

Solid Waste Disposal and Recyclable Materials Processing Authority of Broward County, Florida  
SWABC Executive Committee C&D & Commercial Recycling Subcommittee Meeting  
February 17, 2026, 9:00AM – 10:30 AM  
Broward County Government Center West  
2nd Floor Hearing Room  
1 North University Drive  
Plantation, FL 33324  
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order, roll call was taken and a quorum established.

Present: Subcommittee Chair Mead and Vice Chair Horland.

Not Present: Member Newton.

Meeting Minutes - Motion: A motion was made by Vice Chair Horland and seconded by Chair Mead to approve the minutes of January 13, 2025. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting continued with public comment.

Commercial Recycling Program – SCS – Mr. Dietch of SCS Engineers presented the draft mandatory commercial recycling ordinance and fact sheet as discussion documents intended to show how other Florida jurisdictions structure similar ordinances and to gather feedback before revision. He said the ordinance supports Broward County’s resource stewardship strategy and 75 percent recycling goal and outlined a framework including minimum standards, flexibility for businesses, phased compliance, education and outreach, progressive enforcement, possible exemptions, self-haul options, and a fee structure designed so municipalities would not bear implementation costs.

Members discussed applying the ordinance to temporary events, multifamily properties, and venue facilities, with Chair Mead supporting inclusion due to their recovery potential. Discussion also addressed contamination issues, education needs, and allowing businesses flexibility in choosing recyclable materials. Mr. Dietch noted the timeline was intentionally aggressive because the ordinances could move forward even if the SWA did not survive ratification, but acknowledged revisions would follow additional feedback.

Vice Chair Horland said she supported both the C&D and commercial recycling efforts but was not comfortable proceeding until TAC reviewed implementation concerns. Mr. Dietch agreed the presentation would return to TAC and invited written comments, noting the next phase would focus on implementation and supporting education and outreach.

Additional Public Comment Opened by Chair Mead - During additional public comment, one speaker urged the Subcommittee to simplify both ordinances and rely on existing recovered materials law. He stated C&D compliance should be tied to permit conditions and final inspections rather than penalties, with landfills rejecting unprocessed material and contractors directed to recycling facilities. He also emphasized that recovered materials regulation cannot exclude properly permitted dealers.

Vice Chair Horland asked SCS to address the “keep it simple” approach, and Mr. Dietch agreed the goal was to simplify the ordinances while maintaining compliance. Vice Chair Horland also raised the county’s global disposal agreement and flow control as obstacles to opening material streams to additional processors, with counsel noting discussions were ongoing.

Another speaker added that C&D recycling is often driven by economics because landfill space is limited, but commercial recycling enforcement remains challenging because recovered materials law limits municipal control and cities often lack resources to track where materials go.

C&D Recycling Program – RRS – Mr. Barnes of RRS then updated the Subcommittee on the draft C&D ordinance, reporting comments were received from seven entities and identifying policy questions requiring Subcommittee and Executive Committee direction. He said coordination was needed with the county, legal counsel, TAC, and permitting departments to determine implementation, including whether the county should adopt an ordinance first, or cities adopt reciprocal ordinances, or whether a separate ILA could allow county enforcement.

Mr. Barnes requested all additional comments be received within two weeks to maintain the aggressive schedule and noted progress could slow as cities review permitting impacts. He also reported that the Recycling Certification Institute was willing to present on certification and implementation. Subcommittee members agreed broader outreach was needed to the building community and other affected stakeholders. It was confirmed the draft ordinances were available online, and Chair Mead suggested presenting the certification program to the Executive Committee to accelerate progress.

Adjournment - Motion: A motion was made by Vice Chair Horland and seconded by Chair Mead to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Mead adjourned the meeting.