

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
November 08, 2023 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present	B. Page, A. Bianchetti, D. Daley, J. Driscoll, C. Dunham, E. Gilligan, N. Jankowski, D. Lawless
Board Members Absent:	L. Colon-Torres, J. McMahon, S. Pasquale, G. Popps, N. Zaccaria, R. Raman
Also Present:	M. Cirino, M. Mokrzycki, K. Lawton, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, J. Gascon, T. Palmer, C. Alunio
Guests:	

The November 8, 2023, Board meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

Roll was taken. Quorum is present.

C. Dunham moved and E. Gilligan seconded the approval of the October Board minutes.

Roll was called and the minutes were approved as submitted.

K. Spillane presented the Executive Directors report.

- The salary study for non-represented staff has been completed.
- Site development continues at Ley Creek.
- Proposals are being received for a feasibility study of the waste beds.
- The Agency has met with Madison County to present OCRRA’s proposal.

Engineering:

- An RFP has been issued for the engineering assistance related to the development of the additional property purchased at Ley Creek.
- C. Alunio has overseen the beginning of the work for the RCR maintenance/staff space improvements for safety, heating and ventilation with the execution of the contract with Peterson Guadagnolo Consulting Engineers and has had the first kick-off meeting for the project.
- C. Alunio has also been working with Covanta and the DEC to determine a path for compliance related to the 2023 stack test results.

Transfer and Compost:

- There have been some delays at the WTE Facility and at Transfer due to the amount of material we are receiving.
- Outside haulers have been implemented to assist in moving some ash so that OCRRA’s ash Fleet operations can move trash from the transfer buildings.
- The Jamesville compost site will be closing next week for the winter.

Recycling:

- K. Lawton was invited to provide testimony before the NYS Senate and Assembly Environmental Protection Committees in Albany on October 24th, regarding the reconsideration of EPR for packaging.
- Recycling Specialist L. Piering, with input from various staff members, compiled data to submit the NYSDEC Outreach and Education Grant. OCRRA is hopeful to continue to receive 50% reimbursement for 2024 services.
- Both L. Piering and M. Bianchetti continue to be very active in the community over the past month sharing the recycling and compost message with our community.

Public Information:

- The OCRRA Newsletter has been completed and will be in distribution soon.
- Holiday recycling campaigns will begin this month.

E. Gilligan asked what the timeline was for the operations at Ley Creek to be up and running.

K. Spillane responded that the earliest would be late 2026 – 2027. How quickly the DEC would issue permits and then with construction, the project will take some time.

The **TREASURER REPORT** – was presented by M. Mokrzycki.

- This report reflects September 2023 data.
- The electricity rate was at an average of 2.4c/kWh.
- Compost revenue remained strong.
- The Agency’s cash balance at the end of September was \$21.9M.
- The Agency began the year at \$22.6M.
- The Agency has billed haulers \$656,195 for recycling and tip fees.
- The Agency has paid \$1,235,390 in recycling expenses to the MRF.

A. Bianchetti asked what the Agency had budgeted for recycling expenses for 2024.

M. Mokrzycki responded that the budgeted amount was about what was being seen now. Approximately \$1.9M.

C. Dunham motioned and J. Driscoll seconded to approve the Treasures report.

Roll was taken and the Treasurer’s report was approved as submitted.

The **RECYCLING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** – report was presented by E. Gilligan.

- The committee discussed a resolution to purchase a material handler with grapple.
- The committee discussed a resolution to purchase tire disposal services from SGS Recovery.

Resolution #2414 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Enter into Contract to Purchase Material Handler with Grapple was moved by E. Gilligan and seconded by D. Daley.

There was a brief discussion on when the Finance committee may meet.

The resolution was adopted 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2415 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Purchase Tire Disposal Services from SGS Recovery was moved by E. Gilligan and seconded by D. Daley.

There was a request to remove an extra ‘s’ from the word tire in the resolved section of the resolution. That correction will be made.

The resolution was adopted 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

The **LEY CREEK AD HOC COMMITTEE** – report was presented by D. Lawless.

- The committee discussed a resolution regarding an engineering project for Ley Creek.
- The committee was updated on costs related to the rebuilding of Ley Creek.

Resolution #2416 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Execute a Contract for Consulting

Engineering Services for a Conceptual Site Plan and Preliminary Feasibility Study for the Additional Property at Ley Creek was moved by D. Lawless and seconded by C. Dunham.

There was a request to correct the misspelling of feasibility in the title section of the resolution.

There was a brief discussion on budgeted costs for engineering services pertaining to this project.

There was a brief discussion on possible funding for this project.

The resolution was adopted 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

B. Page mentioned the Board had finalized a nominating committee for Board Officers. Voting will take place in December.

C. Dunham moved, and J. Driscoll seconded to adjourn the meeting.

A unanimous aye voice vote was recorded.

The Board adjourned at 4:30 p.m. for a confidential meeting with Counsel.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak