

A G E N D A

A regular meeting of the Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee (KWBC) to be held on **Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.** in the Hatchet Conference Room at the Charles Beatty Municipal Services Building, 408 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas.

Members: Madeline Bracken, Chairman
Brent Gundert, Vice Chairman
Polly Williams
Julie Mendenhall
Forrest John
Austin Mauldin
Vacant

Ex-Officio: Kevin Strength, Waxahachie Chamber of Commerce

1. Call to Order
2. **Public Comments:** Persons may address the Committee on any issues. This is the appropriate time for citizens to address the Committee on any concern whether on this agenda or not. In accordance with the State of Texas Open Meetings Act, the Committee may not comment or deliberate such statements during this period, except as authorized by Section 551.042, Texas Government Code. ***Speakers must observe the three (3) minute time limit.***

In order to be recognized during Public Comments, please complete a Public Appearance Card located at the entrance of the meeting room. Please present the card to the City Secretary, or their designee, ten (10) minutes before the start of the business meeting.

3. Consider approval of Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee meeting minutes of February 5, 2026
4. Hear Leadership Ellis County Project Presentation and take any necessary action
5. Introduce the Building and Community Services Department and discuss potential partnership opportunities
6. Discuss and consider Spring Cleanup planning scheduled for April 25, 2026
7. Discuss Pollinator Garden Planning
8. Hear update on Master Gardner Expo
9. Discuss Keep Texas Beautiful Conference
10. Hear update on Waste Connections Recycling Program
11. Review and discuss nominations and award PIN Award
12. Review and discuss the Governor's Community Grant

13. Review and discuss current Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee bylaws and take any necessary action
14. Set next meeting date and time
15. Adjourn

The Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee reserves the right to go into Executive Session as authorized by Section 551.071(2) of the Texas Government Code, for the purpose of seeking confidential legal advice from legal counsel on any agenda item listed herein

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

This meeting location is wheelchair-accessible. Parking for mobility-impaired persons is available. Any request for sign interpretive services must be made forty-eight hours ahead of the meeting. To make arrangements, call the ADA Coordinator at (469) 309-4000 or (TDD) 1-800-RELAY TX

Notice of Potential Quorum

One or more members of the Waxahachie City Council may be present at this meeting.

No action will be taken by the City Council at this meeting.

Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee
February 5, 2026

A regular meeting of the City of Waxahachie Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee was held on Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. in the Hatchet Conference Room at the Charles Beatty Municipal Services Building, 408 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas.

Members Present: Madeline Bracken, Chairman
Brent Gundert, Vice Chairman
Polly Williams (arrived at 4:46pm)
Austin Mauldin
Julie Mendenhall (arrived at 4:32pm)
Forrest John

Members Absent: Andrew Weyand

Ex-Officio
Member Absent: Kevin Strength, Waxahachie Chamber of Commerce

City Council
Liaison Absent: Travis Smith, City Council Liaison

Others Present: Brad Barnes, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation
Danielle Guinn, Recreation Manager
Chris Wright, City Council Member
Patrick Souter, City Council Member
Chris Roark, Waxahachie Daily Light
Abel Moreno, Waste Connections
Kevin Seals, Waste Connections

1. Call to Order

Chair Madeline Bracken called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. Public Comments

Chair Bracken explained the new Public Meeting Appearance Card. No Public Comments.

3. Consider approval of Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee meeting minutes of December 4, 2025

Following discussions on current events, Vice Chairman Brent Gundert noted that the dates for the cleanup event were listed incorrectly in the minutes. The correct listing should have been: Cleanup Event Date – April 25, 2026 with the backup date being May 2, 2026.

Action:

Brent Gundert motioned to approve the Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee meeting minutes of December 4, 2025 with noted amendments. Motion was seconded by Austin Mauldin and carried unanimously (5-0). Polly Williams was not yet present at the meeting at time of voting.

4. Discussion on potential recycling program with Waste Connection Representative

Chair Bracken introduced Abel Moreno and Kevin Seals from Waste Connections. Committee Member Forrest John commented on his satisfaction as a resident on the quality of service by Waste Connections specifically in relation to the recent winter storm.

Mr. John requested information from Waste Connections on metal and cardboard recycling options for the Waxahachie Convenience Station as well as clarification on recycling and sorting procedures once taken to recycling facility. Committee members also voiced their curiosity about whether the recyclable materials were in fact recycled or simply dumped in the landfill.

Mr. Moreno informed the Committee that cardboard and paper were both legitimately recycled if allowed based on contamination levels. Mr. Seals explained that the recycling facility used by Waste Connections is Republic Services in Fort Worth and they provide a set rate to Waste Connections based on number of trucks. Mr. Seals went on to explain that Republic Services does not separate the items at time of receipt but rather does so later following the drop-off.

Mr. Moreno offered that they could get pricing on how much it would cost for Republic Services to conduct an audit of a truck for every drop-off therefore being able to provide percentages or quantities of each recyclable material. Multiple committee members explained that such numbers would be beneficial in helping to justify the expense of providing specific recycling containers at the Convenience Station.

Waste Connections mentioned that they would report back with audit pricing and investigate different recycling facilities for specific materials (metal, etc.). Chair Bracken went on to request contamination numbers per truck to be used to help educate citizens about the impact of contamination.

5. Hear update on KWBC events from January 2025 to current

Chair Bracken mentioned to the Committee that we have a designated Keep Texas Beautiful mentor from the Brazos County named J. Brooke Arellano. Chair Bracken also mentioned that the grant check had officially been received.

March 2 – Governor’s Achievement Award due

March 21 (9am – 11am) – Garden Planting Day at Sims Library (pending completion of roof construction at library). Austin Mauldin & Forrest John volunteered to help with certifications.

March 28 (9am – 4pm) - Ellis County Master Gardeners at our 25th Annual Lawn & Garden Expo at the Waxahachie Civic Center. Committee discussed what elements to bring to the event. Committee Member Polly Williams volunteers to take the lead on the event. Mr. John suggested the Committee invite Waste Connections to be a part of the event and reminded committee members that they needed to collect zip codes at the event.

April 25 – Spring Litter Cleanup Day. Committee members discussed different options for litter cleanup locations for Litter Cleanup Day as well as dumpster locations for Dumpster Day. The Committee discussed revisiting Roger Spring Branch Walkway and adding the area behind and

around Academy Sports & Outdoors. Chair Bracken mentioned that the flyers need to be done by the next Committee meeting. Vice Chairman Gundert requested a proof of the flyers before they go to print noting that there was a mistake on previous flyers.

6. Review and discuss nominations and award PIN award

The Committee originally intended to skip this item as there are no nominations and no award this month. However, Forrest John opined that there needs to be an appointed designee who presents the award at the City Council meeting. Following further discussion, the committee also determined that they need a PIN Award script for presenting the award at City Council.

7. Discuss the Keep Texas Beautiful Conference, associated costs, and take any necessary action

Chair Bracken announced that the conference would be May 12-14, 2026 and that there was an option to purchase one registration and host a zoom watch party to allow all committee members to participate together. The Committee discussed hosting a group watch party in the Parks Conference Room on May 12, 13, & 14 for all who wished to attend. Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation Brad Barnes noted that a quorum notice would need to be posted prior to this event.

Action:

Polly Williams moved to approve moving forward with purchasing one registration for the Keep Texas Beautiful Conference and hosting a zoom watch party for all committee members in the Parks Conference Room. Motion was seconded by Forrest John and carried unanimously (6-0).

8. Set next meeting date and time

Per the schedule, the Committee discussed setting the next meeting for Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Guinn
Recreation Manager
Waxahachie Parks & Recreation Department