

**WELLS COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR SESSION JUNE 15, 2026**

The Wells County Solid Waste Management District met in regular session at 4PM in the Wells Carnegie Annex, Bluffton, Indiana. In attendance were Blake Gerber, Scott Mentzer, Jeff Stringer, Michael Vanover, Vicki Andrews, Janella Stronczek, District Attorney Ted Storer and District Controller Lisa McCormick. Stephanie Tucker was absent.

Minutes-A motion was made by Vicki Andrews, seconded by Janella Stronczek to approve the Regular Session Solid Waste minutes from May 18, 2026, as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Claims-A motion was made by Scott Mentzer to approve 15 claims totaling \$30,165.97, seconded by Vicki Andrews. Motion carried 5-0.

Cash on Hand-Lisa McCormick reported cash on hand of \$170,756.06.

Michael Vanover entered the meeting at 4:03pm.

Supervisor Report-Recycling Center Supervisor Kevin Poling reported 1365 patrons have utilized the Recycling Center in May, 650 to date in June. S & B Electric made a minor electric repair at the recycling center.

Rural Town Cleanup Update-Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. updated the board on rural town cleanup day April 25, 2026, at the Petroleum Community Church. 12,240 pounds of scrap metal, 7 40-yard dumpsters of trash, and one 53-foot trailer filled with tires were collected on that day. The total event cost was \$7,678.40. The next Rural Town Cleanup event is scheduled for Saturday, June 27th from 8am – 5pm at Lancaster Elementary School. They are partnering with Metal 4 Music for the June 27th event.

Waste Tire Grant-Discussion on the Waste Tire Grant was tabled until the funds have been received.

2027 Wages-The salary portion of the Solid Waste budget is expended by Wells County. The Wells County Solid Waste District then reimburses Wells County for those expenditures. The 2027 budget cycle is in process and Controller McCormick requested wage amounts for the Wells County portion of the budget. A motion was made by Scott Mentzer, seconded by Michael Vanover, to increase wages by 3% in the Wells County budget request deferring to Wells County Councils approval of wages for all 2027 Wells County budgets. An amendment to the motion was made by Vicki Andrews to keep the board pay at \$65 per meeting attended, seconded by Michael Vanover. Motion carried 6-0.

Shred Update-4.05 tons of shredded material was collected during shred day; the amount was up from 3.58 tons collected in 2025.

Hazardous Waste Day- 326 cars went through the Hazardous Waste event. That total was down from 2025, which had 391 participants.

Adjourn-Wells County Solid Waste adjourned at 4:13. The motion was made by Michael Vanover, seconded by Vicki Andrews to adjourn. Motion carried 6-0.

WELLS COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

President, Blake Gerber

Vice-President, Scott Mentzer

ATTEST: _____
Lisa McCormick, Controller