

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

July 10, 2019 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members	J. Copanas, T. Geiss, L. Klosowski, D. Lawless, J. Lyons, B. Page, R. Raman, J. Thomas, J. Driscoll, T. Glazier, B. DeMore, A. Bianchetti, R. Andrews
Board Members Absent:	J. Driscoll, J. Lyons
Also Present:	B. Bulsiewicz, M. Cirino, D. Glance, A. Radin, K. Lawton, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, C. Alunio
Guests:	

The July 10th Board Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

J. Copanas recognized Alberto Bianchetti and Robert Andrews who were recently appointed to the OCRRA Board by County Executive McMahon and Mayor Walsh, respectively.

Mr. Bianchetti introduced himself – He is the Regional Director of Customer and Community Management for National Grid, for Central NY. He has been with National Grid since 1991. He started with the Nuclear Plant. Most of his career has been with corporate affairs, regulatory affairs, and government relations. He is a native of Syracuse. He gave a brief description of his job duties. Mr. Bianchetti manages a team of Utility Professionals from Postdam, Watertown, the Mohawk Valley, areas in between and here in Onondaga County. His primary function is account management for the largest customers within the company. Mr. Bianchetti also covers Emergency Management. His team liaisons with state and county emergency management offices to help coordinate any response that is needed. His team also serves a stakeholder outreach function – if the company has an issue or an item, or an agenda that they want to advocate for, they interact with the stakeholders to resolve the issue. He is also a registered lobbyist in NYC and the State. Mr. Bianchetti looks forward to his term with OCRRA.

Due to Mr. Bianchetti’s employment with National Grid, he has consulted with the County Executive and National Grid’s Ethics Office – he will recuse himself from any National Grid matters.

Mr. Andrews introduced himself - Mr. Andrews is the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Shared Services for the City of Syracuse. He is a liaison between government partners at the county, state and federal level for shared services. He opens dialog to discuss the opportunities between public and private entities to find new and efficient ways to run operations. Most of his career has been in business, marketing and sales as well as government sales. Mr. Andrews has served on the Onondaga County Legislature, OCWA’s Board and the Metropolitan Water Board. Mr. Andrews looks forward to his term with OCRRA.

R. Raman moved the May 8th Board meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent as submitted and filed.

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

As of the end of May, OCRRA is a quarter of a million dollars, behind projections for 2019.

Electricity prices remain low.

West Rock's production of cardboard was reduced by 16%. That translates to approximately 25% less material delivered to OCRRA.

OCRRA will continue to research various ways to successfully overcome the recycling challenges with the Recycling 2020 committee.

The next Recycling and Operations committee meeting will be held at the OCRRA Amboy Compost site and will offer a tour of the facility to the members.

After five years with OCRRA as a part-time receptionist and later an Account Clerk and Agency Assistant Board Secretary, Maura Farrell will be leaving her duties with the Agency to finish her degree in NYC.

Joe Broome has been with OCRRA for 40 years and will be retiring. However, the Agency will be enlisting his experience and knowledge to help with onsite overview of the RCR Consolidation Project.

The **TREASURER** report was presented by D. Lawless. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

Electricity rates in May were 1.2c/kwh.

Recycling costs are \$582,000.00. - \$1.74 million annualized.

Cash outflow for May was approximately \$590,000.00.

West Rock volumes are down.

Total operating expenses are below budget.

Generated Revenues are down.

B. Page asked for clarification on the line item containing 'Professional Fees'. The actual amount is higher than the budgeted amount.

C. Albuino responded – That line item is in reference to the RCR Consolidation Project, specifically, GHD's Final Design fees and legal consulting fees related to the project. The actual and budgeted amounts differ because the Agency has not yet been reimbursed for that cost.

The **AUDIT COMMITTEE** report was presented by J. Thomas. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

The Audit committee met on June 13, 2019.

The Agency asked Grossman St. Amour to hold their price for another year, and they agreed.

The committee discussed the OSC Audit. OCRRA has not received a final copy of that Audit.

Code of Ethics training was administered in April, and M. Cirino will be offering makeup sessions for those that could not attend.

The Audit committee will meet again in August or September.

The **TIP Ad hoc COMMITTEE** report was presented by D. Lawless. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

The committee met on June 19, 2019.

C. Albunio updated the committee on the RCR Construction project.

The committee discussed the three additional projects to be completed at RCR. Committee consensus was to place all three project out for pricing with the current project contractors. OCRRA will not send any of the three project out for bid until pricing comes in from those current contractors and it is evaluated.

The committee discussed the future residential services at RCR.

J. Copanas asked that each OCRRA team member introduce themselves to the new Board members.

J. Copanas asked if the RCR Consolidation Project was on schedule.

C. Albunio responded that the project was not on schedule. There have been some challenges coordinating contractors. C. Albunio noted that due to certain material delays the project is approximately two weeks behind. OCRRA believes that the schedule can be recouped as construction progresses.

The **RECYCLING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** was presented by L. Klosowski. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

In J. Lyons absence, L. Klosowski gave the highlights of the committee meeting.

The Recycling and Operations committee met on June 19, 2019.

The Waste Q & C was completed. 11,000 lbs of trash were sorted and analyzed as well as 6,000 lbs of recyclables.

The Waste Q & C is an in-depth look at what materials make up the waste stream and what items are being found within the recycling stream.

OCRRA will also be analyzing 60 samples of C&D at Ley Creek.

The Agency will be repeating this study in the fall.

A.Radin – To support strategic decisions for the future of the Agency, we want to know what the material stream is, as precisely as possible, so that those decisions can be made with the most current data.

It has been 13 years since the last Waste Q & C.

The bottle bill has stalled.

The paint bill has passed.

J. Copanas reminded the Board that two years ago, the Agency had over \$100,000.00 profit on recycling materials. In 2019 OCRRA is expected to spend approximately \$2 million.

The committee discussed Joe Broome's retirement.

The committee discussed the purchase of a new loader. Consensus was to move the Resolution to the Administration committee for further review.

The **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** was presented by D. Lawless. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

The committee met on June 25, 2019.

The committee discussed the contract awards for the farm land at Site 31. There was a tie in bids, so a coin flip was done to determine which bidder would farm that area of land.

The committee discussed whether or not to include Terrorism Risk coverage with the insurance renewal. Committee consensus was to not opt for the terrorism coverage.

The committee discussed financing for the purchase of a mini loader. The committee consensus was to move the Resolution to the Finance committee for a final decision.

M. Mokrzycki updated the committee on the new NYS voting laws. Employers must now allow up to three paid hours for employees to vote on any election. The committee requested clarification on the new law. The Agency will bring the information to the next Administration committee meeting.

The **FINANCE COMMITTEE** met just prior to today's Board meeting to discuss financing for the mini loader. Committee consensus was to use Agency cash for the purchase.

Resolution #2190 – Resolution Authorizing and Affirming Executive Director's Continuing Purchase of All Risk Property Insurance Policies for Waste to Energy Facility was moved by D. Lawless and seconded by T. Geiss.

There was no Board discussion.

The Resolution was approved 8 Yays, 0 Nays, 1 Abstain.
The abstain vote was cast by R. Raman.

Resolution #2191 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Enter Into contract to Purchase Articulated Loader was moved by D. Lawless and seconded by R. Raman.

B. Page asked that the cost of the loader be listed on the Resolution as the exact amount and not a rounded number. A friendly amendment will be made to reflect the exact amount.

The Resolution was approved 9 Yays, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain

Board Adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak