PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE & ENERGY
Hennepin | Ramsey | Washington

MEETING NOTICE
PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY BOARD

Date: Thursday, November 5, 2026
Time: 1:30-3 p.m.
Commissioners, Key staff, Presenters:
Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC) | 505 N. 6th Avenue | Minneapolis, MN| Map
Public: Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely or may attend at the Minneapolis address. Microsoft Teams | Phone Conference ID: 713 907 381# | Call in (audio only) +1 323-792-6297

AGENDA

1.	Call to Order, Introductions		
2.	Approval of Agenda	Action	Page 1
3.	Approval of Minutes of June 25, 2026	Action	Page 2
4.	Business		
	a. 2027 Budget Approval	Action	Page 6
	b. 2027 State Legislative Platform	Action	Page 10
	c. 2027 Board Meeting Schedule	Action	Page 14
5.	Updates and Reports	Information	Page 18
	a. 2026 Election Update		
	b. Program Updates		
	i. Hazardous Waste Online Training		
	ii. PWE Website Transition		
	iii. Waste Reduction Challenges		
6.	Other		
7.	Adjourn		

NEXT MEETING
Thursday, February 4, 2027 | 1:30-3 p.m.| Ramsey County Environmental Center, Roseville

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY BOARD
THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026

A meeting of the Partnership on Waste and Energy Board (Partnership) was held at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2026. Commissioners and staff participants met at the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Center (R&E Center), 100 Red Rock Road, Tours Building, Mississippi Room, Newport, Minnesota, 55055. Other participants and the public joined remotely or in person at the Newport address.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Commissioner Debbie Goettel – Hennepin County
Commissioner Mary Jo McGuire – Ramsey County
Commissioner Fran Miron – Washington County

ATTENDING AT THE R&E CENTER
Elyse Collyer, Max Dalton, Dan Donkers, Graham Faulkner, Melissa Finnegan, Nancy Haas, Chandra Her, Caroline Hofmeister, Sam Holl, Courtney Jasper, Callie Lehman, Peter Lesiak, Trista Martinson, Dave McNary, Deb Orth, John Ristad, Daniel Schmidt

ATTENDING REMOTELY
Leigh Behrens, Rae Eden Frank, Jamie Giesen, Lianna Goldstein-Rancich, Susan Jamison, Jon Klapperich, Alissa Lopez, Jim Redmond, Angie Timmons, Gina Williams, Liz Young

CALL TO ORDER
Chair Goettel called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. Introductions of attendees in Newport were made.

AGENDA OF JUNE 25, 2026 PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL
Motion by Goettel, seconded by McGuire, to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

Ayes: Goettel, Miron, McGuire.
Nays: None.

MINUTES FROM JANUARY 8, 2026 PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL
Motion by Goettel, seconded by McGuire, to approve the minutes from January 8, 2026. Motion passed.

Ayes: Goettel, Miron, McGuire.
Nays: None.

BUSINESS

2026 Budget Status
Presented by: Dave McNary, Hennepin County Environment and Energy Assistant Director

Staff and administration are well under budget. Part of this is related to Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E) staff now tracking hours spent on Partnership activities. Communications and graphic design are currently unknown, as the staff are waiting to hear an update from the vendor. The hazardous waste training item may go slightly above budget.

The Zero Waste Challenge was budgeted at $28,000. $12,000 was spent on the Plastic-Free Challenge. The next phase will start in October 2026 with the Save Food, Spend Less Challenge. That line item should be fully spent in 2026. People do sign up for these challenges. The program has been successful in showing people what it takes to reduce waste. Information is included in the annual report.

Product stewardship covers the Product Stewardship Institute memberships for Hennepin County, Ramsey County and R&E.

Another update will be provided at the September 10, 2026, meeting.

UPDATES AND REPORTS

2025 Partnership Annual Report
Presented by: Daniel Schmidt, Ramsey County Division Manager-Planning, Programs and Operations

The 2025 Partnership Annual Report was released on Earth Day (April 22, 2026). Thanks to partners, staff and leadership, as well as to R&E's Sam Ferguson for editing and coordinating it. Metre did the layout and graphics.

The legislative highlights from 2025 included Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment (SCORE) funding, a product stewardship program for electronics and batteries, allocating funds to address emerald ash borer and wood waste management, food waste reduction, food rescue and organics recovery, organics management through anaerobic digestion, maintaining the waste management hierarchy, and the Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act.

A recycling and reuse measurement study was completed with Foth. Key challenges were identified. Recommendations include standardizing recycling data practices, improving data sharing and reporting, and advancing a reuse measurement framework.

The 2025 waste reduction challenges were noted again. There were 1,700 participants in the Plastic-Free Challenge. There were approximately 350 participants in the Stop Food Waste Challenge.

2026 Legislative Session Update
Presented by: Peter Lesiak, Washington County Senior Environmental Health Program Manager

The Partnership worked with contracted lobbyist, Poul Haas. The 2026 legislative session began on February 17, 2026, and ended on May 18, 2026. The Partnership had several areas of focus: packaging waste, increasing SCORE funding, batteries and electronic waste and infectious waste.

Nancy Haas, Callie Lehman and Courtney Jasper of Poul Haas provided additional information on the 2026 session. It was the second year of the biennium. The DFL worked on gun violence prevention. The GOP favored spending as little surplus as possible. There was a capital investment bill and a slimmed-down tax bill. There was a $1.2 billion bonding bill, with $500 million in hospital stabilization. No agreements were reached on education, agriculture, energy or environment.

There were several bills passed that were being monitored, including several projects included in the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Bill. The Egg Donation Bill also passed. The Cash Bonding Bill

included $125,000 for an infectious waste study. The resulting report is due to the legislature in February 2027.

The bonding bill included money for the City of Saint Paul to improve an existing solid waste facility to accommodate a furniture recycling center as well as money to rebuild the 20-year-old flail mills at the R&E Center.

There were several bills of interest that did not pass, including $5 million in the renewable account for anaerobic digestion and $3 million for wood waste reduction, residential generators, the cannabis bill (vape pens were removed from this bill), and compost definition changes.

It is a big election year in Minnesota. Many positions are up for election, and all 201 legislative seats are on the ballot. There are several very close races. In the Senate, the DFL has a one-seat majority. There are quite a few open seats in Ramsey County districts. All races were noted.

Policy team meetings will be held to monitor priorities. Engagement is underway to increase candidate knowledge of the Partnership.

2027 Legislative Platform Brainstorm
Presented by: Trista Martinson, R&E Executive Director

Work will continue on batteries and electronic waste, infectious waste regulation and increased SCORE funding. The platform builds on itself. New ideas include a landfill policy with a food waste diversion requirement and , as previously considered, a study or work group. A textile bill might include a rebate for clothing and shoe repair and a reporting requirement for unsold items sent to waste (Europe will ban this practice in 2030). Additional ideas include mattress extended producer responsibility, textile extended producer responsibility (California will have a law in place in 2028), a disposable vape ban (those with embedded batteries), strengthening waste as a sustainable aviation fuel feedstock, repealing the ban on bag bans and food waste diversion (similar to the egg bill).

There is huge potential regarding aviation fuel. A lifecycle analysis has shown that used fuel has significantly less environmental impact than new fuel. There is a pilot program through the University of Minnesota. Additionally, there is a demonstration facility in Spain. There is currently a lot of synergy around this issue.

Microplastics are an item of concern to be addressed.

OTHER

No other business.

ADJOURN

Chair Goettel declared the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Partnership on Waste and Energy Board will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., at the Ramsey County Environmental Center, Roseville.

ATTEST:

_____
Debbie Goettel, Chair
November 5, 2026

_____
November 5, 2026

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE & ENERGY
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PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING DATE:		November 5, 2026		**AGENDA ITEM:**		4.a
SUBJECT:	2027 Budget Approval					
TYPE OF ITEM:	☐	INFORMATION	☐	POLICY DISCUSSION	☒	ACTION
SUBMITTED BY:	Partnership Lead Staff					

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the 2027 Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) budget.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Section 5.2.4. of the Joint Powers Agreement for the Partnership provides direction on an annual budget.

- 5.2.4. The Governing Board shall develop and approve an annual budget (for the calendar year January 1 to December 31) at its first official meeting, and at a fall meeting in subsequent years.
- 5.2.4.1. The budget shall specify contributions by the Parties, which shall be allocated in equal parts to the Parties.
- 5.2.4.2. The Parties shall make their contributions to the Administrative Agent by February 28 of each year.

Staff have prepared a 2027 budget for board members to review, discuss and approve.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Resolution PWE-2026-01
2. Proposed 2027 Partnership Budget

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Upon final approval, the financial implications will be explicit in the approved budget.

SUBJECT: *2027 Budget Approval*

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES		DATE
Hennepin County		10/26/26
Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy		10/26/26

Approved as to form:

Assistant Washington County Attorney		10/26/26

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE & ENERGY
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RESOLUTION PWE-2026-01
2027 Budget Approval

WHEREAS, The Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement (Joint Powers Agreement) of the Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) between Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E) and Hennepin County (individually identified as "Party" or jointly as "Parties") dated March 27, 2018, directs in Section 5.2.4 that the Governing Board of the Partnership develop an annual budget; and

WHEREAS, The Joint Powers Agreement further specifies that the Partnership budget shall specify contributions by the Parties, which shall be allocated in equal parts to the Parties; and

WHEREAS, Staff has prepared and presented the attached proposed 2027 budget. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, The Governing Board hereby approves the 2027 Partnership on Waste and Energy budget.

_____
Debbie Goettel, Chair
November 5, 2026

_____
Attest, Vice Chair
November 5, 2026

SUBJECT: *2027 Proposed Budget*

	2026 Approved Budget	2027 DRAFT Budget
APPROPRIATIONS:		
Staffing and Administration		
Manager	$ 10,500	$ 5,000
Accounting Manager	$ 7,800	$ 3,000
Contract Manager	$ 5,800	$ 2,000
Communications Staff	$ 5,600	$ 2,500
Administrative Staff	$ 2,200	$ 2,500
Total Staffing and Administration	$ 31,900	$ 15,000
Contracts & Projects		
Insurance, MCIT	$ 1,452	$ 1,450
Communications & Graphic Design	$ 16,000	$ 10,000
Lobbying & PUC Monitoring Services	$ 120,000	$ 120,000
Bioeconomy Coalition of MN membership	$ 2,500	$ 2,500
Product Stewardship	$ 9,000	$ 9,000
Haz. Waste Online Training	$ 15,000	$ 7,500
Zero Waste Challenge	$ 28,000	$ 25,705
Reuse Documentation Study		$ 40,000
Contingency Funds	$ 1,861	$ 17,382
Total Contracts	$ 193,813	$ 233,537
Total Appropriations	$ 225,713	$ 248,537
REVENUE:		
Anticipated 2026 Rollover		$ 40,167
Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy		$ 104,185
Hennepin County		$ 104,185
Total Revenue		$ 248,537
Over (red)/Under (yellow)		$ -

PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING DATE:		November 5, 2026		**AGENDA ITEM:**		4.b
SUBJECT:	2027 State Legislative Platform					
TYPE OF ITEM:	☐	INFORMATION	☐	POLICY DISCUSSION	☒	ACTION
SUBMITTED BY:	Partnership Lead Staff					

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the 2027 state legislative platform.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Section 5.1.1 of the Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement of the Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) between Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy and Hennepin County, dated March 27, 2018, specifies that the Governing Board shall develop a legislative and policy platform.

The 2027 Legislative Session will convene on January 12, 2027. The Partnership's 2027 state legislative platform will guide efforts for the upcoming legislative session. Issue-specific policy position statements will continue to be created as needed, serving as an extension of the platform's priorities and direction.

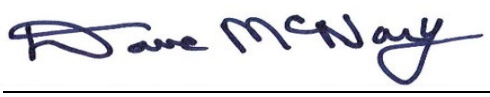
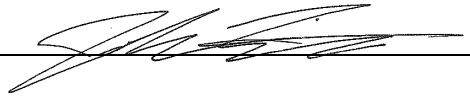
ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Resolution PWE-2026-02
2. 2027 Partnerhip Draft Legislative Platform

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

SUBJECT: *2027 State Legislative Platform*

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES		**DATE**
Hennepin County		10/22/26
Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy		10/22/26
Approved as to form:		
Assistant Washington County Attorney		10/22/26

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE & ENERGY
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RESOLUTION PWE-2026-02
2027 State Legislative Platform

WHEREAS, The Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement (Joint Powers Agreement) of the Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) between Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E) and Hennepin County (individually identified as "Party" or jointly as "Parties") dated March 27, 2018, specifies that the Governing Board shall develop a legislative and policy platform; and

WHEREAS, The Governing Board has discussed legislative and policy issues that are in the interests of the Partnership's member Counties, and it has identified the key issues to be addressed in a platform. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, The Governing Board hereby approves the 2027 state legislative platform.

_____
Debbie Goettel, Chair
November 5, 2026

_____
Attest, Vice Chair
November 5, 2026

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE & ENERGY
Hennepin | Ramsey | Washington

2027 State Legislative Platform

Build on Waste Management Act goals

The Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) supports policy and regulatory approaches that encourage emerging technologies, promote new markets for waste and align energy and sustainable materials management strategies.

The Partnership supports maintaining Minnesota's hierarchies of waste management practices.

Invest to keep waste out of landfills

The Partnership supports increased state funding at levels that allow local governments to carry out statutory responsibilities.

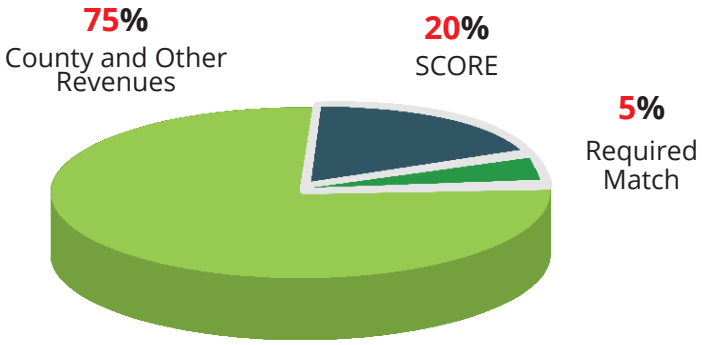
The Partnership supports policies that create effective incentives and prioritize resources to achieve climate, public health, environmental protection, waste reduction and diversion goals.

Create a more sustainable economy

The Partnership supports measures to design waste, toxicity and pollution out of the marketplace and keep products and resources in use for a robust circular economy.

The Partnership supports strong, innovative partnerships between the state, local governments and private entities to maximize the benefits of recovering resources and collaborating on energy and climate initiatives.

County Recycling Spending and SCORE Grants, 2024



State grants cover only 1/5 of county spending for recycling.

Need more information?

Nancy Haas | Poul Haas Government Relations
651-274-5166 nancy.haas@poulhaas.com

The Partnership on Waste and Energy—a collaboration between Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington counties—seeks to end waste, promote renewable energy and enhance the health and resiliency of the communities we serve while advancing equity and responding to the challenges of a changing climate.

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE & ENERGY
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PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING DATE:		November 5, 2026		**AGENDA ITEM:**		4.c
SUBJECT:	2027 Board Meeting Schedule					
TYPE OF ITEM:	☐	INFORMATION	☐	POLICY DISCUSSION	☒	ACTION
SUBMITTED BY:	Partnership Lead Staff					

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the 2027 Partnership on Waste and Energy Board meeting schedule.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement dated March 27, 2018, Section 5.3.1 states the following related to Governing Board meetings:

The Board shall meet a minimum of three times a year, including an organizational meeting in January, a meeting following the legislative session, and a meeting in the fall to set the next year's legislative platform.

The attached schedule identifies dates and times for the known board meetings in 2027. The February and September meetings are scheduled to be held at the Ramsey County Environmental Center in Roseville, the June meeting is scheduled to be held at the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Center in Newport and the November meeting is scheduled be held at the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC) in Minneapolis.

It is possible that meetings may be canceled or moved, but board members are asked to schedule these dates for 2027.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Resolution PWE-2026-03
2. Proposed 2027 meeting schedule

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

SUBJECT: *2027 Board Meeting Schedule*

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES		**DATE**
Hennepin County		10/26/26
Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy		10/26/26
Approved as to form:		
Assistant Washington County Attorney		10/26/26

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE & ENERGY
Hennepin | Ramsey | Washington

RESOLUTION PWE-2026-03
2027 Board Meeting Schedule

WHEREAS, The Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement (Joint Powers Agreement) of the Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) between Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E) and Hennepin County (individually identified as "Party" or jointly as "Parties") dated March 27, 2018, outlines the duties of the Governing Board of the Partnership; and

WHEREAS, Section 5.3.1. of the Joint Powers Agreement specifies that the Governing Board shall meet a minimum of three times per year, including an organizational meeting in January, a meeting following the legislative session, and a meeting in the fall to set the next year's legislative platform. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, The Governing Board hereby approves the 2027 meeting schedule. BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, The February and September meetings are scheduled to be held at the Ramsey County Environmental Center in Roseville, the June meeting is scheduled to be held at the R&E Center in Newport, and the November meeting is scheduled be held at the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC) in Minneapolis.

_____
Debbie Goettel, Chair
November 5, 2026

_____
Attest, Vice Chair
November 5, 2026

SUBJECT: *2027 Board Meeting Schedule*

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE & ENERGY
Hennepin | Ramsey | Washington

2027 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, February 4, 2027
1:30-3 p.m. | Ramsey County Environmental Center – Roseville

Thursday, June 24
1:30-3 p.m. | Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Center - Newport

Thursday, September 23
1:30-3 p.m. | Ramsey County Environmental Center – Roseville

Thursday, November 4
1:30-3 p.m. | Hennepin Energy Recovery Center – Minneapolis

Ramsey County Environmental Center
1700 Kent St.| Roseville, MN 55113

Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Center
100 Red Rock Rd.| Newport, MN 55055

Hennepin Energy Recovery Center
505 N. 6th Ave. | Minneapolis, MN 55405

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE & ENERGY
Hennepin | Ramsey | Washington

PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING DATE:		November 5, 2026		**AGENDA ITEM:**		5.
SUBJECT:	Updates and Reports					
TYPE OF ITEM:	☒	INFORMATION	☐	POLICY DISCUSSION	☐	ACTION
SUBMITTED BY:	Partnership Lead Staff					

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

For information only.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

a. 2026 Election Update

Contract lobbying team Poul Haas will present an overview of the 2026 Election Outcomes and its potential impact on Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) priorities.

b. Program Updates

I. Hazardous Waste Online Training
II. PWE Website Transition
III. Waste Reduction Challenges

Partnership staff and lobbyists will provide a brief report to board members and answer questions.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES		**DATE**
Hennepin County		10/08/26
Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy		10/13/26