

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

April 13, 2021 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present	B. Page, A. Bianchetti, J. Copanas, E. Gilligan, T. Glazier, L. Klosowski, D. Lawless, S. Pasquale
Board Members Absent:	L. Colon Torres, J. Driscoll, C. Dunham, R. Raman, R. Zaccaria
Also Present:	M. Cirino, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, C. Alburnio, J. Gascon Esq., M. Mokrzycki, W. Wallak, K. Lawton, J. Connery
Guests:	

The April 13, 2022, Board meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m.

B. Page introduced J. Connery, OCRRA newly hired Assistant Engineer. The Board introduced themselves and J. Connery gave a brief history of his background.

Attendance of the Board was taken – quorum is present.

L. Klosowski moved and A. Bianchetti seconded the minutes from the March Board meeting.

Roll was called and the report was unanimously approved.

K. Spillane presented his Executive Director report.

- The final draft of the Strategic Planning report will be distributed for review and approval to the committees this month.
- The Board will vote to adopt the report in May.
- C. Alburnio and K. Spillane have met with Covanta and have agreed that the additional delivery of waste from Transfer will be in the evenings between 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm for approximately 50 tons per day.
- This would be depending on Covanta’s ability to take waste during outages and having sufficient pit space to accommodate the additional waste.
- This is impactful because we needed to move the additional waste that Rock Cut Road Transfer would take in once we moved the residential services to the facility from Ley Creek.
- Residential customers will be moving to RCR in late May-June.
- The Agency continues to discuss the future of Ley Creek after the move of residential services.
- OCRRA has entered into a contract with NaturCycle for the brokerage of compost/mulch.
- OCRRA is in the beginning stages of informing the haulers of the future of the Blue Bin program. Within the next few years, Blue Bins will be replaced by carts/totes.
- The Home and Garden show at the NYS Fair grounds was a success.
- K. Lawton, W. Wallak and K. Spillane will continue communicating with local government advocating for Extended Producer Responsibility. (EPR)

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

This report reflects February 2022 data.

- February tonnage was a bit over average.
- The electricity rate for February was 4.9c/kWh.
- Curbside recyclable cost was relatively low at ~\$2,600.
- Fiber markets for recycled cardboard and mixed paper have stabilized.
- Aluminum and PET (#1 Plastic) markets are very strong.
- The Agency's cash balance at the end of February stood at \$15.4M. (\$8.86M prior year)
- The Agency began the year with \$14.2M in cash reserves.

J. Copanas moved and T. Glazier seconded the Treasurer Report.

Roll was called and the report was unanimously approved.

The **RECYCLING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** report was presented by A. Bianchetti. Copies of the report from the February 16th meeting were distributed and discussed.

- The committee discussed the Climate Act Scoping document and the 120-day comment period.
- The committee discussed a resolution for EPR for packaging and printed paper. A resolution will be presented to the Board today.
- The committee discussed a resolution modifying resolution #2292 of 2021 to purchase tractors. A resolution will be presented to the Board today.
- The committee was updated on the RCR Transfer Station building 2 optimization project.
- Recycling Specialist L. Piering gave a presentation on the NEWMOA Food Scrap Reduction Grant Program – 2022.
- The committee discussed possible improvements to the inbound scale area.

The April Administration committee meeting has been changed to April 27th because the public hearing for the Climate Act is on April 26th.

Resolution # 2331 – Support for the New York State Legislature to Establish an Extended Producer Responsibility System for Packaging and Printed Paper was moved by A. Bianchetti and seconded by J. Copanas.

A discussion followed.

The Board chose to table this resolution until May.

J. Copanas moved and E. Gilligan seconded to table this resolution.

The resolution was tabled 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2332 – Resolution Modifying Resolution 2292 of 2021 Authorizing Executive Director to Purchase Tractors from Kenworth Northeast – was moved by A. Bianchetti and seconded by L. Klosowski.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

A. Bianchetti asked that the Board consider altering the process and requirements that the Agency uses when considering what resolutions are to be presented to the Board.

J. Copanas responded, that topic can be discussed at the Administration committee.

The **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** report was presented by J. Copanas. Copies of the report from March 29th meeting were distributed and discussed.

- The committee discussed a resolution approving the contract with West Rock. A resolution will be presented today.
- The committee discussed a resolution changing the Agency's Civil Service Roster. A resolution will be presented today.
- The committee discussed the Climate Act Plan.
- The committee discussed an update to the Group Medicare Advantage Plan.

Resolution #2333 – Resolution Authorizing Disposal Contract with WestRock-Solvay, LLC for Light Industrial Waste was moved by J. Copanas and seconded by E. Gilligan.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2334 – Resolution Authorizing Changes to the Agency's Civil Service Roster and Amending the Salary Classification Plan for Non-Represented Employees for Year 2022 was moved by J. Copanas and seconded by S. Pasquale.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

B. Page asked the Agency staff for any other updates.

Each staff member gave a brief update on upcoming events.

K. Spillane updated the Board that the first draft of the Strategic Plan has been released for review. Each committee will discuss the report before it is finalized.

C. Alunio updated the Board that the continuous monitoring system installation is in progress. There were supply delays and the Agency has been given an extension by the NYSDEC.

C. Alunio updated the Board on the rising cost of ammonia. OCRRA is responsible for the reagents used at the Covanta plant.

W. Wallak updated the Board on the residential move from Ley Creek to RCR. He is working with the media on informing the public for a smooth transition.

W. Wallak reminded the Board that Earth Day is approaching. OCRRA has received a great deal of interest in residents registering for the clean-up.

K. Lawton added that the deadline for Earth Day registration is this Friday.

K. Lawton shared that OCRRA has received a Leader in Sustainability award from Call to Recycle, which is the entity that oversees rechargeable batteries. They recognized OCRRA for recycling over 11,000 lbs of recyclable batteries in 2021.

M. Cirino is currently working on the Code of Ethics training and exams for the Board, the Wire Transfer Audit, the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan Audit, and the Spill Prevention Plan Audit.

M. Mokrzycki added that OCRRA has been meeting with the Town Supervisors to discuss the changes that will be occurring with recycling containers. Blue Bins will be phased out in the next few years. Carts/totes will be used as a replacement.

B. Page reminded the Board that the April Administration committee will be on April 27th at 4:00pm.

D. Lawless moved and L. Klosowski seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A unanimous aye voice vote was recorded.

The Board adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak