

Valley Regional Services Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

Valley Waste-Resource Management Board room with Virtual Attendance Option

APPROVED MINUTES

A meeting of the Valley Regional Services Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., based in the Valley Waste-Resource Management board room with a virtual attendance option.

Board Members in Attendance:

Municipality / Town	Board Members	Others in Attendance
Municipality of Annapolis County	Dianne LeBlanc, Warden In person	Rob Frost, CAO In Person
Town of Annapolis Royal	Amery Boyer, Mayor Virtual	Sandi Millett Campbell, CAO Regrets
Town of Berwick	Mike Trinacty, Mayor In Person	Jen Boyd, CAO In person
Town of Kentville	Andrew Zebian, Mayor In Person	Chris McNeill, CAO Regrets
Municipality of the County of Kings	Dave Corkum, Mayor In Person	Andrea Hyslop, Deputy CAO In Person
Town of Middleton	Gary Marshall, Deputy Mayor Virtual	Ashley Crocker, CAO Regrets
Town of Wolfville	Jodi MacKay, Mayor In person	Glenn Horne, CAO Regrets
Municipality of Digby	Linda Gregory, Warden Virtual	Tyler Pulley, CAO Virtual
Tidal Transit		Meg Hodges, General Manager In Person
Valley Waste		Andrew Garrett, General Manager In Person
Tidal Transit & Valley Waste		Dan L'Abbe, Director Finance & Corporate Services In Person
Recording Secretary		Andrea Garrett, VWRM In Person

Agenda Item No. 1 –Welcome and Call to Order

Chair Corkum welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Agenda Item No. 2 – Approval of Agenda

ON MOTION OF MAYOR ZEBIAN and seconded by WARDEN LEBLANC that the Valley Regional Services Board of Directors approve the April 15, 2026, agenda, with the removal of *Agenda Item 7 – In Camera Session for Tidal Transit Authority.*

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 3 - Approval of the Minutes

Agenda Item No. 3.1 – Approval of the Meeting Minutes held March 18, 2026

ON MOTION OF MAYOR TRINACTY and seconded by MAYOR MACKAY that the Valley Regional Services Board of Directors approve the March 18, 2026, Meeting Minutes.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 4 – Tidal Transit Authority

Agenda Item No. 4.1 – General Manager’s Report

As included in the meeting package, General Manager Meg Hodges presented the Tidal Transit Authority General Manager’s Report. Key updates included the following:

- The G2 bus route remains suspended, with a targeted return in August in conjunction with the launch of the new schedule.
- Bus 74 has entered service. Buses 71 and 63 are expected to retire in the near future.
- Up to 10 buses are currently in circulation, with a target fleet of 13 buses.
- The increase in diesel fuel costs continues to be monitored.
- Ridership levels have rebounded following a decline in December.
- The discontinuation of onboard ticket sales has been well received.
- Procurement for renovations to the New Minas depot has been paused while priority work is finalized.
- Meetings with LINK NS are planned.
- Work on the transfer station at Cornwallis Park is underway.

In response to Board questions, Management noted the following:

- Retired buses will be retained and used for parts.
- There are no significant service impacts anticipated due to construction schedules. Management remains in regular communication with municipalities to stay informed of construction-related updates.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR ZEBIAN and seconded by WARDEN LEBLANC that the Valley Regional Services Board of Directors receive the April 15, 2026, Tidal Transit Authority General Manager’s Report.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No 4.2 – Tidal Transit Authority – Request for Decision, New Tidal Transit Logo

The Board considered a Request for Decision regarding a proposed redesigned logo for the rebranding to Tidal Transit Authority.

General Manager Hodges shared a presentation with the Board to display options for the new logo which must be ready for the printer by June for the summer launch of new schedule and buses. After careful consideration of the logo samples, Option 2 was preferred by majority. Mayor Boyer abstained from this discussion.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR ZEBIAN and seconded by WARDEN LEBLANC that the Valley Regional Services Board of Directors select Option 2 for the new logo of Tidal Transit Authority.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 5 – Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority

Agenda Item No. 5.1 – General Manager’s Report

As circulated in the meeting package, General Manager Andrew Garrett presented the Valley Waste-Resource Management General Manager's Report. Key highlights included:

- Final provincial Diversion Credit payments are delayed pending the clarification of data from multiple regions.
- Final tonnage reports indicate a significant increase in commercial garbage, largely attributed to Scotia Recycling and mixed construction and demolition (C&D) material. Overall outgoing garbage volumes have increased primarily due to pressure-treated wood and drywall now requiring landfill disposal.
- The bulky item program changes are progressing well overall. An issue related to the handling of king-size mattresses, caused by a staffing challenge, was identified and is actively being addressed.
- Efforts are underway to address litter and illegal dumping at both facilities and along roadways.
- The cardboard baler project has been completed, closed, and delivered within budget.
- A new electric loader has been acquired, representing the first municipally owned unit of its kind.
- A new software application, developed in Wolfville, is being piloted allowing collection contractors to photograph and document set-out issues in real time.
- Expansion work on the tipping floor building begins next week, with all required permits approved.
- A bidders' meeting for the WMC expansion and warehouse project has been held.
- Valley Waste will be requesting data from municipalities for the annual adjustment of dwelling units.
- At the most recent Nova Scotia Solid Waste Management Regional Chairs Committee meeting, members requested that a letter is sent to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change requesting the development of a provincially regulated sharps (needles) disposal program.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR MACKAY and seconded by MAYOR TRINACTY that the Valley Regional Services Board of Directors receive the April 15, 2026, Valley Waste-Resource Management General Manager's Report.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 5.2: Valley Waste-Resource Management Authority – Request for Decision, Temporary Borrowing Resolution

Director L'Abbe explained the need for the resolution. This is only needed for Valley Waste and is the next stage in provincial process to approve the \$2.4 million in borrowing. The proposed request for decision would be for the municipalities to approve security of this borrowing. Warden Gregory abstained from this discussion.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR TRINACTY and seconded by MAYOR ZEBIAN that the Valley Regional Services Board of Directors formally authorizes the Chair and General Manager, serving as Secretary to the Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority, to execute the Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance Subject to Interest Rate in the amount of \$2,400,000 to be used for fiscal year 2026-2027 budgeted Capital Projects and further to submit the fully executed resolution to the Nova Scotia Department of Finance & Treasury Board for approval and release of funds.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 6 – Tidal Transit and Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authorities

Agenda Item No. 6.1 - Tidal Transit and Valley Region Solid Waste- Resource Management Authorities - Request for Decision - Audited Statement Treatment of the Change in Ownership of Both Entities

Director L'Abbe advised that the legal work related to the IMSA, originally intended to be effective April 1, 2025, was delayed. The auditors requested clarification in how the change in ownership should be reflected in the audited financial statements.

The Audit Committee reviewed whether to report two periods or treat the year as a single reporting period based on intent. The Committee recommended to the Board that the full year be reported under one treatment.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR ZEBIAN and MAYOR MACKAY that the Valley Regional Services Board of Directors direct staff to settle the surplus or deficit for fiscal year 2025/26 using the annual budget funding proportions for both Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority and Tidal Transit Authority.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda item No. 8 – In Camera Session for Tidal Transit and Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authorities in keeping with Section 22(2)(c) of the Municipal Government Act

ON MOTION OF MAYOR MACKAY and seconded by WARDEN LEBLANC that the Valley Regional Services Board of Directors move to an In Camera session for Valley Waste-Resource Management and Tidal Transit in keeping with section 22(2)(c) of the Municipal Government Act at 10:50 a.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

The April Regular Monthly Meeting of the Valley Regional Services Board of Directors was called back to open session at 11:40 a.m.

Agenda Item No. 9 – Correspondence

No correspondence at this time

Agenda Item No. 10 – Next Meeting

The next Regular Monthly Meeting of the Valley Regional Services Board of Directors will be held on **Wednesday, May 20, 2026, beginning at 10:00 a.m.** in keeping with the normal meeting schedule.

Agenda Item No. 11 – Adjournment

As there was no further business to bring forward, moved by Warden Gregory, seconded by Mayor Zebian that the April 15, 2026, regular monthly meeting of the Valley Regional Services Board adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrea Garrett

Recording Secretary

Administration Manager, Valley Waste-Resource Management