REDUCTION
RECYCLING
COMPOSTING
DISPOSAL

Franklin County
Solid Waste Management District

117 Main Street., 2nd Floor, Greenfield, MA 01301 • (413) 772-2438 • Fax: (413) 772-3786
www.franklincountywastedistrict.org • info@franklincountywastedistrict.org

DISTRICT BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES
MEETING MINUTES
September 29, 2026

Representatives and Alternates Present: Marti Ferguson – Buckland; Benjamin Eastman – Colrain; Lynn Rubinstein – Conway; MA Swedlund – Deerfield; Bryan Smith – Erving; Vicky Jenkins – Gill; Chris Boutwell – Montague; Bob MacEwen – Northfield; Priscilla Curtis – Orange; Terry Narkewicz – Shelburne; Larry Kuttner – Whately

Representatives Absent: Andrea Donlon – Buckland; Wilder Sparks – Charlemont; Will Cosby – Hawley; Elissa Viarengo – Heath; Annette Herda – Leverett; Dan Poplawski – Rowe; Michael Mankowsky – Warwick; Asa de Roode – Wendell

Others Present: Jan Ameen – Executive Director; Amy Donovan – Program Director

This meeting was virtual only via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

I. Review and Approve Minutes: A motion was made by Ben Eastman to approve the March 18, 2026 meeting minutes; seconded by Priscilla Curtis. There were 2 abstentions. The motion passed by majority.

II. Election of Officers: Vicky Jenkins made a motion to keep the existing slate of officers. Chris Boutwell as Chair, Terry Narkewicz as Vice-Chair, M.A. Swedlund as Treasurer, and Stephanie Meehleder as Clerk. Ben Eastman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion to retain the current slate of officers passed unanimously.

III. Surplus Property Policy - vote: Jan discussed introducing a policy to guide the disposal of surplus property, similar to policies used by other towns within the District. A motion was made by Terry Narkewicz to adopt the Surplus Property Policy as presented. Ben Eastman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Sustainable Purchasing Policy - vote: The District discussed adopting a Sustainable Purchasing Policy similar to the policy adopted by towns for RDP. The new policy would replace the District's Recycled Product Purchasing policy. MA Swedlund moved to adopt the Sustainable Purchasing Policy, and Terry Narkewicz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Adopt OBRA 457b Plan with Nationwide – vote:

Because the FRCOG is no longer managing benefits, the District needs its own OBRA account with Nationwide. OBRA is like a retirement account similar to Social Security. The District must maintain an account for employees who do not qualify for the retirement system. Opening a new account with Nationwide requires governing board approval. Terry Narkewicz moved to adopt the OBRA 457b Plan with Nationwide, and Marti Ferguson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Executive Director's Report: Jan reported that unfavorable factors contributed to a financial loss at the May Clean Sweep collection day. Due to low turnout, the Erving site will be eliminated; future collections will continue at the Buckland and Whately sites. The District held a repair event at Franklin County Tech School and received a state grant to expand repair events into the West County towns. Overall, experiences at the repair events were positive, and the District plans to continue the program. In June, Jan completed the Recycling Dividend Program RDP Grants for the towns. Household hazardous waste collection was September 19th, approximately 500 residents participated in both Greenfield and Orange sites. Jan will conduct transfer station inspections this month. Additional details are available in the Executive Director's Report.

VII. Program Director's Report: Amy gave an update of Martin's Farm. They are fully operational and Adam Martin has returned to Greenfield permanently. The 19th Annual Reduce, Reuse, Recycle guide was published in April, highlighting unique local reuse programs, repair events, free stores, and swap sheds. Two more of Amy's articles have been published in the *Recorder*'s Going Green. The summer issue marked 10 years of Amy's columns, with 37 published in Going Green during this time. Her fall column covered the recyclability of paper cups and proper air conditioner disposal. The MRF Advisory Board has updated educational materials, including transfer station signs. In June, Amy provided extensive training for transfer station attendants at the Whately town offices, which included a tour of the Springfield MRF. New signs were also distributed. Amy recently completed work at the Franklin County Fair, where a new pizza box recycling bin was introduced this year. Clean Sweep is scheduled for October 17th. Amy continues to coordinate pickups for bulbs, ballasts, Freon, e-waste, tires, and propane tanks. A new vendor now handles e-waste. Additional details are available in the Program Director's Report.

VIII. Presentation: Recycling Dividned Program (RDP) Grant: Jan discussed the RDP grant program.

Other Business / Next Meeting: Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2026 which will be an in-person and virtual meeting.

IX. Items not anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting. N/A

Ben Eastman moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Terry Narkewicz. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

The following written materials were used at the meeting:

Surplus Property Policy
Sustainable Purchasing Policy
OBRA 457b Plan with Nationwide
RDP presentation