

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY  
 IN PERSON MEETING  
 October 13, 2021 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Board Members Present</b> | J. Copanas, A. Bianchetti, E. Gilligan, T. Glazier, L. Klosowski, D. Lawless, B. Page, S. Pasquale, C. Dunham, L. Colon Torres |
| <b>Board Members Absent:</b> | R. Raman, R. Zaccaria, J. Driscoll   |
| <b>Also Present:</b>         | M. Cirino, D. Glance, K. Lawton, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, C. Albunio, J. Gascon Esq.  |
| <b>Guests:</b>               |  |

The October 13, 2021, Board meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

J. Copanas asked if there were any members of the public that would like to identify themselves and address the Board.

Attendance of the Board was taken – quorum is present.

The September 8, 2021, meeting minutes were reviewed. The minutes were moved by L. Klosowski and seconded by D. Lawless. Roll was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.

D. Glance presented the **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S** report. Copies of the report were distributed.

- October was a challenging month.
  - 33.5% increase in C&D waste
  - 10% increase in MSW
  - Covanta had routine maintenance
  - Tropical storm Fred caused flooding and housing sales were up, which contributed to the increase.
- A. Radin is retiring after 30 years with OCRRA.
  - During his time with OCRRA he has helped remove 25 billion lbs. of recycling material out of the waste stream.
- K. Lawton will fill A. Radin’s role as Recycling Director.
- The Rescue Mission and the Salvation Army have expressed a concern with an abundance of waste residue in their donation stream.
  - To recognize the contributions that charities provide for our solid waste system, OCRRA established a charity recycling rebate program nearly two decades ago.
  - This program helps ease the cost burden that is associated with disposal of non-recyclable items and waste brought in from residents.
  - OCRRA will be looking into increasing the rebate amount in the near future.
- OCRRA toured the Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority facilities in Utica, Ava and Rome to see their EcoDrop, Transfer Stations, MRF and Landfill.
- The Agency has a reaffirmed S&P rating of A+.

E. Gillian ask what OCRRA is doing to help curb the unusable textiles that are sent overseas and ultimately end up in landfills.

D. Glance responded the Recycling and Operations committee will be discussing this in upcoming meetings.

The **TREASURER'S** report was presented by L. Klosowski. Copies of the report were distributed.

This report reflects August 2021 data.

- August electricity rate was 3.1c/kWh generating \$683,364 in revenue for the Agency.
- There was an increase in landfill charges as more diversion was necessary to maintain capacity at the WTE facility for haulers.
- Cash inflow was approximately \$1.08 million.
- Agency's cash balance stood at \$10.4 million (\$9.1 million previous year)
- The Agency began the year with \$8.2 million in cash.
- The Agency expects additional strong cash flow throughout the fall.

B. Page asked why the electricity prices had risen.

M. Mokrzycki responded that in our market, electricity prices follow the natural gas prices. Currently, natural gas prices are up.

A. Bianchetti moved, and E. Gilligan seconded for the acceptance of the Treasurer's Report.

Roll was taken and the report was accepted as submitted.

The **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** report was presented by B. Page. Copies of the report from September 28<sup>th</sup> were distributed and discussed.

- The committee discussed the FY 2022 budget.
- The committee discussed the extension of the hauler contract.
- The committee discussed preparing RCR for residents.
- The committee discussed the planned maintenance outages at Covanta.

**Resolution #2303 – Resolution Adopting Tipping Fees and Related Charges for Fiscal Year 2022** was moved by B. Page and seconded by S. Pasquale.

There was a brief discussion on the fee schedule.

The resolution was adopted 9 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**Resolution #2304 – Resolution Adopting Agency Budget for Fiscal Year 2022** was moved by B. Page and seconded by C. Dunham.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 9 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**Resolution #2305 – Resolution Authorizing Extension of Existing Hauler Agreement** was moved by B. Page and seconded by C. Dunham.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 9 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

J. Copanas thanked B. Page, the committee, and M. Mokrzycki for the efforts in putting together the Agency FY 2022 budget.

The **RECYCLING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** report was presented by A. Bianchetti. Copies of the report from September 15<sup>th</sup> were distributed and discussed.

- The committee discussed A. Radin's retirement and contributions to the Agency.
- The committee discussed the Agency FY 2022 budget.
- The committee discussed retail sales tax collection from compost and mulch.
- The committee discussed large volume bulk purchases of compost for environmental projects.
- The committee discussed OCRRA's blue bin inventory.
- The committee discussed the extension of the recycling hauling contract.

**Resolution # 2306 – Resolution Amending Resolution No. 2197 of 2019 Regarding Executive Director's Authority to Execute Contract with Superior Waste Removal for Hauling of Recyclables** was moved by A. Bianchetti and seconded by S. Pasquale.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 9 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**Resolution #2307 – Resolution in Recognition of Andrew Radin's 30 Years of Service to the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency** was moved by A. Bianchetti and seconded by B. Page.

There was a spelling typo which will be corrected.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 9 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**Resolution #2308 – Resolution Amending Resolutions No. 2258 and No. 2300 Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute Contract for the Purchase of Additional "Blue Bin" recycling Containers** was moved by A. Bianchetti and seconded by S. Pasquale.

T. Glazier asked to see a price differential on a larger bin with a lid.

There was a brief discussion on the logistics of using a larger bin.

The resolution was adopted 9 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

The **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE** report was presented by J. Copanas. Copies from the August 24<sup>th</sup> report were distributed and discussed.

- The next Governance packet will be sent out tomorrow.
- The report from August 24<sup>th</sup> was reviewed at the September Board meeting.

C. Dunham moved to adjourn the meeting; B. Page seconded.

A collective Aye was recorded.

The Board adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak