to put channels on our radios.
- JT, We don't need to hear their chatter and they don't need to hear ours so we're going to keep it separate. They'll be able to get a hold of us when needed. I sent this to them, and they haven't responded. We'd like to keep it separate.
- ATV "Pub/bar crawl"
 - JT, Penny sent an e-mail asking if the County was sponsoring that? County Insurance was asking. No one knows anything about it.

BRIDGE

- BR 7-3 BridgeNY Round 4 (\$5.3 million)
 - Design underway
- BridgeNY Round 5 - ~\$6.6 million
 - BR5
 - Inspection 4/15
 - JT, We got a PIA flag which is "prompt interim action". There was too much brush around it so he couldn't inspect it. Knotweed, etc. We cleaned it up.
 - BR 41-2
 - Survey done
- 2026 Bridge Preservation
 - Waiting on DOT but on schedule
- Br 136 (Bridge NY round 3)
 - Finalizing paperwork and final payment, bridge is open.
- Bridge Crew
 - Fab/Concrete work
 - 27-5
 - JT, Done, paving the next two days.
 - Br 74, 81
 - JT, Redoing the curbs and rail. Finishing up this week.
 - Br 7-5 approach slabs
 - JT, Approach slabs have been trouble for years. Bridge Maintenance cleaned it recently and found huge holes in the approach slabs. We'll fix that before winter.
 - 6-1 rock fix and gravel removal
 - JT, Will be fixing this within the next couple of weeks.
- Engineers
 - Dan off
 - In house designs
 - Permits
 - Driveways
 - Br 39 red flag
 - Otsego County Town help
 - Bridge takeover resolution
- Mechanics

- JT, New one starting Tuesday. Brings us up to 3.
- Sidney Culvert
 - JT, It's more of a Shelley thing, but FEMA didn't grant the extension. Shelley's arguing back. She said Graydon thought it would be a 3 week project. There's 5 culverts there, its on a State road, that's all summer. Shelley asked me about the timing, I think an 18 month extension is tight.

DPW BLDG PROJECT

- Construction status report
 - Next stage of project
 - JT, Never really ends. J&K was showing up to Bloomville today to do something. There's insulation missing on some of the ductwork. There's pieces of equipment not working. The A/C in the IT room is not working in either building.
 - Mancini closeout
 - Waiting on Nelcorp closeout first
 - Oil piping at Neale
 - Paving
 - Parking lots for Admin done
 - Kortright – had meeting
 - Old building auction
 - Where does money go
 - TM, I didn't get an answer yet.
 - Power is off
 - Walton shop relocation?
 - Other 2 outside patrols?
- Meeting went into Executive session

DELAWARE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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JAMES D. THOMAS P.E.
COMMISSIONER

MAIN OFFICE & YARD
PAGE AVENUE
DELHI, NY 13753

To: File
From: Tawny Meres
Safety & Training Manager
Re: Safety Office Report
Date: 7/26/2025

The following is an update to the activities of the Safety Office from 7/23/2025 to 8/26/2025.

1. Accidents

- None reported

2. Spills

- 8/11/2025. NYS DEC #2504395. A farm tractor owned by Frank Albano caught fire on CR18. Due to hydraulic oil loss, DPW personnel reported spill to NYS DEC. DEC addressed the spill on 8/18/2025. DPW will need to mill and repair section of roadway affected by fire. DEC has not yet closed spilled.

3. Facilities

- Confined Space Entry training was conducted by NYS DOL on 7/28/2025. 9 employees attended training.
- Received PESH report for fall incident at the Compost facility. No violations were issued.
- Flagger refresher training was conducted by the Safety Officer for all highway personnel. Information was submitted to PESH in response to violations received during inspection #1818589 on 4/15/2025. Violations have been abated and inspection closed on 8/1/2025.
- Safety Officer will attend CAOHC recertification course in Elmira on 9/12/2025.
- Safety Committee meeting was held on 8/13/2025. Additional meetings have been scheduled for 9/4/2025 and 9/10/2025 in preparation for upcoming Safety Days event. One outside municipality has contacted the Safety Office requesting to attend event. Hands on events include snowplow challenge and wheel loader challenge. All trainers have been secured.
- ELDT – 5 employees are in or need training. New employee starting 9/2/2025 will also need training.
- Preparations for the upcoming Safety Days continue. Venue and trainers have been secured.
- Meeting with NYMIR was held on 8/25/2025 at the Compost facility regarding the fall incident that occurred.

Safety Office Report 8-26-2025.docx

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Solid Waste Management Center: 607-865-5805 Fax 607-865-2216

- Annual MSHA training has been scheduled for 9/16/2025.

4. Near Future Objectives

- Finalize Safety Days. Obtain items needed and complete participant schedules.
- Schedule FA/CPR/AED training as personnel certifications will be expiring.