

FINAL

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

August 08, 2018 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present:	J. Copanas, K. Dodson, J. Driscoll, T. Geiss, L. Klosowski, D. Lawless, J. Lyons, B. Page, J. Powers, R. Raman, M. Reilly, J. Thomas
Board Members Absent:	T. Glazier
Also Present:	B. Bulsiewicz, M. Cirino, D. Glance, M. Mokrzycki, A. Radin, K. Lawton, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak
Guests:	

The August 8th Board Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

K. Dodson advised of a spelling error on page 2.

J. Thomas advised of an error on page 3.

Both corrections will be made.

The July 11th Minutes of the Board were approved as amended and filed.

The **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT** was presented by D. Glance. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

D. Glance updated the Board on the continuing challenges within the recycling industry.

OCRRA has met with local community leaders and the NYS DEC to update them on the situation and to discuss possible strategies.

The recycling challenge will have significant budget impacts.

Every five years the WTE Facility is thoroughly tested. No other facility has such a high level of testing or the limits that are as rigorous as OCRRA's. All tests passed. A copy of the results were distributed and discussed.

Compost interest, for larger projects and landscapers has greatly increased.

OCRRA continues to have discussions with the DEC and Covanta in regards to reducing diversion of trash.

B. Page asked about a waste quantification study to help determine what kind of waste is going into the facility.

D. Glance responded that OCRRA is looking into doing such a study in 2019.

B. Page asked for clarification on the definition of 'heating value.'

D. Glance responded that the 'heating value' equals the tonnage multiplied by the BTU.

B. Page asked if that (BTU) information was tracked.

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D. Glance responded that OCRRA and Covanta know exactly what the BTU is, and exactly what is coming over the scales. That information is all known, measureable data. Nothing is estimated and easily tracked.

The **TREASURER REPORT** was presented by K. Dodson. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

K. Dodson updated the Board – OCRRA is close to remaining on budget for the month of June.

Operating income was at \$374,219.00, compared to the budgeted \$304,240.00.

Electricity and metal are slightly ahead of budget.

Operating loss through June 30, 2018 is \$231,589.00, compared to the budgeted \$42,910.00. This is, in part due to the Feher loss.

Net Cash inflow for June was approx. \$239,000.00.

Cash balance at the end of June was at \$7.45M - \$6.02M last year.

The end of October brings the end to OCRRA's contract with Recycle America. Recycling amounts for November, December could potentially be costly.

M. Reilly asked if OCRRA expects electricity revenue to remain steady.

M. Mokrzycki respond – The Agency expects, due to volume, electricity production and revenue to remain steady. Metal should also remain steady.

K. Dodson reminded the Board that there will be upcoming budget workshops, and that anyone who is interested is welcome to attend.

The **RECYCLING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** was presented by J. Lyons. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

J. Lyons updated the Board on K. Lawton's Public Information Officer Report that was distributed at the meeting.

The report emphasized OCRRA's digital advertising and media campaigns.

Open rates as well as click through rates on digital advertisements remain above industry standard.

OCRRA will be holding a mercury take back event on August 13th and a textile event in October.

K. Lawton advised the Board that on Friday August 10th Pinckney Hugo will be holding their annual update, which is open to all that are interested in attending.

Increased costs continue to be expected within the Recycling industry.

OCRRA has met with Westrock to discuss cardboard and other issues.

B. Page asked if the market that once was for mixed paper has been replaced by another medium.

D. Glance responded that approx. 50% of that market went to China, as the demand for paper grew for

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their industrial applications, more and more garbage was getting inserted in to the paper bales. China, in turn raised their standard for acceptable mixed paper bales. The standard, at this time is not obtainable without adjusting infrastructure.

D. Glance added that installation of optical sorters at the MRF would help increase the quality of paper in each bale.

K. Dodson added that altering the public participation in recycling would take too long. Infrastructure is the key to getting through this crisis.

J. Copanas added - There needs to be a local, American market for these recycling products.

J. Lyons continued with an update – The compactor that had been damaged in the fire was going to be repaired.

OCRRA had scheduled to replace the 1992 Chevy with a vehicle from Van Bortel. Van Bortel was unable to deliver the vehicle and OCRRA rebid the truck. Koerner Ford was the low bid. The previous Resolution for Van Bortel purchase will be rescinded.

Resolution #2146 – Resolution Authorizing Purchase of a Service Truck was moved by J. Lyons and seconded by M. Reilly.

D. Lawless asked if this would be a cash purchase or lease.

M. Mokrzycki responded that the Agency is planning on paying cash.

Resolution #2146 was pass 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

J. Lyons proceeded with an update on the Agency's use of ash liners.

An additional amount of liners are needed due to the lighter consistency of the ash, which is sticking to the inside of the trailers.

Resolution #2147 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Purchase Additional Plastic Liners for Agency Ash Transport Trailers – was moved by J. Lyons and seconded by k. Dodson.

B. Page asked for clarification on the necessity of the liners.

K. Spillane explained that the consistency of the ash is causing the material to stick to the sides of the trailers. OCRRA also considered using counter weight in the trailers, but have not been able to make that a successful solution. Any other form of material would have to be stored onsite and logistically that isn't feasible.

From an operational standpoint, liners are the greatest solution.

R. Raman asked what the annual cost is for the liners.

M. Mokrzycki responded – The annual cost for the liners would be approx. \$90,000.00.

R. Raman asked if the cost per liner has increased since last purchase.

M. Mokrzycki responded that there has been a slight increase in the cost per liner.

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Resolution #2147 was passed 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

The **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** was presented by M. Reilly. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

OCRRA has obtained its own insurance for property and business interruption for the OCRRF. Premiums are less, with a higher deductible.

Negotiations with National Grid will not continue.

B. Bulsiewicz has requested that the Agency Agreement with Covanta be terminated.

OCRRA received a termination letter from the MRF, canceling the contract.

Various solutions were discussed in regards to the recycling crisis.

K. Lawton has responded to the Eagle News story in regards to the WTE facility. An updated version is due to be published.

CLOSING

J. Copanas updated the committee on discussions the Agency has had in respect to possible solutions for the recycling increases that continue.

D. Glance – Adding new policies, such as a plastic bag ban would greatly help reduce material contaminating the MRF and entering the WTE facility. OCRRA will be in contact with local officials.

The consensus is to work as hard as necessary to maintain Onondaga County's high recycling standards.

The Board discussed future dates for upcoming meetings.

The Board discussed tipping fees for the draft budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak