

Association of Ohio Recyclers Board Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2026

Date: February 17, 2026

Members Present: Jeff Montavon, Ken Lewis, Katy Rees, Chase Axelson, Carol Giulitto, Michael Darling, John Woodman, Chris Talarek, Jacob Heffron, Erin Oulton, Molly Kathleen, Mike Hall. Mary Copenbaker, Virtual: Emily Walker, NP: Robert Kurtz

Call to Order: John Woodman called the meeting to order ~ 10:18 am

Minutes from the January 2026 Meeting: Erin Oulton motioned for approval, Emily Walker seconded the motion. December minutes approved by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report for the month of January was presented by Chris Talarek. John Woodman motioned for approval of Treasurer's Report. Mike Hall seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business: - Budget

New Business: - "Simply Living" requested to receive an AOR membership in exchange for a Simply Living membership. AOR Board members discussed and proposed that Simply Living is welcome to join at the discounted non-profit rate.

Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning: Host at City of Dublin, February 17, 10:00 am. – 2:00 pm.

Communications Committee: Molly Kathleen discussed job postings and updated website.

Events and Programming: Erin Oulton discussed the initial stages of setting up the October workshop; suggested the Columbus Zoo. Dates suggested October 13, 14, or 20. Erin Oulton is arranging speakers including Zoo Sustainability and Environmental Coordinators. Orienting the event to a workshop platform in lieu of speaker platform for improved membership involvement. Topics to include batteries, organics, OCC & paper, multi-family recycling initiatives, HHW, textiles, Styrofoam, Hefty Orange Bag (plastic film). Two roundtable sessions. Morning would be classic recycling topics; Afternoon would include "Beyond the Cart" recycling topics. Main moderator would be responsible for calling on tables to share information in front of the group.

Also discussed April, June, and August for tours. April 21st, June 16th, August 18th.

Governance Committee: – (Ken Lewis) Nothing to update.

Finance Committee: Carol Giulitto discussed budget. John recommended updating the grant, travel, and promotional products line items. Invoices sent, check Spam folder.

Membership Development Committee: Reported by Chris Talarek; discussed membership drive to begin in January. Spreadsheet on Google Drive; numerous committee members have been assigned to start calling potential members. Mary Copenbaker is working on questionnaire sheets. Chris Talarek asked where the committee should aim focus; Erin Oulton suggested focusing on Solid Waste Districts to attract businesses within each district. Carol Giulitto recommended having a full schedule prepared so members can plan according to their interests. John Woodman discussed ideas for purchasing promotional items. (Etched AOR glasses)

ROC – Jacob Heffron – None

Elections: All current officers have been re-elected for 2026.

Meeting Adjourned: Michael Darling motioned to adjourn meeting, Jacob Heffron seconded the motion. John Woodman adjourned the meeting at 11: 27 am.

Future Meetings:

March 17 - Zoom

Action Items:

Molly Kathleen: Send out Grant notifications to membership.

Erin Oulton: Collaborate with Carol to provide payment to Zoo for October Workshop

Jacob Heffron: Reach out to Owens Corning & Owens Illinois for tour.

Chase Axelson: Reach out to Integrity Fiber for tour for April tour. Also let Board know if possible.

Chase Axelson: Greif & Techniplex & Sofidel

Jacob Heffron: Reach out to Worthington Enterprises for tour.

Mary Copenbaker reach out to Maptree (?)