

# ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

## September 11, 2019 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>J. Copanas, J. Driscoll, L. Klosowski, J. Lyons, B. Page, R. Raman, B. DeMore, A. Bianchetti, B. Andrews, J. Thomas, T. Geiss, T. Glazier, D. Lawless</b>
<b>Board Members Absent:</b>	
<b>Also Present:</b>	<b>B. Bulsiewicz, D. Gance, A. Radin, M. Mokrzycki, K. Lawton, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, C. Alunio, M. Cirino</b>
<b>Guests:</b>	

The September 11<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

The August 14<sup>th</sup> Board meeting minutes were moved by R. Raman and seconded by J. Thomas. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent as submitted and filed.

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

D. Gance updated the committee with news of OCRRA's Recycling Specialist, T. Evans and the birth of her first child with her husband. T. Evans will return to the Agency in November.

OCRRA's budget workshops have been very successful. The budget will be reviewed at the September Administration committee meeting and then, with unanimous consent, sent to the full Board for approval in October.

The October Board meeting has been moved to the 16<sup>th</sup>.

The second season sort for the Waste Q & C has begun. There are 60+ categories that the trash is sorted into.

The class of chemicals, referred to as, PFAS (perfluorooctane sulfonic acid) was the focus of the Executive Director's report. PFOA (perfluorooctanoic) was the main chemical of concern in the Hoosic Falls drinking water controversy. PFAS are man-made chemicals that has been used in the industry and consumer products worldwide since the 1950s. They were used on non-stick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain-resistant fabrics, carpets, some cosmetics, some firefighting foams, and products that resist grease, water, and oil. During production and use, PFAS can migrate into the soil, water, and air. Some PFAS can build up in people and animals with repeated exposure over time. More research is needed to better understand the health effects of PFAS exposure. USEPA has issued a drinking water guideline level. The DEC has issued a guidance document to require testing of PFAS in soils.

B. Page – Is the OCRRA compost tested for PFAS?

D. Gance – The Agency has inquired with the lab that tests OCRRA compost, and they currently do not have a test for PFAS in compost.

T. Glazier – NYS is adopting regulations that would allow ten parts per trillion in drinking water

concentrations.

A. Bianchetti, in reference to NYS's interest in adopting regulations for PFAS contamination, stated, the importance of this matter cannot be underestimated by NYS. Regulations are a necessity.

The **TREASURER** report was presented by D. Lawless. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

July's revenue was higher than budgeted.

Electricity rates were 1.8c/kwh.

Repairs and maintenance costs have exceeded projections.

Recycling costs year to date are at \$1.08 million.

Cash inflow for July was approximately \$310,000. Agency cash balance at the end of July was \$9.82 million (\$7.07 million – 2018)

D. Lawless updated the committee on the finance lease balances as of September 11, 2019.

C&D tonnage is up. MSW tonnage remains steady. The Agency is on target to stay below the WTE permit limit for the year.

Profession fees are above budget due to the ongoing construction at RCR.

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

The committee met on August 21, 2019.

The committee discussed the metal building delay at RCR.

The construction completion target date is January 2020.

The committee discussed the sanitary leachate replacement/repair at RCR and the corresponding committee resolution.

The committee discussed the ongoing negotiations with Covanta for the additional waste service fee for 2020.

The committee discussed upgrades to the scale software and the corresponding committee resolution.

C. Alunio gave a brief construction update to the Board. Timelines remain on schedule for the target completion date of January 2020.

The committee discussed the generator rental at Ley Creek.

R. Raman updated the Board. The Agency initially rented the generator as a means for temporary power at the Ley Creek site until permanent power could be restored. Due to excessive usage CAT rentals has increased the monthly fee.

The committee discussed OCRRA eliminating the Heavy Equipment Crew Leader position and

creating an Operations Crew Leader position. This change will not affect the budget.

The committee discussed the Agency extending the contract with Pinckney Hugo Group for one more year.

The committee discussed the Waste Q&C. In June, 10,000 lbs of trash and 7,000 lbs of curbside recycling were sorted.

**Resolution #2196 – Resolution Authorizing the Agency’s Executive Director to Enter into a Contract for Purchase of Scale Software and Technical Related Services** was moved by J. Lyons and seconded by R. Raman.

R. Raman – Is this coming out of the bonded funds?

M. Mokrzycki – This is budgeted as part of the bonding funds.

The Resolution was adopted 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstain

**Resolution #2197 – Resolution Authorizing Contract for Container Use and Pick Up at Recycling Drop-Off Areas at Agency Transfer Facilities** was moved by J. Lyons and seconded by B. DeMore.

R. Raman asked for clarification on why the amount per ‘pull’ is so much higher than the previous year.

D. Glance explained the total amount is higher due to the longer contract of 18 months. While the per pull cost is higher than the current rate, this bid is consistent with the other previously submitted bids.

R. Raman asked what amount had been spent to date on this service.

M. Mokrzycki – I believe that it will be under \$55,000.

R. Raman requested a friendly Amendment be made reflecting the 18 month period in the resolution.

The Board discussed the bid rates from 2019, in comparison with those collected in 2018.

The Resolution was adopted 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstain

**Resolution #2198 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Execute Contract for Leachate/Sanitary management System** was moved by J. Lyons and seconded by D. Lawless.

R. Raman requested that the resolution briefs be more detailed.

The Resolution was adopted 12 Ayes 0 Nays and 0 Abstain

**Resolution # 2199 – Resolution Authorizing Extension of Contract for Advertising Agency Services** was moved by J. Lyons and seconded by J. Driscoll.

R. Raman would like the 29% cap to remain.

The Board discussed the 29% cap on Pinckney Hugo’s services.

J. Copanas explained why the 29% cap was no longer necessary and that the Agency receives

quarterly updates from Pinckney Hugo.

T. Glazier gave further details as to why the removal of the 29% is necessary at this time. Removing this cap will allow Pinckney Hugo to focus on creative content.

A. Bianchetti added that Pinckney Hugo has an outstanding reputation. He had attended the Pickney Hugo presentation for OCRRA and is confident that their main focus is on OCRRA's message and not the money received from the Agency.

The Resolution was adopted 11 Ayes 1 Nay 0 Abstain

**Resolution #2200 – Resolution Authorizing Creation of Operations Crew Leader Position and Elimination of a Heavy Equipment Mechanic Crew Leader Position from the Agency's Civil Service Roster** was moved by J. Lyons, R. Raman.

A. Andrews – Does the changing of this position need to be negotiated by the Union?

K. Spillane – No, however, the Union does have to vote after the Board approves the resolution.

The Resolution was adopted 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstain

**Resolution #2201 – Resolution Authorizing Rental of Electric Generator for Agency's Ley Creek Facility** was moved by J. Lyons and seconded by R. Raman.

There was no Board discussion.

The Resolution was adopted 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstain

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

R. Raman – The committee met on August 21, 2019.

The committee discussed renegotiating the contract with Brown and Brown Insurance. This is the last option year of the current agreement.

R. Raman requested that the Agency report back to the committee on three items: discuss a one-year contract with Brown and Brown; inquire if there is a State Comptroller's recommendation on maintaining an appropriate level of reserves; and lessons learned from the eddy current non-ferrous separator.

The committee discussed the electric service at Ley Creek.

M. Mokrzycki updated the committee on the reserve guidance levels – The State Comptroller does not have specific guidance, the governing bodies, either elected or appointed determine a reasonable financial amount. The GFOA (Governor of Finance Officers Association) recommends two months of operating expenses.

**Resolution #2202 – Resolution Authorizing Letter Agreement with National Grid for Restoration of Power to Ley Creek Transfer Station** was moved by R. Raman and seconded by J. Lyons.

A friendly amendment was made to read not to exceed \$71,000.

The Resolution was adopted 11 Ayes 0 Nays and 1 Abstain  
A. Bianchetti Abstained

The **RECYCLING 2020 COMMITTEE** was verbally presented by L. Klosowski. A copy of the report will be added to the October Board packet.

The committee met on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

The committee focused on long term solutions to the recycling crisis.

The committee discussed reaching out to other entities who are also struggling for a possible collaboration.

The committee discussed EPR.

The committee discussed the ongoing contract negotiations with Waste Management/Recycle America (the MRF). There have been no meetings with the MRF since the Recycling 2020 committee meeting.

Board Adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak