

Town of Buckfield, ME

Buckfield-Sumner Solid Waste Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, July 28, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Attendees: Joel Chapman, Jesse Wallingford, Jeffrey Coombe, Azalea Cormier

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER AND DECLARE A QUORUM

Minutes:

Jeffrey Coombe called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and declared a quorum.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT - OPEN SESSION

Minutes:

No public comments were made.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 5, 2026, SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes:

Azalea Cormier made a motion to approve. Jesse Wallingford seconded the motion.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

4. SOLID WASTE BUDGET AND FINANCIAL UPDATE

Minutes:

Azalea Cormier read the balance of the Buckfield-Sumner Solid Waste Bank Account.

NEW BUSINESS

5. SOLID WASTE HAULING RFP

Minutes:

Azalea Cormier made a motion to accept and publish the Solid-Waste Hauling RFP.
Jesse Wallingford seconded the motion.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

OLD BUSINESS

6. SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL UPDATE

Minutes:

Azalea Cormier read aloud the Town Manager's provided disposal update.
Jeffrey Coombe inquired about the existence of a policy.
The Committee will review at a subsequent meeting.

7. SWAP SHOP UPDATE - AZALEA CORMIER

Minutes:

Azalea Cormier provided an update on the Swap Shop progress. She discussed donations and grants received as well as pending grant applications. Stated that removal of the old structure needed to occur before a new structure could be built, per the DEP. Explained the old structure is still housing items of value for the Swap Shop and why the old building has not been removed yet. Also discussed why no work will begin until all the funds needed are secured, including specifics as they pertain to the grants. The structure proposed will be a stick built structure from Hill View Mini Barns. Once we know what is happening in September the Committee should have a more clear path going forward. In the meantime the Committee will be meeting to review the Swap Shop Guidelines again and the path forward if the towns do receive the larger grant or if they don't.

OTHER BUSINESS

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

a. Jesse Wallingford

Minutes:

Stated he believed everything was going well except for the shutdowns. Year over year, the facility is still at a decrease in tonnage disposed. It is just falling on some weekends that the facility is reaching capacity. Azalea Cormier interjected and stated that the Committee didn't want the public to think that because the numbers weren't rising they weren't going to do anything, which is why the effort to bring in the extra container was made. Issues with Archie's have made the wait longer than hoped.

b. Jeffrey Coombe

Minutes:

Jeffrey Coombe stated that on the fourth of July it felt like a last minute decision on whether the transfer station was going to be open or not.. He asked where the confusion came from and what happened. Azalea Cormier stated that her understanding is that the fourth of July is a recognized holiday and other town employees have that holiday off, but it was the transfer station employees that opted to work that holiday. She suggested that in the future the Committee look at those dates sooner. Jeffrey stated that he would rather have them work and the town's pay them, then residents get frustrated and throw trash on the side of the road. He confirmed the employees were on board.

9. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

Minutes:

The Committee discussed the deadline for the RFP. Azalea Cormier made a motion to schedule a tentative Solid Waste Committee meeting date for Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 6:00 PM in Buckfield. Joel Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

a. Regular Meeting

Minutes:

Azalea Cormier made a motion to set a meeting date for October 6th at 6:00 PM in Buckfield. Jeffrey Coombe seconded the motion.

Azalea clarified that the Committee will meet in September if they have heard back about the grant by then, and if not they will shift to October 6th.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

10. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

Jeffrey Coombe made a motion to adjourn. Jesse Wallingford seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 PM.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0