

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

October 16, 2019 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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

The October 16th Board Meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

Chair Copanas reordered today's Agenda due to the limit time for some Board members.

The September 11th 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 **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** was presented by R. Raman. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

The committee met on September 24th, 2019.

The committee discussed the insurance renewal with Brown and Brown.

The committee discussed Ley Creek as a possible site for a residential drop-off.

National Grid will be beginning the repairs to the Ley Creek transfer station.

Bids have been received for the electrical portion of the Ley Creek repair. It was recommended that O'Connell Electric be awarded the contract.

The committee discussed the Eddy Current Non-Ferrous Metal Recovery system and the associated revenue generated from this capital improvement.

Resolution# 2203 – Resolution Adopting an Agency Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 was moved by R. Raman and seconded by T. Geiss.

B. Page – There is an error in the 'Compost' section of the Resolution. A friendly amendment will be made to correct 54 yards to ½ yard.

The Resolution was adopted 11 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain

Resolution #2204 – Resolution Adopting Tipping Fees and Related Charges for Fiscal Year 2020 was moved by R. Raman and seconded by L. Klosowski.

The Resolution was adopted 11 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain

R. Raman introduced **Resolution #2205 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Execute Contract for Restoration of Power to Ley Creek Transfer Station** was moved by R. Raman and seconded by L. Klosowski.

D. Glance thanked the Board, Agency Engineer, and A. Bianchetti for their work in this project.

The Resolution was adopted 10 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstain

R. Raman – the committee believes that the change order for necessary structural repairs is imperative to the continuation of the Rock Cut Road project and was not an oversight on the part of the contractors.

A. Bianchetti – Were the beams wrapped?

C. Albinio – There were other steel members and concrete that have been demolished. The entire front of the building has come off. The damaged structure was hidden until the demo was finished.

Resolution #2206 – Resolution Authorizing Change Order for Immediate Necessary Structural Repairs to Rock Cut Road Building 2 was moved by R. Raman and seconded by T. Geiss.

R. Raman asked for clarification on the contract for the building 2 change order.

C. Albinio – The contract is for Murnane with JPW as the subcontractor.

The Resolution was adopted 11 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain

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

The Recycling and Operation Committee met on October 23rd, 2019.

The committee discussed the 2019 WTE test results. All results were within normal, or below the normal range.

The facility is currently operating at its peak efficiency.

There are funds that remain available for capital improvements with Covanta.

The RCR Consolidation Project is still on target for a January 2020 completion.

K. Lawton updated the committee on the latest in OCRRA media coverage.

A. Radin updated the committee on the second season of the Waste Q&C. A report should be available in 60 days.

Recycling costs for 2020 are estimated to be \$2.5 million.

J. Lyons introduced the Resolution for OCRRA's collaboration with the Northeast Waste Management Officers Association (NEWMOA). This program will aim to produce various multilingual public education pieces, including videos, brochures, and public exhibit displays that will aim to encourage recycling and to reduce food waste. OCRRA will distribute the financial reimbursements and implement the educational outreach efforts using public educational materials.

Resolution #2207 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Enter Agreement with Northeast Waste Management Officers Association (“NEWMOA”) to Implement and Administer a Food Waste Reduction Grant was moved by J. Lyons and seconded by T. Glazer.

D. Lawless asked for clarification on the financial distribution.

M. Mokrzycki – The Agency will receive \$139,112 and distribute \$135,000 to the organization that is producing the materials.

The Resolution was adopted 10 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Abstain

The **AUDIT COMMITTEE** was presented by J. Thomas. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

The committee met on October 8, 2019.

The committee reviewed the Corrective Action Plan (CAP), which is the Agency’s response to the Office of the State Comptroller’s (OSC) Audit. The committee approved the CAP.

The committee tabled the discussion of the use of a consulting firm for best practices.

The ABO Board training will now be organized by the Agency’s Executive Secretary.

The committee reviewed the NYS License Event Notification System audit report and management’s response.

J. Thomas presented the resolution approving the Agency’s response to the New York State Comptroller’s audit report.

The committee unanimously consented to move the resolution to the full Board for approval.

Resolution #2208 – Resolution Approving and Authorizing Agency Response to New York State Comptroller’s Audit Report was moved by J. Thomas and seconded by R. Raman.

B. Page – Were these areas of known concerns or areas where the State thought there could be problems?

J. Thomas – One known area of concern was with the OCRRA employee monetary theft.

D. Lawless requested that the Board revisit credit cards as a form of payment at the transfer sites.

R. Raman suggested purchasing coupons as a form of payment.

J. Thomas will bring the acceptance of credit cards up at the next Audit meeting.

The Resolution was adopted 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstain

The **RECYCLING 2020 Ad hoc COMMITTEE** was presented by L. Klosowski. Copies of the report were distributed and discussed.

The committee met on October 1, 2019.

L. Klosowski presented the September 4th committee minutes.

The goal for the September 4th meeting was focused on three long term options that addressed the recycling market.

The committee discussed the recycling markets forecast for 2020.

The committee discussed the benefits of having a professional lobbyist on OCRRA's behalf, a designated firm that understands the goal and could track progress.

The goal for the October 1st meeting was focused on the preliminary draft report that will be submitted at the conclusion of this committee. A rough draft was circulated throughout the committee members. December is the target date for the report to be completed.

The committee discussed the bottle bill.

A. Radin was in NYC to testify for the Joint Senate & Assembly Environmental Conservation committees hearing on recycling.

The MRF contract discussions are ongoing.

Included in the Recycling 2020 committee packet were passed resolutions in regards to support for policy initiatives. D. Glance has asked if the Board would like to reaffirm the resolutions in advance of A. Radin's upcoming testimony in NYC.

J. Copanas – They have already been endorsed. No further action should be necessary.

D. Lawless requested clarification on the \$15 cost for recycling, referenced in the Recycling and Operations Committee minutes. He asked, "This is OCRRA's cost?"

A. Radin – That's what the cost would be if the resident was to pay the hauler directly as opposed to it being included in the tip fee.

A. Radin – These are costs that the household is already paying though the tip fee. This would be a cost shift if the household would be to pay for it directly. We were looking to show what the direct fee would be for processing and marketing.

M. Mokrzycki – The sentence should read the estimated cost per household, per year for **OCRRA** recycling is approximately \$15.

T. Glazier – Does OCRRA monitor cost per household?

M. Mokrzycki – There are multiple collectors that may or may not monitor cost per household. In some municipalities, for example, the cost is wrapped in their budget.

A. Bianchetti – How do the Agency's Resolutions get communicated to Lawmakers? How does the State know what Resolutions have been passed by the Board?

D. Glance – When a Resolution is passed encouraging Legislative change, OCRRA will do a mailing. The Agency also has ongoing communications with Legislators. When we meet with them,

we have these resolutions that are empowered by the Board, so we carry it forward.

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

D. Glance thanked the Board for their support on OCRRA's 2020 budget.

2020 will need to develop a new Strategic Direction for the Agency.

D. Glance announced Chanel Quail as the Agency's new Enforcement Officer. C. Quail had previously been OCRRA's Recycling Specialist for just over a year.

This is the last year that the NYSDEC will be reimbursing programs on a triennial basis. Moving forward, reimbursement will be disbursed annually.

OCRRA will be taking the opportunity to utilize the 2019 Rock Cut Road Consolidation Bonds to secure critical capital equipment as opposed to using operating or capital budgets.

Once the Rock Cut Road consolidation project is complete, OCRRA will focus on a long-term vision for Ley Creek.

On October 10th, D. Glance presented at the American Society of Environmental Engineers and Scientists Symposium, which was devoted to "Current and Future Environmental Challenges."

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

The 2019 OCRRA budget is on target.

In August, the Agency received grant reimbursement for its 2016-2018 recycling-related public education costs.

Electricity revenue remains at a record low.

The cash outflow for August was approximately \$508k.

Cash balance at the end of August was \$9.32 million (\$6.09 2018)

Recycling costs to date are \$1.23 million.

Landfill costs are higher but within budget.

The committee discussed electricity forecasts.

Board Adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak