Board of Supervisors Environmental Committee
Meeting Summary
May 12, 2026, at 3:00 P.M.
Government Center Conference Room 11

Board of Supervisors (Board) Members Present:
Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay
Supervisor Walter L. Alcorn, Hunter Mill District
Supervisor James N. Bierman, Jr., Dranesville District
Supervisor Andres F. Jimenez, Mason District
Supervisor Patrick S. Herrity, Springfield District
Supervisor Rodney L. Lusk, Franconia District
Supervisor Dalia A. Palchik, Providence District (Committee Chair)
Supervisor Rachna Sizemore Heizer, Braddock District
Supervisor Kathy L. Smith, Sully District
Supervisor Daniel G. Storck, Mount Vernon District

Others Present:
Bryan J. Hill, County Executive
Elizabeth Teare, County Attorney
Jennifer Miller, Deputy County Executive

Link to agenda and meeting materials: Board of Supervisors Environmental Committee Meeting: May 12, 2026 | Board Of Supervisors

Item I: Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 3:16 p.m. by Supervisor Palchik, Environmental Committee Chair. The February 24, 2026, meeting summary was accepted. Supervisor Palchik also highlighted achievements from the Climate Action Progress Report, the subject of a memorandum included in the Board package.

Item II: Solid Waste Management Update

Chris Herrington, Director, Eric Forbes, Solid Waste Management Deputy Director and Matt Adams, Solid Waste Management Division Director with the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) provided an update on the Unified Sanitation District (USD) model development. Absent further direction from the Board, staff will end all work on the model. Mr. Harrison also presented on fiscal issues and related challenges involving flow control and tip fees. One possible solution is the passage of a sustainability fee, to begin in Fiscal Year 2028, which would cost the average resident $59 per year. Without such a fee, severe reductions in operating and personnel expenses would be necessary. Finally, Mr. Harrison requested feedback on a new food waste recycling authority from the state, to require large generators to separate organic waste from other solid waste.

Board members discussed the challenges with moving forward with the USD, with several Committee members agreeing with the decision to end work on the model. Regarding the food

waste recycling authority, the Board agreed it was best to continue to work with legislators to improve the legislation and authority before moving forward with an ordinance.

The majority of Board discussion revolved around the solid waste fiscal challenges and ways to address them. Staff provided additional details on the history of Fund 40150 (Refuse Disposal) and the county's contractual liability issues with Reworld. The Board noted several concerns with the proposed sustainability fee and requested staff return to the Environmental Committee in July to discuss alternative paths forward.

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.