

**ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
 VIRTUAL MEETING
 May 13, 2020 BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

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| Board Members Present | J. Copanas, B. Andrews A. Bianchetti, J. Driscoll, T. Geiss, T. Glazier, L. Klosowski, D. Lawless, B. Page, R. Raman, J. Thomas |
| Board Members Absent: | Y. Abdul Qudir |
| Also Present: | M. Cirino, D. Glance, M. Mokrzycki, A. Radin, K. Lawton, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, C. Alburnio, J. Gascon Esq. |
| Guests: | B. Gassaway - Covanta |

The May 13, 2020, Virtual Board Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

J. Copanas introduced Ben Gassaway from Covanta to the Board. B. Gassaway is the new Asset Manager for Covanta.

Attendance of the Board was taken – quorum is present.

The April 15th meeting minutes were reviewed, moved by R. Raman, seconded by A. Bianchetti, and approved as submitted.

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

- The Rescue Mission and Salvation Army remain closed and are not able to process textiles. The only place accepting textiles right now is St. Paul’s.
- Disposable masks and gloves are contaminating the blue bins.
- Tonnage levels in C&D and MSW have declined from the previous year.
- The Agency has reconstituted the Quarterly Recycling Report to the DEC as markets continue to demonstrate significant challenges to managing materials.
- The Onondaga County Legislature and the Common Council have adopted the Bottle Bill resolution, urging the State Government to include a deposit for wine and liquor bottles.
- The compost sites are back up and running.
- Covanta has completed its stack tests. The results will be available soon.
- OCRRA’s Enforcement Officer is back in the field.
- Ash bids have been received and will be reviewed at the Recycling and Operations committee meeting.
- Spending on Public Education has been frozen due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Current campaigns will continue, but OCRRA will not be moving forward with any new expenditures.
- The Agency will be discussing the Capital Plan and fleet management at the next Recycling and Operations committee meeting.

R. Raman reminded the Board of the virtual protocols and to announce yourself before speaking.

J. Copanas commended J. Driscoll for his role in getting local governments to adopt the Bottle Bill resolution.

The **TREASURER** report was presented by B. Page. Copies of the report were distributed.

This report reflects the March 2020 data.

- C&D tonnages are down.
- Electricity remains at historic lows. Approximately \$100,000 below budget.
- Recovered material revenue is down.
- Grant revenue has modestly improved.
- Total operating revenues are just above what was budgeted.
- Bypass costs were up due to the shredder being down.
- Operating income was better than four years previous.
- Repair and maintenance costs were up slightly.
- Tip fees were above budget.
- Recycling costs remain high.

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

The Administration committee met on April 28, 2020.

- The committee discussed some staff returning to Ley Creek and hours of operation.
- Compost operations will reopen to the public.
- PPE's have been provided to all employees.
- Tonnages were down.
- West Rock material remains steady.
- The committee discussed the MRF and West Rock contracts.
- The committee discussed creating an Ad hoc committee to address the Agency's forecast on progressive financial issues and the recycling crisis.

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

The committee met on April 22, 2020.

- K. Lawton updated the committee on all communications associated with COVID-19.
- C. Alburnio and M. Mokrzycki updated the committee on tonnage and MSW.
- The committee discussed the 2021 Compost Pass and decided there was no reason to extend the 2020 passes into 2021. The sites are both open to the public.
- The committee discussed a resolution for the E-Waste Recovery Act.
- C. Alburnio updated the committee on progress at Rock Cut Road.
- T. Evans updated the committee on materials coming into the MRF.
- A. Radin updated the committee on the Waste Q&C.
- The committee discussed extended the HDR contract. HDR provides Engineering expertise and monitors Covanta operations.

C. Alburnio updated the Board on current progress at Rock Cut Road.

- Most of the base course of pavement has been completed.
- The top course should begin this week.
- Startup testing has begun.
- Plumbing and electrical testing have been completed.
- Generator testing is this week, and fire alarm testing is also this week.
- Next week or the following, the Agency is hopeful to have the Certificate of Occupancy from the County, which means OCRRA can begin using the buildings.
- All contractors are submitting for substantial completion.

- OCRRA continues to work on punch list items.

A. Radin updated the Board on the Waste Q&C. This data is in comparison to the last Waste Q&C completed in 2005.

- Paper has dramatically decreased.
- Food waste has increased.
- Plastics represented 17% of the total trash stream in 2002 – currently, they represent less than 2%.
- Cardboard percentages have increased.

B. Page asked for clarification on ‘sludge’ that was listed on the Annual Recycling Report.

A. Radin responded that the ‘sludge’ was not something that the Agency managed.

T. Glazier further responded that the sludge was a byproduct of waste and that it was dried and used as daily cover at local landfills.

Resolution # 2238 - RESOLUTION URGING STATE REPRESENTATIVES TO UPDATE THE NEW YORK STATE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT RECYCLING AND REUSE ACT ON ITS 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN 2020 was moved by L. Klosowski and seconded by A. Bianchetti.

The resolution was adopted 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain.

The **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE** report was presented by J. Copanas. Copies of the report were distributed.

The committee met today at 3:30pm.

- The committee met to discuss the creation of an Ad hoc committee to follow through on the recommendations from the Recycling 2020 committee.
- T. Geiss will Chair this committee.
- The objective is to dig deeper into the 2020 Report, come up with viable solutions that will help OCRRA plan for the 2021 budget, and what the best options are for dealing with recycling moving forward.
- The committee will have its first meeting on May 26th at 3:00pm.

T. Geiss announced the members of the Ad hoc committee.

- B. Page
- L. Klosowski
- D. Lawless
- A. Bianchetti

J. Copanas reminded the Board that any member may attend this, and any other committee meeting.

T. Glazier advised that any action the Ad hoc committee is considering should be brought to the attention of the County Law department to confirm that it does not conflict legally.

T. Glazier has also recently become a signor of the County ___ and may have to recuse himself from any action that comes from the Ad hoc committee.

J. Gascon confirmed that he would reach out to the County.

J. Copanas mentioned that any consideration by the Ad hoc committee will first have to be brought to and approved by the full Board.

D. Glance updated the Board.

- OCRRA presented the Recycling 2020 Report to the Environmental Protection committee.
- OCRRA also sent a copy to the DEC.

D. Glanced asked the Board to notify the Agency if there were any other individuals that may be important in having the facts.

Resolution #2239 - RESOLUTION CREATING AN AD-HOC COMMITTEE TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OCRRA RECYCLING 2020 REPORT was moved by J. Copanas and seconded by T. Geiss.

The resolution was adopted 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain.

A full/all motion was given by the Board to adjourn the meeting.

Board Adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak