Minutes approved October 22, 2026

DISTRICT COMMITTEE - GREATER NEW BEDFORD REGIONAL REFUSE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 17, 2026

The Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District Committee held a publicly posted meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at Dartmouth Town Hall, Room 309, 400 Slocum Road, Dartmouth, MA.

District Committee Members in attendance: Chairperson John Beauregard; Daniel Patten; Caroline Conzatti; Michael Gagne; Ed Iacaponi; Kelley Cabral-Mosher.

Also in attendance: Anthony Novelli, Executive Director; Leonor Ferreira, Executive Assistant; Matthew J. Thomas, District Counsel.

1. Call to order / Salute the flag

Chairperson Beauregard called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and led a salute to the flag.

2. Legal Notices

Chairperson Beauregard noted that legal notices of the meeting were posted in Dartmouth and New Bedford more than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Chairperson Beauregard read the following statement:

"Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, any person may make an audio or video recording of this public meeting or may transmit the meeting through any medium. Attendees are therefore advised that such recordings and transmissions are being made, whether perceived or unperceived, by those present, and are deemed acknowledged and permissible."

3. Roll call of members

Chairperson John Beauregard, yes
Daniel Patten, yes
Caroline Conzatti, yes
Michael Gagne, yes
Ed Iacaponi, yes
Kelley Cabral-Mosher- absent for roll call but arrived shortly after at 8:03 a.m.

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Draft Minutes of August 27, 2026, Meeting, Regular Session

Chairperson Beauregard requested a MOTION to approve the draft minutes of the August 27, 2026, regular session. MOTION made by Ms. Conzatti seconded by Mr. Iacaponi. Mr. Patten and Mr. Gagne abstained from the vote, as they were not present for that meeting. All voted in favor. MOTION passed 4 – 0.

b. Draft Minutes of August 27, 2026, Meeting, Executive Session

Chairperson Beauregard requested a MOTION to approve the draft minutes of the August 27, 2026, executive session. MOTION made by Ms. Conzatti seconded by Mr. Iacaponi. Mr. Patten and Mr. Gagne abstained from the vote, as they were not present for that meeting. All voted in favor. MOTION passed 4 – 0.

5. **Warrant Report and Ratification**

Chairperson Beauregard requested a MOTION to ratify Warrant 4-27 dated August 21, 2026. MOTION made by Mr. Patten seconded by Mr. Gagne. All voted in favor. MOTION passed 6 - 0

6. **Executive Session**

Chairperson Beauregard asked for a MOTION to go into Executive Session pursuant to General Law Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(7) and General Law chapter 4, Section 7, Clause Twenty-Sixth(d) to discuss intra-agency memoranda or letters relating to policy positions being developed by the District and then reconvene in Open Session. The minutes of this Executive Session will become public once the policy positions being developed by the District have been fully developed. MOTION made by Mr. Patten, seconded by Ms. Conzatti. All voted in favor. MOTION passed 6 – 0.

The Committee entered the Executive Session at 8:04 a.m.

The Committee returned to Open Session at 8:57 a.m.

7. **New Business**

a. Review Firm Qualifications for Solid Waste Management Feasibility Study

Chairperson Beauregard requested a MOTION to review the firm's qualifications for a Solid Waste Feasibility Study. MOTION made by Iacaponi, seconded by Mr. Patten.

Chairperson Beauregard requested a MOTION to accept the report of the Transfer Station Subcommittee and to authorize the Executive Director and Legal Counsel to begin negotiations with HDR to perform a Solid Waste Management Feasibility Study. MOTION made by Mr. Iacaponi, seconded by Mr. Patten. All voted in favor. MOTION passed 6 – 0

b. Potential Release of Executive Session Minutes

Chairperson Beauregard requested a MOTION to discuss the potential release of Executive Session minutes. MOTION made by Ms. Conzatti, seconded by Mr. Patten.

Based on the review by the Executive Director and District Counsel, Chairperson Beauregard requested a MOTION that the following Executive Session minutes be disclosed, because the lawful purpose of their respective Executive Session has passed:

2004: January 22, May 21, July 7, and November 30;
2005: January 12, March 24, June 2, and July 21, 2005 (All Matters);
2006: March 31 and September 14;
2007: April 26 (All Matters), May 22, June 20 (All Matters), and November 29;
2009: April 22 and December 16;
2018: February 15, March 20 (AD subcommittee), April 3 (AD Subcommittee), April 12, April 12 (AD Subcommittee), May 24, and May 24 (AD Subcommittee).

MOTION made by Mr. Patten, seconded by Ms. Conzatti. All voted in favor. MOTION passed 6 – 0.

Chairperson Beauregard requested a MOTION that the executive session minutes from calendar years 2024, 2025, and 2026 had also been reviewed, and it has been deemed that disclosure of these minutes may defeat the lawful purposes of the respective executive sessions and so they have not been disclosed. MOTION made by Mr. Patten, seconded by Ms. Conzatti. All voted in favor. MOTION passed 6 – 0.

c. Staff Report

Chairperson Beauregard requested a MOTION to receive the staff report. MOTION made by Ms. Conzatti, seconded by Mr. Patten.

Mr. Novelli reported that no odor complaints had been received since the past meeting, and commended the operations team.

Mr. Novelli discussed GPS technology available for landfill equipment, following staff observations at Bourne. The technology would help operators achieve planned grades, improve compaction, and maximize available airspace. A preliminary cost of approximately $100,000 was discussed, which was well worth the investment in his opinion. Because the purchase was not budgeted for FY2027, Mr. Novelli proposed returning at the next meeting with a firm price and a possible request to use funds from the Equipment Reserve. Members discussed cooperative purchasing through Sourcewell and the GSA Advantage program, which are national cooperative agreements procured federally, satisfying procurement requirements if purchased through the GSA. The GSAs were commended for equipment purchasing and the broad variety of supplies available, and it was confirmed that this could be used in place of soliciting bids for qualified purchases. No purchase or reserve appropriation was authorized during this discussion.

Mr. Novelli reported that a vertical gas collection well project would be advertised for bids in the coming weeks. The work was required under the landfill permit and approved gas plan, and the Committee will need to approve the contract award after bids are received at the next meeting.

Staff reported on a visit to Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation in Johnston, Rhode Island. This facility is much larger in scale, and manages most of the solid waste in the state of Rhode Island. The landfill, transfer operations, and materials recovery facility provided useful information on operations, recycling outlets, and costs. Staff described the facility as well-run and a cooperative resource for future information.

Mr. Novelli reported that the 45-day public comment period for the draft Cell 7 authorization to construct would remain open until October 26, 2026. MassDEP would then review the comments and determine whether responses or revisions were needed before issuing the final permit. Staff planned to advertise the construction project in early November, receive bids in December, and prepare for construction in the spring. Members asked approximately how many bids would be expected, to which Mr. Novelli replied that 3-4 were received on previous projects, noting it is a very specialized project. The most recent estimate by Brown and Caldwell was that this project would cost in the $7 to $8 million range, and the District's Phase 2 Reserve is sufficient to cover the expected cost. Members noted that the project would be subject to prevailing wage requirements. Construction was targeted to begin around April and take approximately 3-4 months, followed by testing, hopefully providing some schedule flexibility before fall. It was noted that this type of construction cannot be completed in the wintertime with ground frozen.

He also discussed an improved process for conducting Construction Quality Assurance on the landfill liner being installed. An electrical leak-detection method will be incorporated, where conductive material and an electrical charge would help identify any small defects in the liner and locate them for repair, providing greater assurance before the cell was filled.

Mr. Novelli reported that the audit start date had been moved to Monday 9/21, while the audit presentation remained scheduled for the November meeting.

Members discussed material availability for construction and transportation costs, which are both much higher than in previous years. There was discussion around whether early purchases of clay or fill could reduce costs. Staff noted that supplying District-purchased materials could create additional risk if the materials failed to meet specifications and caused contractor delays. Members suggested further cost-benefit review.

Chairperson Beauregard requested a MOTION to accept the staff report and place on file. MOTION made by Mr. Gagne, seconded by Ms. Cabral-Mosher. MOTION passed 6 – 0.

8. Items That Could Not Be Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance

Mr. Gagne asked if there was an update on EPA's landfill gas testing and permitting correspondence. Mr. Novelli reported a call from Tom Cushing at MassDEP, confirming the District's opinion that an air operating permit will be triggered by Cell 7 construction and operation. A permit application will be due within a year of beginning operation of Cell 7 and nothing additional is due at this time.

9. Set Meeting Schedule

Meeting Schedule: The Committee announced the following meeting dates: October 27, 2026, for the next meeting, and Thursday, November 19, 2026, for the subsequent meeting.

10. Adjourn

Chairperson Beauregard requested a MOTION to adjourn. MOTION made by Ms. Conzatti seconded by Ms. Cabral-Mosher. MOTION passed 6 – 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

MEMOS

6a. Vote to Award – Bid for Installation of Landfill Gas Extraction Wells dated 10/22/26

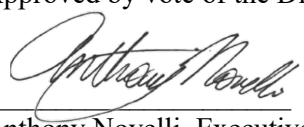
6b. Review and Approve Updated Workforce Participation Policy dated 10/22/26
Attachment: Workforce Participation Goals
Attachment: Supplier Diversity, Equal Opportunity and Workforce Participation Policy – Draft 2026

6c. Vote to approve Job Description – Assistant Executive Director dated 10/22/26

6d. Vote to Approve Transfer from Equipment Reserve dated 10/22/26

6e. Staff Report dated 10/22/26

Approved by vote of the District Committee on October 22, 2026



Anthony Novelli, Executive Director