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ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

October 12, 2022 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present	B. Page, A. Bianchetti, L. Colon-Torres, D. Daley, C. Dunham, E. Gilligan, T. Glazier, L. Klosowski, S. Pasquale, J. Copanas, J. Driscoll, D. Lawless
Board Members Absent:	R. Raman, R. Zaccaria
Also Present:	M. Cirino, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, C. Alunio, J. Gascon Esq., M. Mokrzycki, J. Connery, K. Lawton, P. Pastella, T. Palmer
Guests:	

The October 12, 2022, Board meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Attendance of the Board was taken – quorum is present.

A member of the public is present, Katlen, a student from Syracuse University.

The Agency’s new Public Information Officer, Tammy Palmer introduced herself to the Board. Tammy began with OCRRA this month.

The Board introduced themselves to T. Palmer.

D. Lawless moved and J. Driscoll seconded the approval of the minutes from the September Board meeting.

Roll was called and the minutes were approved with corrections as submitted.

K. Spillane presented his Executive Director report.

- The Board will be voting to adopt the 2023 budget and fees schedule today.
- OCRRA has hired a new Public Information Officer, Tammy Palmer.
- The Ley Creek Ad-Hoc committee did not meet in September. The next meeting will be at the end of October.
- The Agency continues to engage Covanta on the WestRock material.
- The Agency has developed an agreement for the WestRock material to be delivered during the last outage in off hours over a two-week period. The Agency will analyze the impact of this change before making any permanent decisions.
- The Agency Engineer has applied for the renewal of the permit for Amboy Compost facility.
- The Agency continues to work with local municipalities regarding the blue-bin / cart transition.
- OCRRA held its annual mercury collection event in September.
 - 94 residents attended.
 - 89 mercury thermometers and 51 mercury thermostats were collected.
 - 11 pounds of liquid mercury was also collected.
 - This event prevented 404 grams of mercury from entering the waste stream.
 - This is equivalent to the amount of mercury found in 20,200 fluorescent light bulbs.

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- K. Spillane joined a panel discussion with the Citizens Academy which was provided by Focus Greater Syracuse.
 - This was a great opportunity to provide information to residents of the County regarding environmental stewardship, water and waste management.

D. Daley asked for clarification of ‘outage’. Specifically what it means that Covanta is in outage.

K. Spillane responded that periodically throughout the year Covanta shuts down certain parts of its operation for routine maintenance.

The **TREASURER’S** report was presented by L. Klosowski. Copies of the report were distributed.

This report reflects August 2022 data.

- Tonnage volume was slightly higher than expectations.
- Electricity revenues remained strong. The August rate was 6.9c/kWh.
- Electricity revenue was approximately \$1,400,000.
- Expenses were approximately 1.5% above budget.
- The Agency is expecting to be in a “net pay” position on recyclables for the remainder of the year.
- The Agency’s cash balance at the end of August were \$18.6M. (\$10.4M prior year)
- The Agency began the year with \$14.2M in cash reserves.

S. Pasquale moved and L. Colon Torres seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report.

Roll was called and the report was unanimously approved.

The **RECYCLING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** report was presented by A. Bianchetti. Copies of the report from the September 21st meeting were distributed and discussed.

- The committee discussed several items. Including three resolutions that will be voted on today.
- S. Pasquale asked the Board members if they had adequate time to review the minutes from that meeting.
- The Board agreed that they had reviewed the minutes and S. Pasquale introduced the first resolution.

Resolution # 2352 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Contract for Demolition and Removal of Inoperable Transformers was moved by S. Pasquale and seconded by L. Klosowski.

E. Gilligan asked when this would begin.

C. Albinio responded that upon approval, the Agency would contact the contractor and get the project on a schedule.

J. Copanas asked if the cost of this project was included in the budget.

M. Mokrzycki responded that this was part of the capital budget.

T. Glazier asked if the cost included disposal.

C. Albinio responded that the cost did include disposal. The cost is based on a ‘worse case’ scenario and that all that is included in the resolution may not be needed.

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The resolution was adopted 10 ayes, 0 nay, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2353 – Resolution Authorizing and Affirming Executive Director’s Continuing Contracts for Rock Cut Road Transfer Station Building 2 Optimization – was moved by S. Pasquale and seconded by J. Driscoll.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2354 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Enter into a Contract for Engineering Design Work for the Amboy Compost Wastewater Conveyance System was moved by S. Pasquale and seconded by D. Daley.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

The **SPECIAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** update was presented by J. Copanas. Due to lack of quorum, the September Administration committee meeting was canceled. The committee met prior to today’s Board meeting.

- The committee discussed the 2023 tipping fee schedule and the OCRRA 2023 budget resolutions, as well as a resolution for the purchase of the adjacent Ley Creek property.
- The Board will need to vote on the 2023 tipping fee schedule and the OCRRA 2023 budget at today’s meeting.

Resolution #2355 – Resolution Adopting Tipping Fees and Related Charges for Fiscal Year 2023 was moved by J. Copanas and seconded by L. Colon Torres.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2356 – Resolution Adopting an Agency Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 was moved by J. Copanas and seconded by A. Bianchetti.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

B. Page commended the Agency staff for their hard work on the 2023 budget.

Resolution #2357 – Resolution Authorizing Agency Executive Director to Purchase the Ley Creek Parcel and Requesting Onondaga County Legislature to Authorize Such Purchase was moved by J. Copanas and seconded by T. Glazier.

A friendly amendment was made to change the language in the Resolved section of the resolution.

J. Copanas moved and D. Lawless seconded the friendly amendment.

A discussion followed.

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E. Gilligan asked what funds would be used for this purchase.

M. Mokrzycki responded that the Agency would use reserves for this purchase.

E. Gilligan asked what the land would be used for.

K. Spillane responded that the Agency is exploring uses for this property. One option is an Ecosite, or a central location to bring various items for disposal.

J. Copanas added that there have been extensive conversations regarding the purchase and use. OCRRA has been considering this endeavor for some time.

T. Glazier commented that OCRRA would be unable to further any plans for development without the initial approval of the purchase.

M. Mokrzycki added that this purchase would benefit the Agency because it will add much flexibility for the Board to decide what the future of Ley Creek could/should be.

There was further discussion.

J. Gascon will be recusing himself from representing OCRRA in this transaction due to conflict. J. Wallace will be representing OCRRA.

The resolution was adopted 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

B. Page asked Agency staff if they had any updates for the Board.

Each staff member gave an update.

A. Bianchetti asked how bid participation has been.

C. Alburnio responded that bid response has been poor. There are several factors that are contributing to this.

There will be an Audit committee meeting scheduled for mid/end of November.

The Board discussed the Agency's resolution procedures and Board attendance.

J. Copanas asked when office renovations would begin.

M. Mokrzycki responded that construction would begin in approximately 4 weeks.

B. Page ended the meeting with a plaque presentation to T. Glazier for his time with the OCRRA Board. T. Glazier has been a Board member since October of 2015. Today is his last meeting.

D. Lawless moved and L. Klosowski seconded to adjourn the meeting.

A unanimous aye voice vote was recorded.

The Board adjourned at 5:05 p.m. the Board members will remain for Ethics Training.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak