**WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)**

**MINUTES - August 21, 2025**

**Members:** Rick Yeatman - Chairperson, Terry Ciarlante - Clean Communities Coordinator, Craig Buffington, Gabrielle DeSorte, Michael Ward, Jennifer Treloar, Kyle Santos, Kevin Hassall. Bob Doney - Township Liaison

**Green Team Members:** Rich Casian, Ed Paul & Charlie Damiani

**Meeting called to order** at 7:01 PM. This meeting was held in the Waterford Township Municipal Courtroom. In accordance with Chapter 231 of the Open Public Meeting Act, notice of the time and place for this meeting was listed in the Central Record and the Courier Post. The Sunshine Rule was announced and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

**Roll Call:** Rick Yeatman, Jennifer Treloar, Michael Ward, Terry Ciarlante, Ed Paul, Rich Cassian, Kyle Santos & Charlie Damiani. Absent: Craig Buffington, Gabrielle DeSorte, Kevin Hassall & Bob Doney.

**Reading and approval of minutes:** Minutes from the 7/19/2025 meeting were read and approved. Motion, Kyle Santos; Second, Jennifer Treloar. Motion carried.

**Members of Public Present:** Pete Wristbridge, Atco resident and former member of the Waterford Township Environmental Commission. Pete recently sent a letter of interest to Mayor Bob Doney.

**Chair’s report**: Rick Yeatman:

Visitor Project: (Rhea Hood-Rhoane) Last month Rhea provided us with a project scope document for our review and potential approval. It was also sent to Mayor Doney. All discussion of Rhea’s “The Green Team” booklet series was favorable. The general consensus was we would want to review a completed prototype before funding.

Old business: TREX Recycling. Rick Yeatman: If we are to go forward with recycling plastic film through TREX, we will need to purchase a scale and drop-off container. We would then have 365 days to collect 1000 lbs of plastic film, after which TREX would send us a $600 park bench at no cost. The WTEC would be responsible for transporting the collected plastic film to Acme in Voorhees. The estimates for a scale are $500, and a large collection container, $2500. After some discussion, the general consensus was that if we bought a scale, Public Works could use it if we discontinued the program. We could do a trial run with recycling bins from Public Works. We also discussed the need to publicize the program.

Rick made a motion that we authorize spending $600 for a scale and banner; Jennifer seconded. Motion carried 4-1; Terry Ciarlante dissented.

Rick made a motion that we set the Fall Town Clean up date for October 18; Kyle Santos seconded. Motion carried.

**Clean Communities Report**: Terry Ciarlante: Account balance is $58,028.74. Terry handed out jackets to Jen, Kyle, and Charlie. We also have a jacket for Kevin. Social media presence: We have 580 followers on Facebook. We had 499 views in the past 28 days.

**Township Committee Liaison Report:** Mayor Bob Doney via speakerphone: Atco Lake - Lily pad treatment was completed, there were reported concerns about the presence of an endangered species. Mayor Doney will follow up with the Pinelands Commission and the DEP; Chairman Rick Yeatman asked for a copy of the tech data sheet; Mayor Doney will get that to him.

The Township has hired a new Chief Financial Officer. Our Municipal Judge has resigned. Environmental Commission member and Township Prosecutor Gabrielle DeSorte has been appointed to the position.

The Township received a $400,000 grant from the state to invest in solar panels for the Public Works building. If there are any funds remaining, we’ll look to install solar panels on more Township owned buildings.

October 18th will be a free fishing day in Camden County; Chairman Rick Yeatman asked for the County to clean Atco Lake prior to 10/18.

**(Educational Programs Report)** Jennifer Treloar: reported that she has been in contact with Waterford Township teachers over the summer and would like to update the WES 5th grade teachers as to when we can start purchasing items for their project. Mayor Doney requested that he, Rick, and Jennifer meet soon to discuss next steps. Kyle Santos and Jennifer are working on application forms to be used by teachers.

**Land Use Board Liaison Report:** Mike Ward: Nothing new to report.

**Trails Ambassador Report:** Rich Casian: Rich reported he has been observing a lot of deer.

**Pinelands Commission notifications**: Rick Yeatman: Nothing new to report.

**Comments from members**: Rick welcomed Pete Wristbridge; Pete provided his contact information and discussed his interest in joining the Commission.

**Motion was made to adjourn** by Terry Ciarlante, seconded by Kyle Santos. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Next Meeting Date: September 18th,, 2025

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Treloar, WTEC Recording Secretary