

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

April 11, 2018 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present:	J. Copanas, K. Dodson, T. Geiss, L. Klosowski, D. Lawless, B. Page, J. Powers, J. Thomas
Board Members Absent:	T. Glazier, J. Lyons, R. Raman, M. Reilly
Also Present:	M. Cirino, D. Glance, M. Mokrzycki, A. Radin, K. Lawton, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, D. Cocca, T. Evans
Guests:	B. Smith & J. Heath – GHD, S. Garofano, B. Robinson – NYS Association for Family Consumer Educators

The April 11th Board Meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

The March 14th Minutes of the Board were approved as presented and filed.

A surprise award was given to OCRRA's Recycling Specialist II, T. Evans. S. Garofano and B. Robinson were in attendance to give the presentation and award. B. Robinson nominated T. Evans for this Award.

S. Garofano, is the award chairperson for NYS Association for Family Consumer Science Educators. B. Robinson, is also from the NYS Association for Family Consumer Educators.

S. Garofano stated that last year T. Evans won the Central New York Ellen Swallow Richards Award for her work in Recycling Education. This year she was honored with the NYS Ellen Swallow Richards Award, which is given to a professional that has made an outstanding contribution and significant impact in the field of Family Consumer Sciences Education, in both the local and the State level. Each year nominees are selected to be awarded locally. The local winners are then nominated at a State level and chosen based on merit.

S. Garofano continued, the Award is given in honor of Ellen Swallow Richards. In 1909 she was the first female graduate and Professor at MIT. She founded the American Home Economics Association, which is now AAFCS. She was an activist for consumer education, nutrition, child protection, industrial safety, public health, career education, women's rights, purity of air, food and water, and the application of scientific and management principles to the family.

T. Evans has been a part of local classrooms since 2013. Her passion has always been the environment. T. Evans has worked hard to improve the education program that OCRRA brings to the community. T. Evans serves many different grade levels and has always been able to not only adjust her program to fit her audience, but make the information relatable and relevant to the students.

D. Glance closed the award presentation by stating how excited she was for T. Evans to earn this statewide recognition.

The **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT** was presented by D. Glance. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

OCRRA has worked hard on the proposal for the RCR Transfer Station Consolidation Project. OCRRA will be participating in Earth Day on Thursday, the 19th at 11:00 am.

Over 6,000 individuals have registered to participate in the event.

The **TREASURER REPORT** was presented by K. Dodson. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

Tipping fees were weaker than budgeted in February.

Electricity markets in February were at 1.7c/kwh.

J. Copanas asked M. Mokrzycki if OCRRA expected to be on budget with electricity revenue this year?

M. Mokrzycki responded – It's early in the year, however based on the estimate from 2017, which came in approx. \$100,000 over what was budgeted, OCRRA should be within range of what is expected for 2018.

Metal pricing is ahead of budget.

Cash outflow for the end of February was approx. \$840,000. The Agency's cash balance at the end of February was \$7.3M (\$6.1M prior year)

Landfill contract expenses may be over budget this year due the amount of bypass material.

GHD PRESENTATION

B. Smith and J. Heath gave the Board an update on the RCR Consolidation Project. Copies of the updates were distributed and discussed.

Per the direction of the TIP AD-HOC Committee OCRRA started with a feasibility study. Based on the study it was determined that OCRRA could consolidate certain operations at the RCR transfer station. The Board accepted that study. OCRRA continued with a preliminary permit modification meeting with the DEC. OCRRA has now put together a permit application, consisting of an Environmental Assessment form and all the other required documents.

OCRRA is asking the Board today to consider the Environmental Impact findings, and discuss how to move the project forward.

GHD focused on the potential impacts of the project. GHD originally anticipated that out of the range of potential impacts, traffic and noise would be at the top of the list. A traffic study and noise assessment was completed. The traffic study included traffic counts and turning movements, to identify which vehicles were turning at each intersection. GHD then added the anticipated traffic from the proposed permit modification. GHD looked at a level of service analysis, meaning how much will the consolidation impact what's on the current roadway. To be conservative, GHD used current peak traffic hours as a basis for future peak traffic hours. Level of service analysis goes from level A down to level F. Generally level F has a 60 second wait time at an intersection. Currently, the off ramp from 481 is a level F. With the anticipated added traffic, that wait time will be slightly increased, which can be accommodated by the current queue on the off ramp. That off ramp currently provides plenty of room to accommodate that alteration.

No significant traffic impacts have been indicated at the site.

The study also considered the overall capacity of the roadways, and the overpass.

K. Dodson asked – How did GHD model where the trucks were coming from?

GHD responded – GHD evaluated and identified an approx. percentage coming from different directions. GHD also looked at what was estimated when the traffic study had been done for the original building of the WTE Facility. GHD's findings were almost identical.

Noted in the traffic study is that due to varying factors this is not an exact science.

GHD also looked at the left hand turn lane into the WTE Facility to keep traffic off of the jug-handle. The goal is to try and separate traffic flows as much as possible. Using historical data from the original traffic study, current levels of turn traffic are not near what they were projected to be. The study determined that there is no need for a left hand turn lane to go into the WTE Facility. The existing infrastructure, with modifications at the traffic light can accommodate the traffic.

GHD looked into the potential need for a right hand turn lane into the RCR transfer station. This is not needed due to the GHD design, which includes three separate entrance roads, all adjacent coming into the RCR transfer station. One will be for commercial traffic. One for trailer traffic. One for pick-up trucks. By tripling the ability for customer traffic off of RCR, GHD has eliminated the need for a right hand turn into the RCR transfer station.

The noise assessment was completed using a desktop evaluation. Using traffic counts from RCR and route 481 and evaluated what the background noise levels would be at the residential property at the east of the site. That data was then compared to the regulatory requirements. There is both a daytime and nighttime requirement. Both of those requirements were completed. The model was completed using the new traffic counts at the RCR transfer station, including equipment that will be on site, and the noise from the shredder. The model concluded that the proposed operations will not contribute as much noise as what the existing background is the property line. There will be no impacts per the DEC Part 360 Regulations at that property.

GHD met with the TIP AD-HOC Committee in March. Identified in the full EAF was the potential presence of endangered/threatened Bat species habitat in the area. The DEC website notes that they are not found in the Town of Onondaga. They are found in the Town of Dewitt. Their habitat is in the wooded area behind RCR. There are a small number of trees that will need to be removed per the proposed consolidation layout. After the final design has been approved, if there will be trees removed, they will only be taken between October and April to ensure that the potential bat habitat is not disturbed.

Also noted was the reduction in greenhouse gas generation associated with reduced mileage for transferring waste. The consolidation would prevent vehicles from having to go from Ley Creek to the WTE Facility. The consolidation would mean vehicles would simply go across the street.

GHD also expanding the opening statements on the EAF to include the fact that OCRRA would be meeting the current 360 Regulations now instead of waiting until 2024 when their permit expires. OCRRA will also be enclosing their operations at RCR.

GHD concluded that they do not see any significant adverse environmental impact that would lead to a negative declaration for the project.

D. Glance added – All of the involved parties have received the GHD draft full EAF documents. Including all studies conducted.

J. Copanas asked the Board if anyone had any last questions for GHD.

D. Glance reminded the Board that the scope of the project is limited to a permit modification on the current site.

The **TIP AD-HOC COMMITTEE** was presented by D. Lawless. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

The Committee met on March 27th. A majority of that meeting consisted of the GHD information just presented today to the Board.

The Committee also discussed possible alternative for Ley Creek during and after consolidation. That discussion is ongoing.

The Committee recommend that OCRRA move forward with acquisition of the adjacent RCR property by contacting the owners.

K. Dodson suggested that OCRRA look into purchasing of the Quarry property that is on the north side of 481.

The Committee consensus was to move the SEQRA process to the Admin Committee and then to the full Board.

The **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** was presented by D. Lawless, in M. Reilly's absence. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

The Committee met March 27th. A majority of that meeting consisted of the GHD information as well.

The Admin Committee agreed with the TIP AD-HOC Committee to move the SEQRA process to the full Board.

Resolution #2135 – Resolution Determining Significance Pursuant to SEQRA and Authorizing Filing of Application for Permit Modification for Rock Cut Road Transfer Station Project was moved by D. Lawless and seconded by T. Geiss

This Resolution was adopted 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain

D. Lawless stated – With the Resolution GHD will file the permit application with DEC.

Resolution #2136 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Execute Agreement for Charge Cards – was moved by D. Lawless and seconded by J. Powers

A. Page asked if the M&T charge cards had better protection for OCRRA in the case that it will be necessary to revoke a user.

M. Mokrzycki responded – In this new program the authorized persons will be himself, and D. Glance. M. Farrell will be authorized to help reconcile. OCRRA has local representation with M&T, the previous card company did not.

J. Copanas asked – The terms and conditions are better?

M. Mokrzycki responded – The terms are similar. The security features are better.

This Resolution was adopted 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain

Resolution #2137 – Resolution Authorizing and Affirming Emergency Repair of Agency Compactor was moved by D. Lawless and seconded by L. Klosowski

K. Spillane – The Agency has two compactors. An older Al Jon 500, and an Al Jon 525. The 500 was damaged by fire and is not repairable. OCRRA is currently waiting for the insurance company to finish their assessment. In the interim, the Al Jon 525 was brought in to use. It broke down shortly thereafter. OCRRA is using a dozer, however it cannot move as much waste. The Recycling and Operations Committee authorized OCRRA to look into a long term lease for a larger dozer, and if that wasn't available then OCRRA would proceed with getting the repairs to the 525. It was reported, OCRRA was not able to find a larger dozer.

This Resolution was adopted 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain

The Board entered into Executive Session at 5:05 pm

The Board adjourned Executive Session at 5:30 pm

Resolution #2139 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Exercise Agency Contract Option to Purchase WTE Insurance Coverage and to Proceed with Arbitration of Existing Insurance Cost Dispute was moved by D. Lawless and Seconded by J. Powers

This Resolution was adopted 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain

The **RECYCLING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** was presented by L. Klosowski, in J. Lyons absence.

The Committee met on March 21st.

A. Radin updated the Committee on Recycling totals and the MRF.

The Committee also discussed 2018 Legislative Priorities.

The Committee also conferred that any non-profit donation would be given under Promotions, and with a total program ceiling of \$2,500.

CLOSING STATEMENTS

For the May meeting the Recycling and Operations Committee plans on a 2:00 pm tour of Covanta, the meeting will be at 3:30 pm, at Covanta.

The TIP AD-HOC Committee will meet in April.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak