

WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)
MINUTES – December 18, 2025

Members: Rick Yeatman - Chairperson, Terry Ciarlante - Clean Communities Coordinator, Craig Buffington, Pete Wristbridge, Michael Ward, Jennifer Treloar, Kyle Santos, Tom O'Neill. Bob Doney - Township Liaison

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

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM. This meeting was held in the Waterford Township Municipal Conference Room. 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, Terry Ciarlante, Pete Wristbridge, Jennifer Treloar, Kyle Santos, Rich Casian, Mike Ward, Ed Paul, Tom O'Neil, Mayor Bob Doney Absent: Craig Buffington, Charlie Damiani

Reading and approval of minutes: Minutes from the 11/20/25 meeting were reviewed and approved with one correction – Rich Casian's last name was misspelled. Motion, Jennifer Treloar; Second, Peter Wristbridge. Motion carried.

Members of Public Present: No members were present.

Membership: Mayor Doney and Rick introduced our newest member, Tom O'Neill.

Old business

Visitor Project: (Rhea Hood-Rhoane) Rhea could not make it to the meeting. She hopes to attend the January 2026 meeting.

TREX Recycling: (Rick Yeatman) Rick reported that TREX is on hiatus, the company will be accepting new members in January. Pete reported that once we sign up with TREX, we will receive three collection boxes from them. We reviewed the collection requirements. Recyclable materials should be checked, then put in a clear plastic bag. We should print off large labels with our name, contact information, and space to write in the weight. Pete volunteered to be our point person for our TREX project.

Chair's Report

Winter on the Avenue: (Rick Yeatman) We had a good crowd with great participation from attending children. Our handouts were appreciated.

Atco Lake: (Mayor Doney) Camden County has received approvals for herbicide application from the Pinelands Commission. We expect them to apply herbicides in May 2026. The parking lot has been cleared and the first layer of blacktop applied. Dirt piles have been removed. The Pinelands Commission, in a letter dated December 5, 2025, to Lauren Bonus at Camden County, stated that Camden County's proposal to use herbicides Aquaneat and Tribune were approved. The herbicides' active ingredients are glyphosate and diquat-dibromide. Mayor Doney was assured that our approvals will carry over for 24 months.

Mayor Doney and Deputy Mayor Giangiulio had a conference call with Commission Nash. They requested that the County work on multiple items with the Atco Lake project simultaneously. Mayor Doney reported that \$2.7 million has been allocated and bonded for the project. In January, there will be meeting with representatives from Camden County, the Pinelands Commission, and the DEP to discuss progress and next steps for Atco Lake.

Education Programs: (Jennifer Treloar) Mayor Doney delivered the environmental books we purchased to Elizabeth Seth, media specialist, at Waterford Elementary School. Jen will follow up with Liz Seth about the signage she is creating. Jen announced our interest in funding environmental books and programs at the December board meeting of the Waterford Township Public Library. Library director Dana Nicklas sent Jen a list of requested books, which was introduced at the meeting. Jen made a motion to approve purchase of the listed books; Rick seconded. Motion carried. Jen will continue communications with the library about other environmental programs we could possibly fund.

New Business - Upcoming Events:

Spring Clean-up: April 18, 2026

Fall Clean-up: October 17, 2026

Camden County has not announced the Hazardous Waste Drop Off dates yet, so we will wait until 2026 to schedule our shredding events.

Township Committee Liaison Report: (Mayor Doney) Construction for the new warehouse on the White Horse Pike has begun, with an estimated completion date of December 2026. Mayor Doney also reported on the creation of a cannabis sub committee and stressed the Township Committee's commitment to listening to residents and reflecting the will of the people. Mayor Doney also announced that this would be his last meeting as township liaison, that Committeeman Andrew Wade will be replacing him in 2026.

Clean Communities Report: (Terry Ciarlante) Our Facebook page has 682 followers. She thinks the sharp increase in followers was due to us sponsoring the Grand Falloons at Atco Elementary School. We are arranging to bring the Grand Falloons back in 2026. The cost for 3 performances at Waterford Elementary School will be \$2100; the cost for one performance at Thomas Richards will be \$895.

We had 9195 views and 1141 engagements on our page. Our balance is \$72,058.65. Terry suggested we create a recycling mascot for town events. We all were in favor of Rich Casian being a mascot. Rich and Terry will brainstorm on possible mascot ideas and costumes.

Land Use Board Liaison Report: (Mike Ward) Nothing to report.

Trails Ambassador Report: Rich Casian: Nothing to report.

Pinelands Commission notifications: (Rick Yeatman/Mayor Doney) Herbicide application approval as mentioned in Atco Lake report.

Comments from members: Rick asked if we would be interested in doing more outreach on invasive species. He brought a printout of mullein plants as an example. Ed suggested that we discuss invasive species on our Facebook page when they are in bloom. One idea presented was doing this in the form of "wanted posters." Jen reported that the library would like to be considered for TREX benches.

Motion was made to adjourn by Pete Whistbridge. Seconded by Kyle Santos. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Next Meeting Date: January 15th, 2026

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Treloar, WTEC Recording Secretary