

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

November 13, 2019 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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

The November 13th Board Meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

The October 16th Board meeting minutes were moved by R. Raman and seconded by T. Geiss. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent as submitted and filed.

D. Glance will be arriving late to the meeting. In anticipation of her arrival the Agenda was rearranged.

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

OCRRA received \$375,000 as a state grant in September for the Tana Shark Shredder purchased in 2017. Total grant money received is approximated \$1.2 million for the year.

The Agency has incurred \$1.38 million in recycling costs for the year.

Cash inflow for September was approximately \$700,000.

Electricity prices continue to remain at an all time low. \$3.1 million was budgeted for 2019 - \$2.5 million has been received.

B. Page asked for clarification on the repairs and maintenance line of the report.

M. Mokrzycki responded – The Agency had budgeted \$278,000 for repairs and maintenance and is currently at \$418,000 for the year. Most expenses have come from moving operations to Ley Creek while construction continues at RCR.

D. Glance presented the **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S** report. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

D. Glance has given a presentation to the County Legislative Environmental Protection Committee today and shared that OCRRA had adopted its budget and that although the MSW tip fee will not be raised for 2020 the continuing cost of recycling may not allow for an unchanged tipping fee in 2021. D. Glance also expressed how the county Legislature could help support State policies like including wine and liquor in the bottle bill.

D. Glance reported progress with WM/RA MRF contract negotiations.

D. Glance acknowledged the retirement of Joe Broome – 40 years, Leroy Sabin – 35 years, and Joe D'Arrigo – 30 years with OCRRA.

The recycling crisis conversations dominated discussions at 2 conferences on recycling in Chicago and Cooperstown.

A. Radin and D. Glance will be meeting with West Rock to discuss incoming fiber demand and supply.

The **FINANCE COMMITTEE** update was presented by T. Geiss.

The Finance committee met today just before the Board meeting to discuss payment options for the upcoming purchase of an articulated loader.

The consensus was to use cash for the purchase.

The Finance committee affirmed that any future capital item purchase \$100,000 or less would be considered as a cash purchase for the remainder of the 2019 budgeted year and 2020.

Each item will go to the appropriate committee for consideration but will not need to be reviewed by the Finance committee.

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

The Recycling and Operations committee met on October 23, 2019.

The committee discussed the RCR construction progress.

The committee discussed the DEC Enforcement directive to extend the metal throughput. This will be extended until May 3, 2021.

The committee discussed the Resolution for newsletter printing. An RFP was sent out, and the Agency received six responses. Eagle was awarded the contract.

The committee discussed the Resolution for the purchase of a loader. This loader will be used at RCR.

The Agency will be implementing a mattress fee beginning November 14, 2019. Mattress disposal will be limited to four or more mattresses at a cost of \$15 each.

The committee discussed the early results from the Waste Q & C. Bluebin newspaper has dropped from 42% in 2005 to 9% in 2019. The final report will be shared in January.

County resident Anastasia Kiryushkina attended the meeting to discuss residential urban composting. Conversations will continue in an effort to help residents that do not have the ability to do home composting or that live too far away from a composting site.

The Agency concluded a recycling study on plastic bags in the blue bin in the TIP Hill area of Syracuse. Results will be available at the next Recycling and Operations committee meeting. J. Copanas asked Agency Engineer for a RCR update.

C. Albunio updated the Board. – Photos were presented showing signs of progress to building #1, #2, and #4 as well as the metal building.

J. Copanas recognized the careful attention given to documenting all delays and the correspondence with Murnane in regards to construction. OCRRA has received an updated schedule from Murnane. With the delays, asphalt completion may not make the January 2020 deadline.

Resolution #2209 – Resolution Authorizing Contract for Newsletter Printing was moved by J. Lyons and seconded by L. Klosowski.

The Resolution was adopted 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain.

Resolution #2210 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Enter into Contract o Purchase Articulated Loader was moved by J. Lyons and seconded by B. Page.

The Resolution was adopted 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain.

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

The committee met on October 29th, 2019.

The committee discussed hiring Brown and Brown to be the Broker of record.

The committee discussed the Board nomination subcommittee. The subcommittee will be – R. Raman, T. Geiss, L. Klosowski, D. Lawless, and J. Driscoll. The subcommittee will report to the Administration committee on November 19th and the full Board in December.

The committee discussed the two change orders for the RCR consolidation project.

R. Raman asked that C. Albunio give the Board an update on the concrete.

Building #2 – the existing tip floor had multiple layers. Once demolition was complete, it was discovered that there was extensive structural damage that needed to be repaired.

B. Page – You mentioned the slab was inspected from below. That would be the ceiling for which room?

C. Albunio – There is a basement, so that is the ceiling for the basement.

B. Page – Was the ceiling not damaged when it was initially inspected?

C. Albunio – There were no pieces falling or severely cracked. Once the demo began on the floor above, the ceiling structured changed as well.

The committee discussed the mattress fee.

Resolution #2211 – Resolution Authorizing Change Order for Immediate Necessary Structural Floor Repairs to Rock Cut Road Building #2 was moved by R. Raman and seconded by D. Lawless.

R. Raman added that he was satisfied that the floor repairs that need to be made could not have been seen in the initial inspection.

The Resolution was adopted 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain

Resolution #2212 – Resolution Authorizing Contract Extension for Prime Contractors for the Rock Cut Road Reconstruction Project was moved by R. Raman and seconded by J. Lyons.

R. Raman recapped the need for this Resolution.

B. Page – The 3rd WHEREAS in the Resolution is missing a mention of O’Connell Electric. A friendly amendment will be made to add the company name.

The Resolution was adopted 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain.

Resolution #2213 – Resolution Modifying Tipping Fees and Related Charges for Mattresses for the Balance of 2019 was moved by R. Raman and seconded by T. Geiss.

The Resolution was adopted 9 Ayes, 0 Ayes, 0 Abstain

Resolution #2214 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Hire Broke of Record to Assist in Purchasing Insurance Policies for the Agency Beginning April 1, 2020, was moved by R. Raman and seconded by L. Klosowski.

B. Page – Why does the Agency need someone to help purchase insurance?

R. Raman – There are two ways to do this. You can buy direct, or there are professional searchers that find companies the best deal. OCRRA pays Brown and Brown to finds the best coverage for the least cost.

The Resolution was adopted 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain.

Resolution #2215 – Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Purchase Workers’ Compensation Insurance Policy for the Agency for One Year Period was moved by R. Raman and seconded by T. Geiss.

J. Copanas reminded the Board that PERMA has always had the best rates.

OCRRA’s policy premium has decreased over the years.

The Resolution was adopted 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain.

The **RECYCLING 2020 Ad hoc COMMITTEE** was presented by L. Klosowski. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

The committee met on November 12, 2019.

The committee reviewed the draft Recycling 2020 committee summary.

The committee will distribute the final draft for review. A revised final draft will be reviewed in December.

The committee has consolidated the information to reflect the most essential highlights, opinions, and long/short term solutions based on committee member participation.

The committee discussed temporary Government assistance until (if and when) the market returns. Maintaining recycling at no cost is no longer realistic.

J. Copanas commended the committee and L. Klosowski for all the efforts that have been made.

A. Bianchetti mentioned that in Quebec, there are refunds on all wine/spirits.

J. Lyons asked for a December committee meeting calendar update. An updated version will be distributed at the next meeting.

In closing, D. Lawless, “Things are never so bad that they couldn’t be worse.”

Board Adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak