

**ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
100 Elwood Davis Rd., N. Syracuse NY 13212**

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

May 11, 2022 – 4:00 p.m.

- I. ATTENDANCE/INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS
 - a. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
- II. APPROVAL/CORRECTION of April 13, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes
- III. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- IV. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Reports-Committees & Resolutions: _____ **Chair of Committee:** _____

A. Recycling and Operations Committee _____ **A. Bianchetti**

April 20, 2022 - Report

a. Resolution Support for the New York State Legislature to Establish an Extended Producer Responsibility System for Packaging and Printed Paper

b. Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Execute a Contract for Consulting Engineering Services for the WTE Facility

B. Administration Committee _____ **J. Copanas**

April 27, 2022 – Report

a. Resolution Urging New York State Climate Action Council to Consider the Impacts of the Climate Act on Solid Waste Management During Implementation of New Legislation

C. Governance Committee _____ **B. Page**

April 13, 2022 – Report

a. Resolution Approving Amendment to OCRRA Governance Committee Charter

D. Board of Ethics Training _____

Miscellaneous: _____

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

III. ADJOURNMENT

II. NEW BUSINESS

IV. CALENDAR

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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)

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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.

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

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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

Executive Director's Report

May 2022

We spent some time this last month looking back and also looking forward. At the Recycling and Operations Committee, we reviewed the 2021 Recycling Annual Report, which demonstrated that our source separation and curbside programs continue to be strong, and we spent a great deal of time looking forward, especially in consideration of the strategic plan.

After review of the first draft of the strategic plan, the Board suggested some changes they would like to see that would address challenges in our programs, services, and facilities; they also reflected on strengths in those areas, while delineating a path forward. In consideration of these requested changes, it was decided that the staff, led by Mike Mokrzycki, would redraft the plan internally, and reorganize it in a traditional format, similar to a SWOT analysis. It was also discussed at each of the Committees that we needed to identify immediate, intermediate, and long-term goals along with strategies to achieve them.

I am asking the Board to review the new draft (distributed under separate email) during the week of May 9th and provide feedback by May 13th. Any requested changes will then be reflected in the draft strategic plan that will be distributed to the Committees in May, for their review, before consideration at the June Board meeting. I appreciate all your attention and feedback on the plan thus far, and I am confident this next iteration will reflect the Board's vision.



Another area that the Board spent some time looking forward was regarding the Climate Action Plan. The Board has considered commenting on the scoping document distributed by the Climate Action Council during a public comment period before they begin implementing the law, and there is a resolution before the Board at this

month's meeting to support a letter from me and the Board Chair reflecting OCRRA's position on it. The Climate Act is an ambitious step forward by New York State to address the need to reduce the impact of greenhouse gas emissions. However, the scoping document, which outlines the effort to implement this far-reaching legislation, has implications for the management of solid waste in New York, and waste-to-energy in particular. The law and scoping plan will impact siting, permitting and operations of these programs and facilities moving forward. Your support of this resolution and engagement with state legislators and administrators, outlining our concerns and lack of details in this scoping plan specific to the waste sector, is critically important and appreciated.

We are also looking forward to the implementation of extended producer responsibility for paint with the May implementation of PaintCare in New York State. There will be several drop-off sites announced by PaintCare throughout the County, including Miller Environmental Group, where residents can bring their unused or leftover paints, stains, and varnishes (either by making an appointment through our HHW program if they also have other HHW items; or without an appointment if they only have PaintCare eligible items). Currently, OCRRA accepts many of the PaintCare eligible items through our Household Hazardous Waste program at a cost. With the implementation of the PaintCare program, these costs will now be managed by PaintCare, not OCRRA. We are currently updating our website to communicate this change to the community and working with Miller Environmental Group to track the paint that is collected through our program, exclusive of PaintCare's costs, so we can accurately request grant reimbursement from New York State.



Another area where we looked forward was in celebration of Earth Day and all the cleanup efforts made by our community that will lead to a cleaner and more environmentally friendly tomorrow. The end of winter always exposes the litter in our community, especially along the roadsides and in the various lots and fields through throughout the County. In addition to the coordination of more than 300 volunteer groups, OCRRA also organized a team from our own office that worked along Rock Cut Road from the Transfer Station to

Brighton Avenue collecting over 200 pounds of trash. At the time of submission of this report, the community as a whole collected more than 40,640 pounds of litter during the event.

Finally, I am personally looking forward to the future of our Transfer Operations as the new Director, Jeremiah Thompson, began working for OCRRA on April 25, 2022. Jeremiah comes to us from Oswego County Solid Waste where he was responsible for their compost, transfer and landfill operations. In addition to that recent experience, Jeremiah also has many years of logistical, operational and management experience at UPS overseeing a large union represented workforce. Please extend a warm welcome to Jeremiah.

To the Board portal this month we added: new draft of the strategic plan, the full response from HDR on the RFB for engineering services assisting with oversight of the waste to energy facility, and the repair cost estimate for the sprinkler header damaged at Rock Cut and discussed at both committees.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin'.

Treasurer Report

May 11, 2022

March 2022 Results:

March tonnage was a bit above budgeted amounts, and the general expectation is that our year to date tipping fees will catch up with the budgeted revenue as the spring and summer progress.

The electricity rate for March was 3.1c/kWh, which is still solidly above budget, and year to date electric revenue remains the main driver of the Agency's positive results for the first quarter.

On the expense side, inflationary pressures are becoming more noticeable, particular in Materials and Supplies, which is mainly fuel, and in the Waste-To-Energy Operations cost, where the costs of reagents such as ammonia are rising significantly. These negative budget variances will become more pronounced as the year progresses. Recycling markets continue to help offset these costs.

Cash Flow:

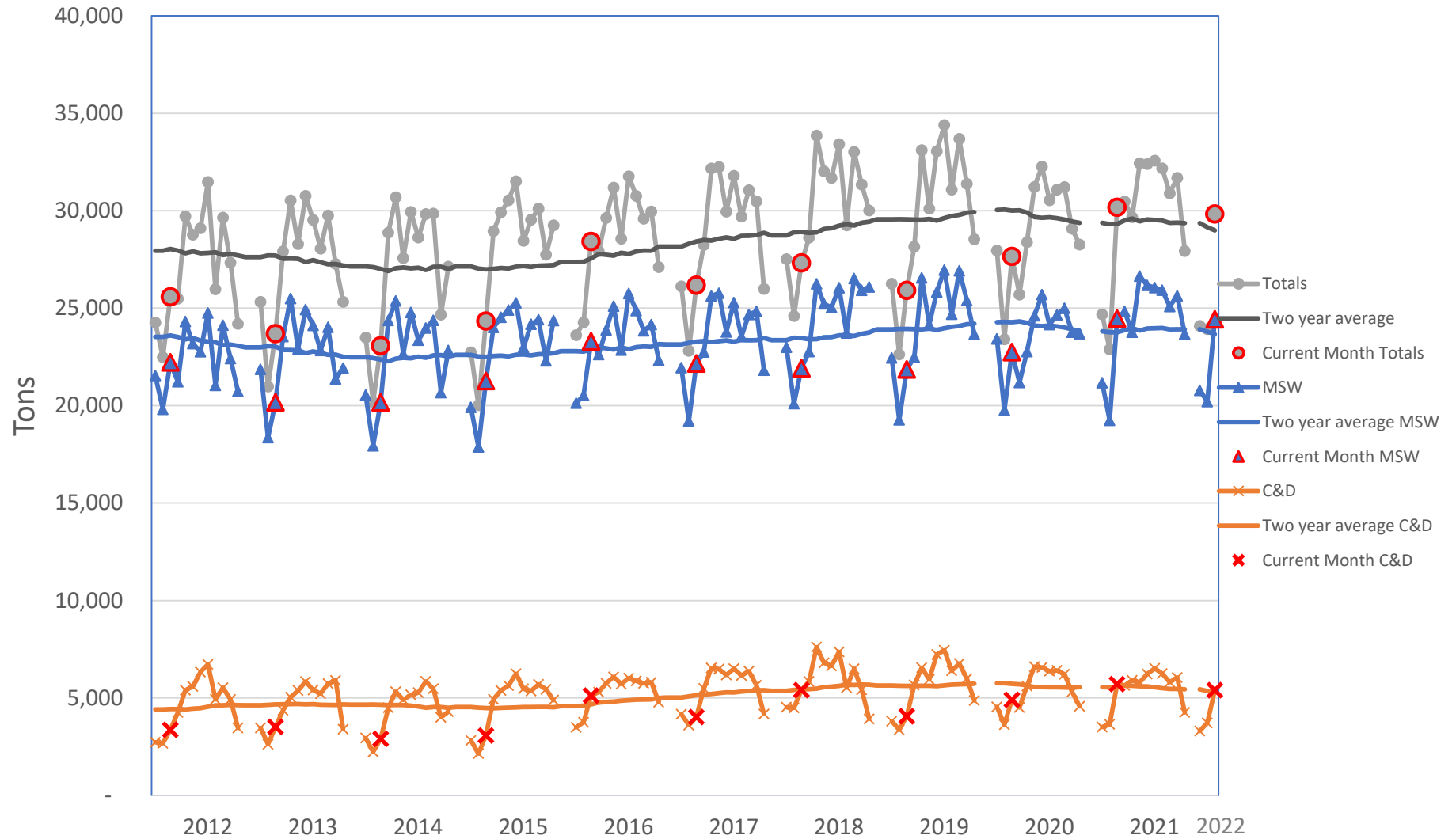
The Agency's cash balance at the end of March stood at **\$16.6M (\$8.86M Prior Year)**. The Agency began the year with **\$14.2M** in cash reserves. As interest rates have ticked up, the Agency has restarted its investments in Treasury bills to harvest some additional interest income.

Finance Lease Balances as of May 11, 2022:

<u>Equipment Schedule</u>	<u>Initial Principal</u>	<u>Total Interest</u>	<u>Balance (Prin. + Int.)</u>	<u>Payment Amount</u>	<u>Payments Left</u>	<u>Lease Beg / End</u>	<u>Int. Rate</u>
#1 – 5 Tractors and Trailers	\$1,050,398	\$51,400	Paid off 03/31/2021				1.75%
#2 - 2 Tractors and 1 Loader	\$ 554,288	\$28,117	Paid off 08/31/2021				1.81%
#3 - Grinder and Roll-Off	\$ 903,471	\$52,115	Paid off 8/15/2019				2.28%
#4 – Shredder, Mat. Handler, and Dump Truck	\$1,089,510	\$61,295	Paid off 03/31/2021				2.20%
#5 – 2 Dumps, 4 Trailers	\$ 577,983	\$35,096	\$61,308	\$61,308	1/10	1/2018 – 9/2022	2.5%
#6 – 1 Loader	\$ 476,095	\$52,087	\$104,174	\$52,087	2/10	5/2018 – 4/2023	3.38%
#7 – 1 Loader, 3 Dumps	\$ 968,207	\$81,935	\$315,042	\$105,014	3/10	12/2018 – 9/2023	3.31%
#8 – 1 Loader, 2 Dumps	\$ 722,043	\$57,200	\$622,600	\$77,825	8/10	4/2021 – 4/2026	2.80%
Total Balance	\$6,341,995	\$419,244	\$1,103,124				

Tonnage Data

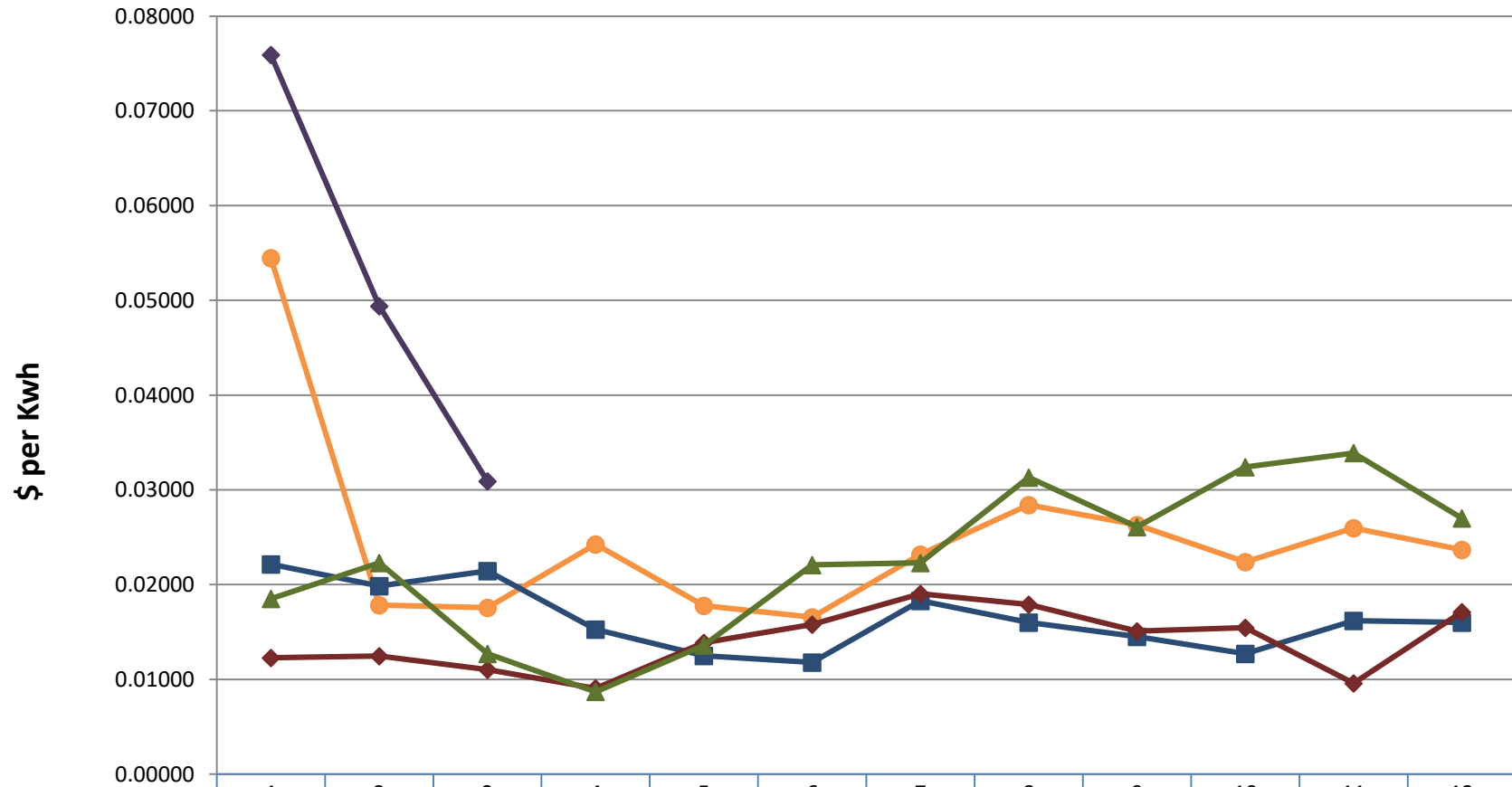
10 year trend



Actual \$/Kwh

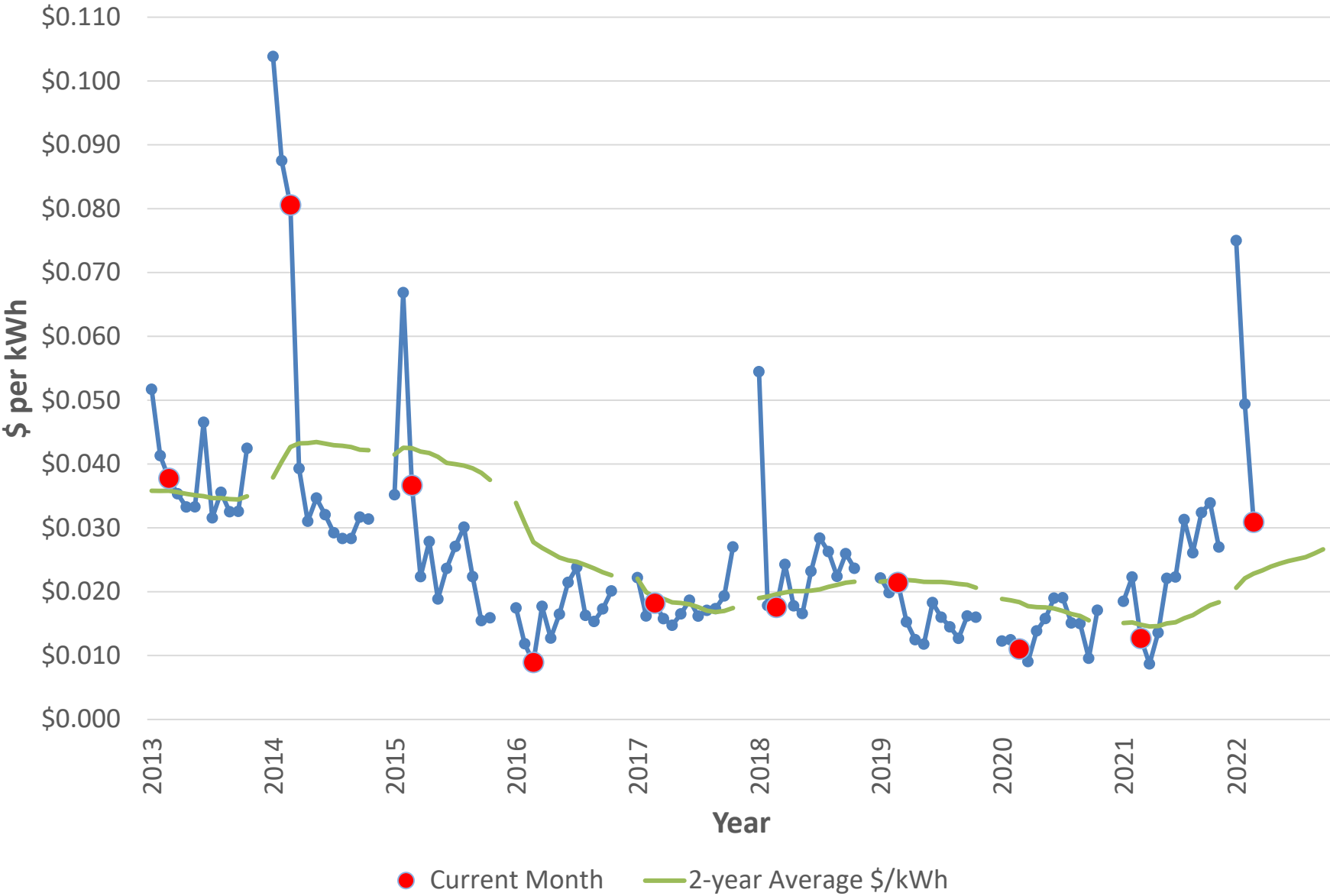
5-Year Comparison

2018 - 2022



































	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2018	\$0.05446	\$0.01784	\$0.01757	\$0.02427	\$0.01778	\$0.01657	\$0.02320	\$0.02840	\$0.02629	\$0.02239	\$0.02595	\$0.02367
2019	\$0.02215	\$0.01986	\$0.02144	\$0.01528	\$0.01249	\$0.01180	\$0.01830	\$0.01600	\$0.01450	\$0.01270	\$0.01620	\$0.01600
2020	\$0.01228	\$0.01246	\$0.01103	\$0.00906	\$0.01386	\$0.01580	\$0.01904	\$0.01790	\$0.01510	\$0.01546	\$0.00958	\$0.01710
2021	\$0.01850	\$0.02230	\$0.01270	\$0.00870	\$0.01360	\$0.02210	\$0.02230	\$0.03130	\$0.02610	\$0.03240	\$0.03390	\$0.02700
2022	\$0.07590	\$0.04940	\$0.03090									

































Actual \$ per kWh 2013 - 2022



**ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
2022 MONTHLY INCOME STATEMENT (UNAUDITED)**

	ACTUAL Mar 2022	BUDGET Mar 2022	\$ Var	%Var	5-year Trends		
					Min	Max	Trendline
OPERATING REVENUES							
Tipping Fees	2,745,456	2,671,000	74,456	3%	2,214,629	2,792,253	
Electric Revenue	572,545	270,000	302,545	112%	192,602	572,545	
Recovered Material Revenue	258,275	110,100	148,175	135%	22,883	258,275	
Grant Revenue	33,211	33,000	211	0%	-	494,751	
Compost Revenue	25,575	40,800	(15,225)	37%	25,575	54,922	
Other	40,560	37,880	2,680	7%	27,521	46,002	
Total Operating Revenues	3,675,622	3,162,780	512,842	16%			
OPERATING EXPENSES							
Personal Services	585,930	639,700	53,770	8%	429,410	585,930	
Contractual Services:							
Landfill Contracts	183,602	159,100	(24,502)	15%	118,517	183,602	
Other Contractual Services	4,117	9,100	4,983	55%	1,831	6,213	
Materials and Supplies	74,107	39,425	(34,682)	88%	37,716	74,107	
Professional Fees	39,524	42,750	3,226	8%	3,238	75,716	
Recycling	-	77,100	77,100	100%	-	211,113	
Composting	26,630	18,810	(7,820)	42%	11,489	26,630	
Hazardous Waste Disposal	354	10,750	10,396	97%	354	12,626	
Repairs and Maintenance	67,875	74,900	7,025	9%	35,938	124,023	
Utilities	17,073	17,165	92	1%	12,253	17,073	
Insurance	41,754	49,110	7,356	15%	41,390	49,199	
Operating Leases	8,697	9,500	803	8%	8,409	18,127	
Depreciation and Amortization	149,650	149,920	270	0%	117,012	172,129	
Payments to Host Communities	16,650	17,470	820	5%	16,470	16,650	
Other	28,476	42,200	13,724	33%	16,167	28,476	
Waste-to-Energy Operations Cost	1,949,553	1,954,250	4,697	0%	1,715,695	1,949,553	
Total Operating Expenses	3,193,992	3,311,250	117,258	3.5%			
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	481,630	(148,470)	(630,100)	424%	(277,368)	369,647	
OTHER REVENUE (EXPENSE)							
Interest Income - cash	68	300	(232)	77%	68	2,223	
Interest Income - non system	973	625	348	56%	527	16,137	
Interest Income - lease receivable	144,889	145,000	(111)	0%	144,889	174,747	
Interest Expense	(144,889)	(145,000)	111	0%	(174,747)	(144,889)	
Capital Lease Interest Expense	-	-	-	0%	(13,767)	-	
2019 Bond Interest Expense	(32,487)	(39,000)	6,513	17%	(35,499)	-	
Gain on sale of PP&E	-	-	-	0%	(1,387)	-	
Gain 2015 Deferred Inflow	5,869	5,800	69	1%	5,869	5,869	
Other Revenue - NET	(25,577)	(32,275)	6,698	21%			
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	456,053	(180,745)	636,798	352%	(270,135)	456,053	

**ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
2022 YTD INCOME STATEMENT w/BUDGET (UNAUDITED)**

YTD	ACTUAL Mar 2022	BUDGET Mar 2022	TOTAL BUDGET	\$ Var	%Var	5-year Trends		
						Min	Max	Trendline
OPERATING REVENUES								
Tipping Fees	7,224,334	7,690,000	32,866,000	(465,666)	6%	6,451,912	7,224,334	
Electric Revenue	2,532,618	810,000	3,275,000	1,722,618	213%	556,669	1,167,814	
Recovered Material Revenue	617,641	330,300	1,325,000	287,341	87%	260,167	351,943	
Grant Revenue	33,211	33,000	306,000	211	0%	-	496,051	
Compost Revenue	75,292	94,500	497,500	(19,208)	20%	88,193	105,163	
Other	187,769	166,890	510,500	20,879	13%	10,893	141,531	
Total Operating Revenues	10,670,865	9,124,690	38,780,000	1,546,175	17%			
OPERATING EXPENSES								
Personal Services	1,295,155	1,491,700	6,218,200	196,545	13%	1,232,836	1,295,155	
Contractual Services:								
Landfill Contracts	522,517	463,300	2,178,500	(59,217)	13%	357,311	522,517	
Other Contractual Services	36,948	26,100	108,600	(10,848)	42%	7,196	36,948	
Materials and Supplies	235,530	190,475	528,500	(45,055)	24%	103,098	235,530	
Professional Fees	88,194	92,250	481,000	4,056	4%	28,637	109,474	
Recycling	39,218	252,700	1,096,500	213,482	84%	39,218	569,735	
Composting	61,471	51,530	225,800	(9,941)	19%	47,949	70,461	
Hazardous Waste Disposal	7,557	32,250	136,000	24,693	77%	7,557	17,224	
Repairs and Maintenance	200,650	197,700	563,000	(2,950)	1%	160,926	205,485	
Utilities	51,458	53,245	163,600	1,787	3%	35,610	51,458	
Insurance	121,476	147,330	585,800	25,854	18%	121,377	146,279	
Operating Leases	26,055	28,500	115,000	2,445	9%	24,798	43,580	
Depreciation and Amortization	447,462	449,760	1,800,200	2,298	1%	350,121	516,070	
Payments to Host Communities	50,519	52,410	209,300	1,891	4%	48,880	51,749	
Other	79,614	116,800	454,000	37,186	32%	48,953	90,014	
Waste-to-Energy Operations Cost	5,737,012	5,682,350	22,931,500	(54,662)	1%	5,124,323	5,737,012	
Total Operating Expenses	9,000,836	9,328,400	37,795,500	327,564	3.5%			
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	1,670,029	(203,710)	984,500	(1,873,739)	920%	(423,088)	1,670,029	
OTHER REVENUE (EXPENSE)								
Interest Income - cash	234	600	3,000	(366)	61%	234	16,281	
Interest Income - non system	2,821	1,875	7,500	946	50%	1,479	23,338	
Interest Income - lease receivable	434,667	435,000	1,665,000	(333)	0%	434,667	524,242	
Interest Expense	(434,667)	(435,000)	(1,665,000)	333	0%	(524,242)	(434,667)	
Capital Lease Interest Expense	(11,986)	(12,000)	(40,000)	14	0%	(27,603)	(11,986)	
2019 Bond Interest Expense	(97,460)	(117,000)	(475,000)	19,540	17%	(106,497)	-	
Gain on sale of PP&E	-	-	100,000	-	0%	(1,387)	-	
Gain 2015 Deferred Inflow	17,607	17,400	70,000	207	1%	17,607	17,607	
Other Revenue - NET	(88,784)	(109,125)	(334,500)	20,341	19%			
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	1,581,245	(312,835)	650,000	1,894,080	605%	(459,249)	(22,150)	
NET POSITION - BOY	26,998,769	26,998,769	26,998,769					
NET POSITION - EOY	\$ 28,580,014	\$ 26,685,934	\$ 27,648,769					

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UNAUDITED

**ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
2022 STATEMENT OF NET POSITION (UNAUDITED)**

	<u>3/31/2022</u>
ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS:	
Cash and cash equivalents	16,669,287
Accounts receivable (net of an allowance for bad debts of \$50,000 in 2006)	3,088,610
Electric Revenue Receivable	636,160
Metal Revenue Receivable	68,623
Prepaid expenses and other receivables	1,567,030
Facility lease, current portion	2,220,000
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>24,249,710</u>
ASSETS LIMITED AS TO USE:	
Investments held by trustee under indenture	8,070,086
 PROPERTY, PLANT and EQUIPMENT, net	 19,698,667
 DEFERRED OUTFLOW	 2,694,589
 FACILITY LEASE, net of current portion	 41,853,221
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>96,566,273</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	
CURRENT LIABILITIES:	
Accounts Payable	3,937,979
Accrued Interest	1,024,521
Accrued Expenses and other current liabilities	143,270
2015 Bond Payable - Current	2,220,000
2019 Bond Payable - Current	550,000
Capital Lease Liability-Current	280,500
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>8,156,270</u>
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES:	
Capital Lease Liability -Long Term	772,056
Other Post Employment Benefits	223,763
Net Pension Liability	10,945
2015 Deferred Inflow	4,216,119
2015 Series A Bond Payable, net of current portion	40,880,000
2015 Bond Premium	3,008,220
2015 Capital Fund Liability	250,573
2019 Bond Payable	9,255,000
2019 Bond Premium	1,213,312
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>67,986,258</u>
NET POSITION	
Invested in capital assets	8,545,497
Unrestricted	13,143,128
Restricted	6,891,390
TOTAL NET POSITION YTD	<u>28,580,015</u>
TOTAL	<u>96,566,273</u>

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS OCRRA

YTD Through
3/31/2022

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Receipts from tipping fees	\$7,573,313
Receipts from electric revenue	2,348,067
Other operating receipts	889,049
Payments to vendors and suppliers	(1,187,322)
Payments to employees	(1,009,579)
Payments for Waste-to-Energy Operations	(4,689,862)
Payments for insurance and employee benefits	(555,924)
Net cash flow from operating activities	3,367,742

CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:

Payments on bonds outstanding	-
Proceeds from the issuance of bonds	-
Payments on Capital Leases	(276,296)
Proceeds from the sale of machinery and equipment	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(199,941)
Payments for interest on bonds and leases outstanding	(20,038)
Net cash flow from capital and related financing activities	(496,275)

CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:

Net change in investments held by trustee	(458,475)
Proceeds from interest on invested funds	3,055
Net cash flow from investing activities	(455,420)

NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS **2,416,047**

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING OF YEAR **14,253,240**

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS -YEAR-TO-DATE **16,669,287**

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS OCRRA

YTD Through
3/31/2022

RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Operating Income/(Loss)	1,670,029
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash flow from operating activities:	
Depreciation and amortization	447,462
Change in provision for bad debt expense	-
WTE operations used to reduce lease costs	1,047,151
Other Post -Employment Benefits Expense less LT liability adj.	-
2015 Bond Insurance Expense (no cash amortization expense)	9,748
Change in Prepaid Pension Expense	136,726
Change in NYSRS Retirement expense assoc. with GASB 68	-
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	
Accounts receivable	348,978
Other Receivables	(209,416)
Prepaid expenses	(115,584)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	32,649
Total Adjustments	1,697,714
NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	3,367,742

RECYCLING/OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2022

Time: 4:00 p.m. / Location: 100 Elwood Davis Rd., N. Syracuse NY 13212

Members: A. Bianchetti – Chair, S. Pasquale – V. Chair, L. Colon Torres, E. Gilligan, L. Klosowski, R. Zaccaria

Present : L. Colon Torres, E. Gilligan, L. Klosowski, B. Page

Absent: R. Zaccaria, S. Pasquale, A. Bianchetti

Also Attending: J. Gascon, M. Cirino, M. Mokrzycki, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, C. Albunio, K. Lawton, M. Bianchetti, W. Wallak, J. Connery

Guest(s):

The meeting called to order at 4:00 PM

A quorum is present.

With the absence of Chair A. Bianchetti, L. Klosowski will head the meeting.

E. Gilligan moved and L. Colon Torres seconded to appoint L. Klosowski as acting Chair for today's meeting.

A collective 'aye' was recorded.

K. Lawton presented the Annual Report and Update.

- The information presented in the report is voluntary.
- M. Bianchetti contacted hundreds of commercial entities to obtain information for the report.
- Processibles, residential and commercial items that could be processed at the WTE Facility, but were instead recycled, made up 50% of the total waste stream (283,947 tons)
- This was up from 36% in 2020 (152,543 tons)
- OCRRA exceeded the NYSDEC's processible recycling goal of 40%; in large part due to the excellent data gathering done by M. Bianchetti.
- Total recycling (processibles + non-processibles) made up 51% of the total waste stream. (395,663) tons.
- 2020 was 52% (422, 126 tons)
- The report also discussed markets and the partnership with the MRF and gave an overview of all the recycling programs OCRRA managed in 2021.

E. Gilligan asked how the numbers compared to 2019, before COVID.

K. Lawton responded, she did not have the exact figures, but believes that the processible percentage was lower in 2019 as well.

K. Spillane presented the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) resolution to the committee. The purpose of this discussion is to revise and move the resolution to the full Board for vote in May.

- This resolution was tabled at the April Board meeting.
- Edits were made to the resolution. Specific mention of New York State Governor Kathy Hochul in the second and third whereas on the second page were removed.

A discussion followed.

A collective 'aye' was recorded in favor of moving the revised resolution to the full Board for vote in May.

K. Lawton presented a discussion to purchase florescent bulb boxes and procurement of mercury management services. This discussion will not include a resolution as the amount of spending is within spending limits. The purpose of this discussion to obtain guidance on which vendor to use for the prepaid shipping boxes. A brief containing a breakdown of the bid submittals was distributed.

- OCRRA has been collecting spent fluorescent bulbs from residents at local hardware stores since 2007.
- The residential fluorescent bulb collection program requires prepaid shipping boxes for the 14 participating hardware stores.
- OCRRA issued a request for proposals for the purchase of prepaid boxes for various size bulbs on March 14, 2022.
- On April 4, 2022, seven bids were submitted to OCRRA.
- Four bids were complete, two bids were incomplete, and one arrived late.
- American Lamp Recycling (ALR), OCRRA's current vendor, provided the lowest cost submittal (\$0.78/bulb)
- ALR's bid submittal included a right to cancel with a 60-day notice in the event that costs associated with the provision exceed the contract rates provided.
- NLR, the second lowest bidder (\$0.83/bulb) did not offer an out clause.
- OCRRA has worked with both ALR and NLR in the past with good success.
- Bulbs are sent to a recycling center, dismantled and the mercury is repurposed.

E. Gilligan asked where the vendors were located.

M. Bianchetti responded that one vendor was located in Marlboro, NY and one was located in Windsor, CT.

A discussion followed.

Committee recommendation was to contract via PO with ALR.

C. Alunio presented the WTE Engineer contract for professional services.

- Since construction of the WTE Facility, OCRRA has retained the services of a WTE consulting engineer for various oversights.
- An engineering firm provides and documents a third-party perspective on whether the testing activities, facility operations and facility maintenance are acceptable with respect to state and federal regulations/requirements and industry standards.
- The existing contract with HDR expires on June 9, 2022.
- OCRRA issued a Request For Qualifications (RFQ) to 24 firms and publicly advertised.
- In February 2022, OCRRA received 3 qualification packages.
- In March of 2022, OCRRA issued an Request For Proposals to the two most qualified responses to the RFQ. The two firms were Barton & Loguidice and Hennigson, Durham and Richardson (HDR) Architecture and Engineering.
- Based on the qualifications and proposals, OCRRA recommends awarding a contract to HDR for this professional service.
- The contract would include an initial 3 year term, with 3 one-year extension options.
- The contract amount for each of the first three years would not exceed \$78,000 per year.

- The WTE Engineering Contract would be billed on the actual hours used for support, and not a lump sum.

A discussion followed.

A collective 'aye' was recorded in favor of moving the revised resolution to the full Board for vote in May.

K. Spillane presented the Draft Strategic Plan. The purpose of this discussion is to review the final draft making note of any changes necessary.

- There were two sessions held.
- Items included in the report:
 - Transfer Capacity
 - Recycling
 - Disposal Capacity
 - Transfer Capacity
- The Administration committee will also review this document before moving it to the full Board.

A discussion followed.

K. Spillane updated the committee of an incident at RCR involving the sprinkler system.

Davis Ulmer has been on site and is repairing the system.

K. Lawton mentioned that Syracuse.com had posted a piece about the phasing out of blue bins in Onondaga County. Copies of the article were distributed to the committee.

E. Gilligan motioned and L. Colon Torres seconded to adjourn the meeting.

A collective 'aye' was recorded.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Meeting minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak

Support for the New York State Legislature to Establish an Extended Producer Responsibility System for Packaging and Printed Paper

WHEREAS, packaging and printed paper, which includes plastic, steel, aluminum, and glass containers, boxboard, cardboard and cartons, and newsprint and magazines, constitutes approximately 40 percent of the materials by weight managed by municipalities and solid waste authorities in New York State; and

WHEREAS, local municipal governments in New York State are required to fund the management of discarded consumer packaging and printed paper and to take responsibility for achieving waste diversion goals, which is an unfunded mandate; and

WHEREAS, the value of recyclable materials does not cover the cost to collect, sort, process, and market these items, causing recycling system ratepayers to pay tens of millions of dollars annually to manage their recycling programs while the State loses an estimated 860,000 tons of potentially recyclable materials to trash each year; and

WHEREAS, such costs to the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency and recycling system ratepayers over the last five years are estimated at more than \$3.3 million; and

WHEREAS, the State's current recycling system places unreasonable burdens on local governments to collect, manage, and market recyclable materials, when it is the consumer brand owners who have control over which materials are placed into the market; and

WHEREAS, some packaging now includes combinations of materials that make recycling impractical; and

WHEREAS, costs paid by citizens and local governments to manage packaging and printed paper are, in effect, subsidies to producers that enable and encourage producers to design packaging and printed paper materials without regard to end-of-life management; and

WHEREAS, producers have little incentive to design packaging or printed paper to minimize waste, reduce toxicity, or maximize recyclability, creating a supply chain disconnect with environmentally sound, end-of-life management of these consumer materials; and

WHEREAS, Extended Producer Responsibility ("EPR") is an environmental policy approach in which producers (brand owners and importers) accept responsibility for the management of post-consumer products and packaging so those who produce these materials help bear the costs of recycling; and

WHEREAS, EPR programs for packaging and printed paper have existed for up to 30 years in all EU member states, across Canada, and other parts of the world, achieving recycling rates for packaging and printed papers upwards of 70 percent; and

WHEREAS, enacting EPR for packaging and printed paper could significantly increase recycling rates for residential materials, reduce consumer confusion and contamination in recycling streams, create green sector jobs, provide millions of dollars in savings for local governments and taxpayers, and lower greenhouse gas emissions by over 2.3 million metric tons annually; and

WHEREAS, an EPR system for consumer packaging and printed paper could require producers to reimburse municipalities for recycling the packaging and printed paper they introduce into the marketplace; and

WHEREAS, an EPR system would incentivize producers to:

- Reduce packaging waste;
- Make it easier to recycle the material they generate;
- Invest in modernizing local recycling infrastructure across New York State;
- Ensure that all New Yorkers have access to recycling and upgrade recycling infrastructure to achieve higher recycling rates; and
- Provide clear, consistent consumer education, resulting in less confusion for residents and minimizing contamination in the recycling stream.

WHEREAS, EPR can work in tandem with and supplement New York State's Returnable Container Act; and

WHEREAS, when producers are responsible for ensuring their materials are reused or recycled responsibly, and when health and environmental costs are included in the product price, there is an incentive to design for reduction, recyclability, and reduced toxicity; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency urges Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature to enact an EPR program for packaging and paper products; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, the New York State Legislature, and all others deemed necessary and proper; this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution Adopted Date: _____

Vote: Ayes: _____ **Nays:** _____ **Abstentions:** _____

Signed: _____

RESOLUTION BRIEF

Support the Creation of an Extended Producer Responsibility System for Packaging and Printed Paper

May 11, 2022

NYS's current recycling system places heavy financial burden on entities like OCRRA as well as local municipalities who are forced to manage the costs to collect, sort, process, and market recyclables such as:

- plastic,
- metal,
- glass containers,
- cardboard and boxboard,
- newsprint and magazines, and
- cartons.

Across the state, entities are paying tens of millions of dollars annually to manage their recycling programs. Over the past five years, OCRRA has invested more than \$3.3 million to continue Onondaga County's recycling program.

In the current system, brand owners have little incentive to design packaging or printed paper to minimize waste, reduce toxicity, or maximize recyclability. This creates a supply chain disconnect with environmentally sound, end-of-life management for these materials.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is an environmental policy where producers (brand owners and importers) take responsibility for the management of post-consumer products and packaging and help bear the costs of recycling them.

EPR programs for packaging and printed paper are widespread in the EU and across Canada and achieve recycling rates of more than 70%.

Enacting EPR could significantly increase recycling rates, reduce consumer confusion, reduce recycling contamination, create green sector jobs, and provide millions of dollars in savings for local governments.

RECOMMENDATION: OCRRA should urge New York State Governor Kathy Hochul and the NYS Legislature to establish an EPR system for consumer packaging and printed paper that:

- reduces packaging waste;
- incentivizes making products and packaging more recyclable;
- invests in modernizing recycling infrastructure to increase recycling rates; and
- ensures that all New Yorkers have access to recycling as well as clear communication about what is recyclable.

Resolution No. _____, 2022

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A
CONTRACT FOR CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE
WTE FACILITY**

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (“Agency”) has in the past, utilized the services of an independent engineering consultant to advise the Agency on Waste to Energy (“WTE”) operations oversight and technical issues; and

WHEREAS, following a competitive bid process the Operations Committee and the Agency Engineer have further recommended that the Agency retain the firm of Henningson, Durham & Richardson Architecture and Engineering, P.C. (“HDR”) to advise the Agency on WTE operations oversight and technical issues; and

WHEREAS, the Agency has been pleased with the excellent performance of HDR and further realizes the limited number of firms with WTE experience; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Agency’s Executive Director is hereby authorized to execute a new contract with HDR commencing on June 10, 2022 with an initial 3 year term, with each year divided into a distinct contract year with its own billing limit not to exceed \$78,000 with three one-year Agency extension options thereafter. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution Adopted Date: _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Abstentions _____

Signed: _____

RESOLUTION BRIEF

Professional Services: WTE Engineer Contract

May 11, 2022

Since construction of the Waste to Energy (WTE) Facility, OCRRA has retained the services of a WTE consulting engineer for:

- Facility inspections;
- Stack testing oversight;
- Ash sampling oversight;
- Operational monitoring; and
- WTE-related technical assistance.

OCRRA benefits from these services because an engineering firm provides and documents a third-party perspective on whether the testing activities, facility operations and facility maintenance are acceptable with respect to state and federal regulations/requirements and industry standards.

The existing contract with HDR expires on June 9, 2022. In regards to this upcoming expiration date, OCRRA undertook the following actions:

- January 2022: issued Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to 24 firms and publicly advertised
- February 2022: received 3 qualifications packages
- March 2022: issued Request For Proposal (RFP) to the 2 most qualified responses to the RFQ (Barton & Loguidice and Henningson, Durham & Richardson Architecture and Engineering) and publicly advertised

Based on the proposals, OCRRA management recommends awarding a contract to Henningson, Durham & Richardson Architecture and Engineering, P.C. (HDR) as the WTE engineer for independent engineering consultant professional services to advise the Agency on WTE operations oversight and technical issues. This recommendation is based on the professional aptitude that HDR offers in their project team, and B&L did not demonstrate the same breadth of knowledge or experience with their project team in their proposal. In summary, the annual costs that HDR proposed were approximately \$78,000 per year and the annual costs that B&L proposed were approximately \$59,000 per year.

The proposed contract would include an initial 3 year term, with each year divided into a distinct contract year with its own billing limit, with three one-year Agency extension options thereafter with an annual billing not to exceed \$78,000 per contract year during the initial 3 year term. This contract term matches the prior contract term previously awarded for this contract and is \$2,000 less than the cost for the existing year (2021-2022) contract amount (\$80,000). The recommendation is made after a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process and consideration from a very small pool of engineering professionals who demonstrated significant WTE technical expertise.

It should be noted that the WTE Engineering Contract will be billed on the actual hours used for support, and not a lump sum. In contract year 2021-2022, only 22% of the annual WTE Engineering Contract has been expended to date and cost savings measures will be used whenever possible.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 27, 2022

Time: 4:00 p.m. / Location: 100 Elwood Davis Rd., N. Syracuse NY 13212

Admin Members: *J. Copanas – Chair, J. Driscoll, C. Dunham, T. Glazier, D. Lawless, R. Raman*

Attending: J. Copanas, J. Driscoll, D. Lawless, C. Dunham, B. Page

Absent: R. Raman, Travis Glazier

Also Attending: M. Cirino, K. Spillane, C. Albunio, J. Gascon, M. Mokrzycki, K. Lawton,
R. Czerwiak, J. Connery, W. Wallak, J. Thompson

Guests:

J. Copanas called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm

Quorum is present.

K. Spillane B. Page, C. Albunio gave an update on the Climate Act Plan public comment hearing that was held on Tuesday the 26th. They all attended the hearing.

K. Spillane introduced OCRRA's newest hire. Jeremiah Thompson is the new Agency Transfer Director.

J. Thompson introduced himself to the committee.

Today the committee will discuss and vote to move the Resolution Urging New State Climate Action Council to Consider the Impacts of the Climate Act on Solid Waste Management During Implementation of New Legislation to the full Board.

J. Driscoll asked for a recap on the role of the Climate action Council.

K. Spillane responded, the Climate Act was passed in 2019. With it was the creation of the Climate Action Council. The Climate Action Council was tasked with how to interpret the law of the Climate Act and move forward with implementation. There was a scoping plan drafted by the Climate Action Council in an effort to help implement the law. There were also advisory groups created that had experts from different fields to help give guidance to the Council. The Scoping plan is out for public comment before implementation of the law and the Council is also holding several state wide public hearings, one of which was held in Syracuse at ESF yesterday.

A discussion followed.

The committee discussed edits to the resolution.

Edits will be made.

The resolution, as amended was C. Dunham moved and J. Driscoll seconded to move the resolution to the full Board for approval.

A unanimous 'aye' was recorded.

J. Copanas presented the final draft of the 2022 Strategic Plan. The purpose of this discussion is to review the final draft making note of any changes necessary.

- There were two sessions held.
- Items included in the report:
 - Transfer Capacity
 - Recycling
 - Disposal Capacity
 - Transfer Capacity
- The Recycling and Operations committee has reviewed this document.

A discussion followed.

Edits will be made to the final draft and the document will be re-presented to both the Administration and Recycling and Operations committees in May.

M. Mokrzycki gave a Ley Creek Property Update.

- OCRRA has listed CNY Property Appraisers, Inc to establish a purchase price and determine the market value of a parcel of land located near Ley Creek and owned by Destiny USA R&D Park, LLC.
- OCRRA should receive feedback within 30 days.
- At that time, OCRRA can begin negotiations on the purchase of that land.

A discussion followed.

M. Mokrzycki gave an update on the Agency Office leasing negotiations.

- COR CNY Brokerage Company, LLC submitted a lease proposal to OCRRA on November 2, 2021.
- Since that time OCRRA has been working with COR CNY Brokerage on the terms of a possible lease renewal.
- Negotiations include office updates and renovations.
- OCRRA's counter-proposal would include payment towards renovation costs.
- The lease term would be seven years.
- OCRRA would have a lease buyout option after years three and year six to give the Board flexibility.
- OCRRA will keep updating the committee as new information comes in.

A discussion followed.

M. Mokrzycki presented the small contracts report.

- Next month J. Thompson will present this report.

A discussion followed.

K. Spillane thanked the staff for all their efforts with the Earth Day clean up.

M. Mokrzycki gave a brief update on two upcoming discussion items.

- Union Negotiations should be commencing in mid-summer.
- RCR Building #2 sprinkler system repair will begin soon. K. Spillane gave the committee an overview of the accident that occurred in Building 2 and the opportunity to place the sprinkler header in a proper location due to the accident.

J. Driscoll motioned and C. Dunham seconded to adjourn the meeting.

A collective aye was recorded.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

**RESOLUTION URGING NEW YORK STATE CLIMATE ACTION
COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THE IMPACTS OF THE CLIMATE ACT ON
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DURING IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW
LEGISLATION**

WHEREAS, the New York State Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, otherwise known as the Climate Act, was signed into law and requires New York to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 40 percent by 2030 and no less than 85 percent by 2050 from 1990 levels; and

WHEREAS, the law created a Climate Action Council charged with developing a scoping plan of recommendations to meet these targets and place New York on a path toward carbon neutrality; and

WHEREAS, the Climate Action Council developed a Draft Scoping Plan that serves as an initial framework for how the State will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve net-zero emissions, increase renewable energy usage, and ensure climate justice; and

WHEREAS, the Climate Act has succeeded in bringing attention to the need for reducing destructive GHG emissions through careful planning, innovation, and refocusing of the state's priorities to create a more sustainable future for all New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (OCRRA) continues to advocate for New York State to reduce harmful GHG emissions due to solid waste management techniques, specifically methane produced by landfills, by providing greater state assistance in the development of organics waste diversion programs, such as Onondaga County's compost programs, to avoid combusting or landfilling food and other organics; and

WHEREAS, OCRRA continues to advocate for the state to reduce harmful GHG emissions by enacting broad Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)/Product Stewardship requirements to support recycling of packaging and printed paper, carpet, tires, textiles, solar panels, wind turbines, all batteries, appliances (especially those containing refrigerants), mattresses, and other GHG Emitting wastes; and

WHEREAS, OCRRA continues to advocate for the state to reduce harmful GHG emissions generated from waste disposal facilities by supporting domestic recycling facilities and markets for recovered resources, including compost, digestate, and recycled aggregate/building deconstruction materials, and

WHEREAS, OCRRA recognizes that some waste generation is unavoidable, and consequently, the Agency strongly advocates for New York State to invest in local waste disposal solutions in order to reduce the impact of harmful GHG emissions that are generated by almost all communities across New York as they are forced to transport their solid waste further and further away to regional or out of state disposal locations resulting in a substantial carbon footprint from transportation alone; and

WHEREAS, with respect to the management of waste that is combustible, the Agency strongly feels that local waste incineration is less impactful than methane emissions from landfills, as can be calculated from the data contained in the Scoping Document, and that New York State should continue to invest in its current inventory of waste to energy combustors and strive to capture fugitive emissions from landfills, reduce waste that requires disposal, and create opportunities for the use of energy generated by solid waste management techniques; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency does hereby call upon Governor Hochul and the New York State Climate Action Council to consider the impact that inadequate local waste disposal capacity has on our climate crisis and consider supporting more food waste diversion programs; developing end markets for recycling programs and compost facilities; and creating strong, broad EPR legislation which will reduce waste and allow communities across the State to be able to invest in local waste disposal options thus reducing the harmful GHG emissions created by transporting waste further and further away; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that OCRRA's Board does hereby ask that a copy of this resolution and the accompanying letter from the Chairman of the Board and the Executive Director be forwarded by the Board Secretary to Governor Hochul and the Climate Action Council as a response to their request for comments on New York State's Scoping Plan for the implementation of the New York Climate Act. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution Adopted Date: _____

Vote: Ayes: _____ **Nays:** _____ **Abstentions:** _____

Signed: _____

June XX, 2022

Basil Seggos, Commissioner
New York Department of Environmental
Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-1010

Alicia Barton, President and Chief Executive
Officer
New York Energy Research and Development
Authority
1359 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10018-7842

Re: Comments on Climate Action Council Draft Scoping Plan

Dear Commissioner Seggos and President Barton,

We, as representatives of the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (OCRRA), want to offer our input and comments on the topics of recycling, solid waste, and materials management in response to the draft Scoping Plan of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act) put forth by the Climate Action Council (the Council). The goals of the Scoping Plan are to achieve the State's clean energy and climate agenda by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, achieving net-zero emissions, increasing renewable energy usage, and ensuring climate justice.

We believe it is critical that the NYS Climate Action Council take into consideration the impact of the implementation of the Climate Act, per the draft Scoping Plan, on the recycling, waste, and materials management sectors. Reducing waste, increasing recycling, and recovering resources through sustainable waste management techniques are essential to achieving clean energy and climate goals. These goals also largely reflect [OCRRA's mission statement](#) and daily efforts. Landfills and Waste-To-Energy (WTE) facilities provide an essential public service because they provide for the safe and secure disposal of waste materials that are not feasible to reuse, recover, or recycle.

Increased statewide recycling and recovery infrastructure will create jobs, reduce GHG emissions from transportation, and keep valuable natural resources in NY. More investment in local recycling infrastructure and the promotion of domestic markets for re-use of post-consumer commodities is the best response to prevent the loss of commodities created by consumption and disposal. OCRRA strongly supports the enactment of broad Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)/Product Stewardship requirements to support recovering resources from materials including packaging and printed paper, carpet, tires, textiles, solar panels, wind turbines, batteries, appliances (especially those containing refrigerants), and mattresses. The full life-cycle impacts of the Scoping Plan, including the new waste streams that will be created and natural resources that will be needed as we transition to net-zero emissions, are critically important to consider in advance of finalizing the plans for implementing the Climate Act.

We strongly recommend that the NYS Climate Action Council recognize the financial and operational support of local waste reduction efforts as a key priority in the implementation of the Climate Act. By supporting domestic recycling facilities and promoting markets for recovered resources such as post-consumer recycling and compost, more waste can be diverted from landfills. Additionally, more resources and facilities are needed for hard-to-manage residue from recycling and recovery efforts including plastics, digestate, biosolids, and municipal combustor ash.

After emphasizing waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting, it is important to recognize that local energy recovery is part of the solution for lowering GHG emissions that contribute to climate change. This fact is consistent with the [U.S. EPA waste management hierarchy for sustainable materials management](#). OCRRA implores the Council to acknowledge the benefits of energy recovery to meeting the Climate Act goals. In OCRRA's 2019 [Waste Quantification & Characterization Study](#), OCRRA concluded that if all recyclable and compostable material was pulled out of the county's municipal solid waste (MSW), there would remain approximately 43% that would require disposal. WTE extracts value from this waste through electricity production and substantially reduces the volume being landfilled. As the Office of the NYS Comptroller stated in its December 2018 report, [Local Governmental and the Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Business](#), landfills are a "non-renewable resource." However, until we can feasibly reach zero-waste at some point in the future, solid waste can serve as a renewable source of local energy.

The Final Scoping Plan needs to acknowledge that WTE infrastructure will play an important role in the reduction of GHG emissions in New York State. WTE facilities are net carbon reducers. Although combustion does generate CO₂, data from Chapter 16 of the [Climate Act's Draft Scoping Plan](#) indicate that in New York State, 78% of waste-related GHG emissions come from 40% of the waste that is landfilled (GHG emissions: MSW mass ratio = 2:1) while 7% of the GHG emissions come from 15% of the waste that is combusted (GHG emissions: MSW mass ratio = 0.5 :1). These data clearly support that landfilling generates approximately 4 times more GHG emissions per ton as compared to combustion. Furthermore, combustion of solid waste provides the innate ability to recover valuable metals and aggregates from solid waste which avoids greenhouse gases that would be created by mining for virgin materials. According to the [EPA's Documentation for Greenhouse Gas Emission and Energy Factors Used in the Waste Reduction Model \(WARM\)](#), approximately 1.83 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_{2e}) tons are avoided per ton of steel recycled. **OCRRA's WTE Facility recovers over 11,000 tons of steel every year, equating to over 20,100 CO_{2e} tons avoided every year just from steel recovery.** There is also recovery of approximately 1,300 tons of non-ferrous metals from the WTE facility with further GHG avoidance benefits. Additionally, combustion of solid waste reduces landfill airspace needs by approximately 90% and the weight of material transported to a landfill is reduced by approximately 80%. Consequently, processing waste through a WTE facility avoids substantial GHG emissions, reduces the amount of material being transported to distant

landfills, and the residual ash that is transported can be used as alternative daily cover at the landfills in place of soil or other more valuable covering material.

Our Agency strongly believes that local waste management is critically important in order to avoid emissions generated by transporting waste to regional or out-of-state landfills. By processing solid waste locally through our in-county WTE plant, OCRRA is able to reduce GHG emissions from waste transportation by over 70%. The energy recovery, greenhouse gas avoidance, and reduction techniques from local WTE facilities significantly support climate protection goals. Local solid waste management, especially those using WTE facilities, reduce GHG emissions as compared to exporting waste out of state due to avoided transportation and fugitive emissions from distant landfills.

The Final Scoping Plan should consider that power generated from waste management techniques (e.g., WTE, landfill gas to energy systems, and biofuels) provide a benefit resulting from unavoidable public consumption. Effort should be devoted to their strategic use, along with wind, solar, and hydropower.

As leaders in solid waste management in New York State, OCRRA looks forward to working with the Council to protect our environment. We support the goals of the Climate Act but feel that the scoping document falls short of identifying specific methodologies and sources of financial support needed to effectively achieve the goals set in the Scoping Plan. Additionally, the benefits that WTE facilities offer with respect to local waste processing, reduced transportation, minimizing landfill requirements, recovering resources, and displacing fossil-fuel based electricity generation are important to acknowledge and support. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Draft Scoping Plan and look forward to collaborating to achieve our many shared goals.

Sincerely,

Blair Page,
Chairman, Board of Directors

Kevin Spillane
Executive Director

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes

April 13, 2022

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members: Blair Page (Committee Chair), John Copanas, Lee Klosowski, Don Lawless,

Also Present: Kevin Spillane, Maria Cirino, Jim Gascon, Mike Mokrzycki

Absent: Alberto Bianchetti, Joe Driscoll

The following summarizes the April 13, 2022 Governance Committee (“Committee”) meeting which started at 3:32pm.

B. Page gave an introduction to a proposed change to the Governance Committee Charter to address potential conflicts of interest for members of the Governance Committee.

- Currently the Governance Committee consists of the Chairs of Agency Standing Committees and the Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer of the Agency.
- The current Governance Committee Charter does not allow Board members to sit on the Governance Committee if they have a family member who is an Agency employee.
- A proposed change to the Governance Committee Charter allowing the Vice Chair of a Committee to serve on the Governance Committee in event of a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest was included in the Committee’s packet in the form of a resolution.
- Discussion was held.

J. Copanas moved and D. Lawless seconded the resolution.

A collective “aye” was recorded.

Brief discussion was held regarding Section I.C of Code of Ethics and the Committee decided to table all of the remaining items for the next Governance Committee meeting.

J. Copanas made a motion to adjourn; L. Klosowski seconded. All were in favor.

The Committee adjourned the meeting at 3:52pm.

Report submitted by Maria Cirino and approved by Blair Page, Governance Committee Chair

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT TO OCRRA
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE CHARTER**

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency did, by Resolution No. 1444 of September 14, 2005, create a Governance Committee as a Standing Committee of the OCRRA Board to perform those functions required by the Public Authorities Accountability Act of 2005 as well as other related functions; and

WHEREAS, the Agency Board at its February 11, 2009 meeting did approve and adopt a Governance Committee Charter and this Charter was first Amended by Resolution No. 1980 of 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Governance Committee did conduct its annual review of the Charter on November, 24, 2020 and recommended to the Board that the Charter be further Amended to more accurately reflect that members of the Governance Committee may be members of, or employed by Governmental Entities that may have a business relationship with the Agency but may not be a member of or employed by a private business entity that may have a business relationship with the Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Governance Committee further reviewed its charter and now desires to afford additional flexibility to the Board of Director's Chair in the section on appointment of Governance Committee membership by permitting the appointment of a Vice Chair of a Standing Committee in the event of a conflict or potential conflict of a Committee Chair; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency agrees with the recommendation of the Governance Committee and therefore wishes to now amend the Agency's Governance Committee Charter, which was adopted by Agency Resolution No. 1643 of February 11, 2009, first Amended by Resolution No. 1980 of 2015 and again Amended by Resolution No. 2267 of December 9, 2009 such that the first paragraph under "composition and selection" shall read as follows:

"The membership of the Governance Committee shall consist of the Chairs of all Agency Standing Committees, or in the event of a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest, the Vice Chair (s) of said committees, as well as the Chair , Vice Chair, and Treasurer of the Agency. The non-officer members shall serve until their resignation from the Board or their removal by the Board Chair."

WHEREAS, Said revision is incorporated into the attached Governance Committee Charter which is made a part hereof in its entirety; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency does hereby adopt and approve the attached revised Charter of its Governance Committee as outlined above and does hereby authorize its Governance Committee to function in accordance therewith, including taking necessary actions delegated to it thereunder in accordance with Agency By-laws section 5.3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution Adopted Date: _____

Vote: Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Signed: _____

SCHEDULED MEETING CALENDAR

Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (OCRRA)
100 Elwood Davis Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212-4312
www.ocrra.org (315) 453-2866

2022

DATE	COMMITTEE	DAY OF MONTH	MEETING TIME
June 8, 2022	Board Meeting	2nd Wednesday	4:00 PM
June 15, 2022	Recycling and Operations Committee	3rd Wednesday	4:00 PM
June 28, 2022	Administration Committee	Last Tuesday	4:00 PM
July 13, 2022	Board Meeting	2nd Wednesday	4:00 PM
July 20, 2022	Recycling and Operations Committee	3rd Wednesday	4:00 PM
July 26, 2022	Administration Committee	Last Tuesday	4:00 PM
August 10, 2022	Board Meeting	2nd Wednesday	4:00 PM
August 17, 2022	Recycling and Operations Committee	3rd Wednesday	4:00 PM
August 30, 2022	Administration Committee	Last Tuesday	4:00 PM

PUBLIC NOTICE:

PUBLIC AGENCIES PLEASE POST

cc:

OCRRA employees, Board of Directors, Covanta Energy, Public Notice/Agencies/Haulers