

**ONONDAGA COUNTY
RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY**

**MARCH 10, 2010
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**



Board Members Present:	Jake Barrett, Jeffrey DeRoberts, Esq., Mark Donnelly, Roger B. Eidt, Dereth B. Glance, Jonathan Y. Kelley, Lee Klosowski, P.E., Donald Lawless, Minchin G. Lewis, Ravi Raman, P.E., Michael J. Reilly, CPA, Richard Smardon, Ph.D.
Board Members Absent:	Rachel May, Gwendolyn Raeford
Also Present:	A. T. Rhoads, William J. Bulsiewicz, Esq., Warren Simpson, Andrew Radin, Joseph Fontanella, Kristen Lawton, Maria Cirino, Amy Lawrence
Guests:	David Moynihan and Gregg Evans (Testone, Marshall & Discenza, LLP)

The Board Meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

The February 10, 2010 Board Minutes were accepted as presented and filed.

The TREASURER’S REPORT was presented by R. Raman, and copies were distributed to Board Members.

The EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT was presented by A.T. Rhoads. Copies of this report were distributed to Board Members.

The AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT was presented by M. Reilly. Following are highlights from that meeting. Copies of the report were distributed to Board Members.

- David Moynihan & Gregg Evans from Testone, Marshall & Discenza, LLP (TMD), were in attendance to present and discuss the year-end audit. The auditors stated that it was a clean opinion with no significant findings, and that no adjustments were made to management’s financials. After the external auditors left the meeting, a discussion was held in regard to the effect future contract negotiations would have on the Agency — future risks moving towards Year 2015.

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- The Committee reviewed a second draft of the proposed 2010 audit plan, as well as a list of audit objectives for each audit. The Committee reviewed the audit plan and Mr. Smardon suggested adding an audit for the Board's decision to reduce the Agency's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
 - The Committee discussed future Audit meetings. It was suggested to have meetings every other month or every quarter. The next meeting will be in either May or June.

Mr. Reilly turned the meeting over to Mr. David Moynihan and Mr. Gregg Evans, who reviewed with Board Members the year-end Audit by Testone, Marshall & Discenza.

Resolution # 1697 — **Resolution Approving Audit of Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency for Calendar Year 2009** was moved by M. Reilly and seconded by J. Barrett. The Resolution was adopted: 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

The OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT was presented by J. Kelley, and copies of the report were distributed to Board Members. Following are highlights from the report:

- Larry Evans and Kathy Carroll from Covanta Onondaga made a brief presentation to the Committee regarding the possibility of capturing some residual waste from a recycling facility in Onondaga County. A brief discussion followed.
- The Committee discussed the year end (2009) Unit Cost Report. It was noted that Transfer Operations was over \$800,000 under budget for the year, due to lower trash volumes and several cost cutting initiatives introduced throughout the year.
- The Committee was provided a listing of Heavy Equipment and Vehicle Capital Assets, and the beginnings of a plan for pre-and post-2015 operational requirements.
- The Committee reviewed current staffing in Operations, and also determined that it would be appropriate to have the ability to utilize temporary laborers during peak season as a less expensive alternative to hiring full-time staff.
- The Agency Engineer's Report focused on the Covanta presentation.
- The Committee voted to enter into Executive Session at 5:55 p.m. to discuss contractual and other legal matters. Executive Session concluded at 6:52 p.m.

A Board Member inquired about non-hazardous light industrial waste. A discussion among Board Members took place.

Resolution # 1698 — **Resolution Amending Resolution No. 1681 Regarding Tipping Fees and Related Charges** was moved by J. Kelley and seconded by D. Lawless. The Resolution was adopted: 10 ayes, 1 nay (*R. Raman*), 0 abstentions.

The ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT was presented by D. Lawless. Copies of the report were distributed to Board Members. Following are highlights from the Committee Report:

- The Business Officer advised the Committee that insurance coverage, along with brokerage services, had been rigorously reviewed, and a vigorous competition for the Agency insurance business and brokerage services had taken place over the last several months. It was determined that Brown & Brown had submitted the best and most economical insurance package to the Agency.
- The Business Officer presented both the Investment Guidelines and the 2009 Investment Report to the Committee. As continuing to comply with all regulations, as well as Board requirements, there are no changes necessary to the Investment Guidelines.
- The Business Officer discussed the rationale and benefits of calling the 2010 Series A Bond maturities early.
- The Business Officer supplied the Committee with the template used for preparing the Agency's five-year projections. With the upcoming Hauler Contract negotiations, these projections are one of the Agency's most important planning tools.
- Agency Counsel updated the Committee on several areas including current litigation and other legal issues.

Resolution # 1699 — Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Purchase Insurance Policies for the Agency for the Period Beginning April 1, 2010 was moved by D. Lawless and seconded by R. Smardon. The Resolution was adopted: 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Resolution # 1700 — Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Hire Broker of Record to Assist in Purchasing Insurance Policies for the Agency for Three (3) Year Period Beginning April 1, 2010 was moved by D. Lawless and seconded by D. Glance. The Resolution was adopted: 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Resolution # 1701 — Resolution Approving Investment Guidelines and Investment Report of Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency for Calendar Year 2009 was moved by D. Lawless and seconded by R. Eidt. The Resolution was adopted: 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

The RECYCLING COMMITTEE REPORT was presented by D. Glance, and copies were distributed to Board Members. Highlights of the Committee Meeting are as follows:

- The January 2010 Recycling Figures are as follows:

Mandatory Recycling:	19,600 tons
Mandatory & Voluntary Recycling:	47,900 tons

Total Waste Reduction through Recycling: 68%

- The Committee spent considerable time discussing its Material Recovery Facility (MRF) Contract objectives for processing residential recyclables.
- The Committee was advised that there was a nearly 20% increase in the number of commercial users at the Compost Sites in 2009, and a 9% increase in the number of residential Compost Site passes sold.
- Letters have been sent to state and local public officials requesting support for full funding of the **Environmental Protection Fund**. Other letters are to go out to state and local elected officials seeking support for **Extended Producer Responsibility** legislation.

Resolution # 1702 — **Resolution Authorizing Hiring of Temporary Laborers** was moved by D. Glance and seconded by R. Smardon. The Board unanimously consented to two Amendments. One Amendment changed the term single Laborer to “two” Laborers for the 2010 Compost Site season, and the second Amendment changed the total cost in 2010 to a maximum of up to \$40,000.00. The Resolution was adopted, as amended, 11 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

For the Record:

Mr. Raman, as Board Treasurer, asked that the following be “**on the record**”: He said that he is totally against the Budget as passed. Mr. Raman said that the Board should keep an eye on expenditures, and should not be spending any more than what is budgeted. Less should be spent. He said that by going “over” budget, the Board is taking away from the cash reserves. He went on to say that the revenue should be kept under the budgeted amount. The revenue should be proven first, before moving on. Mr. Raman closed by saying that he is strongly against any spending over the budget.

New Business:

Mr. Raman stated that in the future, regarding Temporary Employees, the Agency should consider moving current employees around to get the best return, rather than hiring additional Temporary Employees, in order to stay within the Budget.

The Board Meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by C.M. Strong.



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