

# **A G E N D A**

A regular meeting of the Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee (KWBC) to be held on ***August 6, 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  
Desiree Ramirez

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 May 7, 2026
4. Hear update on recycling programming and the audit report from Waste Connections
5. Discuss Compost Grant Applications
6. Discuss planning for the fall cleanups
7. Review and discuss nominations and award PIN Award
8. Discuss Partners in Education opportunity
9. Discuss the Keep Texas Beautiful Conference and discuss potential initiatives for Waxahachie
10. Review the new website
11. Review KWBC's annual numbers and impact to date
12. Set next meeting date and time
13. 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.***

A regular meeting of the City of Waxahachie Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee was held on May 7, 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  
Julie Mendenhall  
Forrest John  
Austin Mauldin  
Desiree Ramirez

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

City Council  
Liaison Absent: Travis Smith, City Council Liaison

Others Present: Gumaro Martinez, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Brad Barnes, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation  
Morgan Davis, Administrative Coordinator

#### **1. Call to Order**

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

#### **2. Public Comments**

None.

#### **3. Consider approval of Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee meeting minutes of April 2, 2026**

##### **Action:**

*Polly Williams motioned to approve the Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee meeting minutes of April 2, 2026 as presented. Motion was seconded by Desiree Ramirez and carried unanimously (7-0).*

#### **4. Hear update on Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Projects**

Chair Bracken provided updates on recent Keep Waxahachie Beautiful initiatives. The Spring Cleanup was successful, with 45 volunteers collecting 390 pounds of trash across two locations, while Dumpster Days served 142 households and filled 8 dumpsters. Due to the event's success, the two-location format may be used again for the fall cleanup.

Updates were also shared on the Nicholas P. Sims Library Project, including thriving H-E-B grant-funded plants, ongoing support from the Indian Trail Master Naturalists, and a new customized

sign currently in production. The library irrigation system remains unrepaired, though recent rainfall has helped maintain the landscaping.

Committee Member Forrest John reported that discussions with Waste Connections regarding the recycling program are ongoing, with Director of Parks & Recreation Gumaro Martinez set to follow up. Chair Bracken and Committee Member Desiree Ramirez also shared updates on school career day presentations and encouraged additional committee volunteers for future events.

## **5. Hear update on Cleanup Closet**

Updates were provided on the Cleanup Closet program and volunteer efforts. Year-to-date, 258 volunteers have collected 1,176 pounds of garbage. Staff reported that all major cleanup events, along with four smaller recent cleanups, have been entered into the database to help maintain eligibility for future equipment opportunities. A suggestion was also made to ask volunteers how they learned about cleanup events in order to better evaluate marketing efforts, with social media currently serving as the primary outreach source.

The Committee also discussed an upcoming cleanup event with the Google Data Center, which will provide 50 volunteers along with equipment such as boats and kayaks. Members discussed identifying a “heavy duty” cleanup location with water access, including possible sites along Trunk Creek south of downtown near Highway 77 and another creek area near the DMV.

## **6. Discuss Keep Waxahachie Beautiful impact and direction**

The Committee discussed several recycling and waste diversion initiatives aimed at increasing Keep Waxahachie Beautiful’s community impact. Members reaffirmed support for a bulk cardboard recycling initiative and requested that it be reconsidered during the current budget process. Additional discussion included a student-led plastics recycling container currently available at one location and the value of expanding metal recycling efforts.

Concerns were also raised regarding usable items being discarded during Dumpster Days events. Committee members discussed potential waste diversion strategies, including organizing a “freecycle” or swap event, partnering with local organizations such as Bethlehem Revisited, and utilizing volunteers during Dumpster Days to help redirect reusable items to nonprofit organizations. The possibility of creating a separate collection line for reusable items in partnership with the Salvation Army was also suggested.

## **7. Discuss and review current Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee bylaws and take any necessary action**

The Committee discussed proposed amendments to the Keep Waxahachie Beautiful bylaws, including removing the Chamber-appointed ex officio seat due to ongoing lack of attendance and participation, and revising Article VII to require committee members to attend at least two committee-sponsored events within a rolling twelve-month period. The general consensus of the Committee was to move forward with the proposed amendments and submit them to legal counsel for review.

**Action:**

*Polly Williams moved to request that the City Council amend the bylaws to remove the Chamber-appointed ex officio seat due to continued lack of attendance and participation, and to amend Article VII of the bylaws to require committee members to attend at least two KWBC-sponsored events within a rolling twelve-month period. Motion was seconded by Forrest John and carried unanimously (7-0).*

**8. Discuss Composting Grant**

Chair Bracken presented an informational sheet regarding a proposed composting grant pilot program aimed at reducing organic waste in local schools and community gardens.

The Committee discussed purchasing Aerobin 400 composting systems for distribution through a pilot program focused initially on schools. The program is expected to provide approximately 6–8 composting units, with recipients required to track usage data for one year in exchange for retaining the equipment.

Applications for the program are expected to be released soon, with selections anticipated in August or September 2026 for a fall program launch.

It was the consensus of the Committee to allocate \$580 in matching funds to supplement a \$500 private donation, creating a total project budget of \$1,080.

**9. Hear update on Keep Texas Beautiful Conference being held May 12–14, 2026**

Administrative Coordinator Morgan Davis provided the dates and location for the virtual conference.

**10. Set next meeting date and time**

The next Keep Waxahachie Beautiful Committee meeting will be held August 6, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

**11. Adjourn**

Respectfully submitted,

Morgan Davis, Administrative Coordinator