

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
January 10, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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

The January 10, 2024, Board meeting was called to order at 4:11 p.m.

C. Dunham is attending via ZOOM today and will not be participating or voting. Vice Chair, D. Daley will conduct today’s meeting.

Roll was taken. Quorum is present.

E. Gilligan moved and D. Lawless seconded the approval of the December Board minutes.

Roll was called and the minutes were approved as submitted.

K. Spillane presented the Executive Director’s report which outlined the following:

- Several projects will be completed this year.
 - The flue repair at the WTE Facility continues.
 - OCRRA will focus on the landfill study at the waste beds.
 - Repairs of the waste conveyance system at Amboy.
 - Completion of yearend reporting.

Engineering:

- Responses have come in on the RFP for feasibility study of a landfill at the Waste Beds.
- Overseeing work and upcoming bids for work related to the safety and heating and ventilation systems at RCR.
- Addressing the same contract bids and documents needed for the upcoming conveyance project at Amboy.
- Continuing focus on the repairs of the flues at the WTE Facility.

Transfer and Compost:

- Maintaining OCRRA’s transfer building – bypass has begun sooner because of the challenges related to getting trailers into the ash house.
- Jamesville will be open for the first two weeks of the year to accept Christmas trees. The site will close again until March.

Recycling:

- The MRF Audit has been completed.
- The Recycling Director and her team are continuing work with the annual recycling report for the NYSDEC – this is due at the end of March.
- The Recycling Director and team are working with the County to write a two-year extension request for our Local Solid Waste Management Plan before the end of this year.

Public Information:

- Public outreach has wrapped up.
- Reminders about proper recycling and reuse of shipping and packing supplies, as well as common holiday materials and Christmas tree drop-off service was covered in the public outreach.
- To promote reduction and reuse, the Public Information Officer has visited the Rescue Mission donation warehouse and the Salvation Army.
- A short video was created to let people know what type of donation were desired at the Rescue Mission leading up to the holidays. The goal is to have the Salvation Army assist with a similar message to encourage useful donations during “spring cleaning” early this year.

Engagement, Outreach and New Opportunities

- Madison County held a public hearing in mid-December, with the intent to pass resolutions to allow the importation of waste and to award a contract with Cassella for operation of the landfill.
- There was many members of the public there to oppose the changes and the resolutions were tabled.
- K. Spillane will be in Washington D.C. in early February to speak with the EPA and the White House OMB office, which will be responsible for assisting the EPA with implementing the new emission standards/regulations.

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

- This report reflects November 2023 data.
- November tipping revenues were approximately 1% lower than budgeted.
- Compost revenues remain strong.
- The Electricity rate was 2.0 c/kWh.
- The Agency continues to experience high repair costs.
- The Agency’s cash balance at the end of November was \$21.6M.
- The Agency began the year with \$22.6M.
- The Agency has billed haulers \$808,394 for recycling costs.
- The Agency has paid the MRF \$1,455,398.

B. Page commended OCRRA’s efforts with investments and the returns that have been made.

G. Popp motioned and B. Page 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 met on December 20, 2023.
- The committee discussed the MRF audit.
- The committee discussed a resolution for emergency hauling.
- The committee was updated on the Covanta flue repair.

K. Spillane gave a brief explanation of the resolution for emergency hauling.

Resolution #2428 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Contract for Private Hauling Services was moved by E. Gilligan and seconded by J. Driscoll.

There was no further discussion.

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

M. Cirino:

- There will be two Audit committee meetings coming up in the first half of 2024.

K. Lawton:

- Waste Drive published an article in Waste Drive addressing paper products. OCRRA has issued a rebuttal on this topic.

C. Albanio:

- Emission re-testing has come in well below permitted levels.

K. Spillane added that additional costs have occurred within HDR's contract. These changes will be discussed with the Recycling and Operations committee.

B. Page moved, and J. McMahon seconded to adjourn the meeting.

A unanimous aye voice vote was recorded.

The Board adjourned at 4:40 p.m. Board Ethics Training will be after adjournment.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak