

**The Prairie Village Environmental Committee Meeting met at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, in the Prairie Village City Hall Multipurpose Room. The recording secretary was Tamara McMahon.**

The meeting was called to order at 5:26 pm

Members in attendance: Jim Sellers (Chair) Magna Born, Mae Ellen Terrebonne, Melinda Lewis, Tamara McMahon, Jeff Roberts, Piper Reimer, Penny Mahon, Garry Polley, Drew Richardson, Johanna Comes, Rick Wohlfarth and Travis Carson. City Administrator Wes Jordan was also in attendance and filled in as staff liaison.

Tonight was Mae Ellen, Garry, and Drew's first meeting with the committee. The group went around and introduced themselves.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Rick made a motion to approve the agenda. Magda seconded the motion. All were in favor.

### **Approval of the January 2026 Minutes**

Jeff made a motion to approve the minutes. Rick seconded the motion.

The word ReUseFul is misspelled and should be corrected to ReUseFull. All committee members are in favor of approval with the spelling correction.

### **Presentation**

Wes Jordan provided an overview of Environmental Committee key accomplishments. While not a comprehensive list, it is a snapshot of the impressive accomplishments generated by this committee.

### **Environmental Committee Noteworthy Accomplishments**

1. EV charging stations
  - a. Added 3 EV charging stations for a total of 6 chargers
  - b. Wassmer Park will get two more stations
  - c. Instrumental in getting 2 charging stations at Corinth and PV Mall
2. Purchased efficient hybrid vehicles for official city use
  - a. PD has 12 Ford Explorers, 1 Honda CRV, and 1 Toyota Rav 4
  - b. PW has 5 hybrid pickup truck, 1 electric truck, 1 electric car
  - c. Codes has 2 hybrid pickup trucks, 1 electric car
3. Efficient buildings
  - a. Achieved LEED platinum rating for the public works building

- b. Installed geothermal heating and cooling system for city hall and police department
  - c. New City Hall will be LEED certified
- 4. Waste reduction
  - a. Introduced a composting pilot program currently scheduled for expansion
  - b. Consistently utilizes Ripple Glass recycling containers at one of the highest levels in Johnson County
  - c. Conducts citywide annual mattress pick-up and recycling program
- 5. Citizen education
  - a. Regularly participates in civic events including VillageFest, native plant sales, etc.
- 6. Climate action guides
  - a. Worked with consultant to develop the municipal climate action plan
  - b. Worked with consultant to develop the climate action guide
- 7. Other
  - a. Committed to the Cities Race to Zero
  - b. Supports the wind/clean energy pledge
  - c. Supports the Mayor's Monarch program
  - d. Conducted multiple greenhouse gas/energy audits

## **Old Business**

**Solid waste contract history and update (Wes)** Wes provided a history of solid waste in Prairie Village starting with Deffenbaugh. Wes noted that service quality suffered when Deffenbaugh was sold to Waste Management. Prairie Village has the second largest contract in county, which can pose challenges. The current contract with Republic is coming to an end and options are being reviewed. Options include the potential for annual contract extension for a maximum of 5 years or going out to bid for a new contract. The current contract expires December 31, 2026.

The Environmental Committee conducted an informal survey of its members to determine top priorities related to solid waste diversion. Composting, glass recycling, and multiple bin sizes are the top three responses from Environmental Committee members. Wes noted that the city does not have the required staff capacity to customize taxes based on bin size per house. There was discussion around rules or recommendations to businesses within Prairie Village regarding recycling and composting.

Rick made a motion to request City Council investigate options and costs for glass recycling. Piper seconded the motion. 11 were in favor, 1 abstained.

**Sleepyhead beds update (Wes)** – Wes reported that 460 mattresses have been diverted from the landfill to date in Prairie Village. Sleepyhead will pick up and recycle mattresses at the 2026 large item pick-up with the help of recycling partner Bridging the Gap.

**Climate Action KC meeting review (Rick)** Rick provided an update on the Climate Action KC meeting and highlighted efforts discussed by other cities. Next meeting is in April. Rick will send Ashley a document with these highlights.

**Tomahawk Stem night update (Tamara)** Tamara will have a beekeeping display at the Tomahawk Elementary STEAM night on Thursday, 3/26. Piper is working with public works to transport the monarch butterfly prop for the event.

**Update on school sustainability grants (Melinda)** The grant application closes 3/31. Melinda is communicating with schools regarding the grants.

**75th anniversary parade -May 2** Parade route is from City Hall to Corinth. Volunteers to coordinate committee parade participation include Drew (lead), Jeff and Johanna. They will provide an update on options at the March meeting.

### **New Business**

**2026 Mayor's monarch pledge (Piper and Johnanna)** – Jim sent the motion to the mayor. Discussion will be added to the next meeting. Ashley sent the 2026 Mayors Monarch pledge via email today. Please review it prior to the next meeting.

**Recycling Extravaganza** April 11, 9 a.m - 2 p.m. Volunteers include Tamara (lead), Jeff, Crystal, Mae Ellen, and Jim

**Deep Roots plant sale** May 9. Piper and Johanna are working together on this event. Piper will work with public works on logistics.

**VillageFest** July 4 – Pushed to March agenda. Plan for higher attendance due to World Cup. Rick will contact JD regarding composting at the Village Fest and obtain pricing information from vendors.

**Other** All committee members need to sign the code of conduct if they have not already done so.

**Announcements** Next Meeting March 25, 2026 – Agenda items will include 75<sup>th</sup> parade, VillageFest and the Mayor's Monarch Pledge

### **Adjourn**

Rick made a motion to adjourn. Penny seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.