

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
October 11, 2023 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present	B. Page, A. Bianchetti, L. Colon-Torres, D. Daley, J. Driscoll, C. Dunham, D. Lawless, J. McMahon, G. Poppo, N. Zaccaria
Board Members Absent:	E. Gilligan, N. Jankowski, S. Pasquale, R. Raman
Also Present:	M. Cirino, M. Mokrzycki, K. Lawton, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, J. Gascon, T. Palmer, C. Alunio
Guests:	

The October 11, 2023, Board meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll was taken. Quorum is present.

G. Poppo moved and D. Daley seconded the approval of the September Board minutes.

Roll was called and the minutes were approved as submitted.

K. Spillane presented the Executive Directors report.

- The first of three planned outages at the WTE Facility will begin.
- The Jamesville compost site is preparing to close for the season.
- Engineering:
 - The permit renewal package for Ley Creek has been submitted.
 - An RFP has been issued for engineering assistance related to the development of the additional property purchased at Ley Creek.
 - C. Alunio has met with Cornerstone Engineering to kick-off the demolition design of the Ley Creek facility.
 - Final construction drawings for the bidding of the waste conveyance/sewer line at Amboy is under way.
- Transfer and Compost:
 - Staffing is improving with more than four positions being filled.
 - Outside private haulers have not been utilized since August.
 - Safety training for the use of the Agency’s scissor lift has been completed and preparation for the winter required PESH annual training are being planned.
 - OCRRA is working with staff engineers to identify ways to reduce pile sizes at the Jamesville compost site and move material to other locations to remain compliant with restrictions set by the NYSDEC.
- Recycling:
 - The recycling team has been working on ways to improve the battery collection program.
 - Newly designed, more simply labeled battery collection kiosks have been placed at Onondaga county Wegmans locations.
 - The recycling team, with assistance from Board member G. Poppo are working on a grant submission to the Department of Energy to handle specialized batteries, such as Lithium-ion batteries, that may have been in or caused a fire.
 - OCRRA has been notified that our pre-app has been given the go-a-head and can now submit a full grant application.

- Public Information:
 - The next newsletter is in progress.
 - The PIO has taken over responsibility of any remaining website redesign work with the ad agency.
 - Promotional work has concluded on the Mercury Collection Event. The video can be seen on Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube.
- The Agency has been developing proforma and a proposal to work with Madison County to operate their landfill and other solid waste functions.
- M. Mokrzycki has been spearheading this proposal.

A. Bianchetti asked for an update on the Agency's salary study.

K. Spillane responded – information has been submitted to the firm and the evaluation has begun. OCRRA is meeting with the firm next week.

The **TREASURER REPORT** – was presented by L. Colon-Torres.

- This report reflects August 2023 data.
- There was a strong uptick in tonnage, resulting in a tipping revenue of \$3M.
- The electricity rate was at an average of 2c/kWh.
- Expenses for recycling support and equipment repairs continued to exceed budgeted amounts.
- The public education spend was higher during August, but on a year-to-date basis was on budget.
- The Agency's cash balance at the end of August was \$19.6M.
- The Agency began the year with \$22.6M.
- Year-to-date the Agency has paid the MRF \$1,112,672.
- Agency haulers have been billed \$571,992, year-to-date.

C. Dunham motioned and N. Zaccaria seconded to approve the Treasures report.

A collective 'aye' was recorded.

The **RECYCLING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** – report was presented by D. Daley.

- The committee discussed a resolution authorizing the Agency to join the Buy Board.
- The committee discussed a resolution to purchase tire disposal services.
- The committee discussed the material recovery facility audit overview.
- The committee discussed the summary of stack test data collected in 2023.
- The committee discussed OCRRA's 2024 draft budget.

Resolution #2408 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Join the Buy Board National Purchasing Cooperative was moved by D. Daley and seconded by L. Colon-Torres.

K. Spillane gave a brief overview of this cooperative and what it means for OCRRA to be involved in it.

A. Bianchetti asked why OCRRA would need a resolution for this program.

M. Mokrzycki responded that the Cooperative requires Board resolution to join.

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

Resolution #2409 – Resolution Amending Executive Director to Purchase Tire Disposal Services From SGS Recovery was moved by D. Daley and seconded by G. Popps.

There was no further discussion.

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

The **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** – update was presented by C. Dunham.

- The committee discussed a resolution for the 2024 Budget and Capital Plan and the resolution approving the 2024 fee schedule.
- The committee discussed a resolution authorizing a change to the Agency’s Civil Service roster.
- The committee discussed a resolution authorizing submission of proposed intermunicipal landfill and recycling use agreement with Madison. (which was tabled at the time)

M. Mokrzycki gave a final update to the proposed Agency 2024 Budget and Capital Plan.

Resolution #2410 – Resolution Adopting Tipping Fees and Related Charges for Fiscal Year 2024 was moved by C. Dunham and seconded by G. Popps.

There was no further discussion.

A. Bianchetti mis-spoke an ‘abstain’ vote. He changed his vote to ‘aye’.

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

M. Mokrzycki gave a final update to the proposed Agency 2024 Budget and Capital Plan.

Resolution #2411 – Resolution Adopting an Agency Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 was moved by C. Dunham and seconded by L. Colon-Torres.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1abstain. A. Bianchetti abstained.

Resolution #2412 – Resolution Authorizing Change to the Agency’s Civil Service Roster was moved by C. Dunham and seconded by N. Zaccaria.

There was no further discussion.

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

Resolution #2413 – Resolution Authorizing Submission of Proposed Intermunicipal Landfill and Recycling Use Agreement with Madison County, New York was moved by C. Dunham and seconded by Luis Colon-Torres. (This is the resolution that was discussed and moved from the Special Administration committee that met at 3:30pm today)

A discussion followed.

There was a friendly amendment made to alter the language in the resolved clause.

A. Bianchetti motioned, and J. Driscoll seconded to approve the friendly amendment.

The friendly amendment was adopted 9 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

There was a brief discussion regarding improvements and cost obligations.

The resolution, with friendly amendment was adopted 9 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

T. Palmer and K. Lawton updated the Board on the OCRRA & Covanta Mercury Event data.

- The event was held on September 16, 2023, from 8-11 am at the Miller Environmental Group.
- This was the 10th annual event OCRRA hosted.
- 114 residents participated.
- 158 mercury thermometers and 78 mercury thermostats were brought for disposal.
- This prevented 470 grams of mercury from entering the waste stream.
- Since the start of this program, 6,782 grams of mercury have been collected.
- The Ad campaign with Pinckney Hugo Group started August 30 – September 16th on Facebook, Instagram and Google display.
- Through Meta and Google Display, over 1,355,788 impressions were generated. This is the number of times the ad was seen.
- Of those seen, over 19,600 clicks were received.
- Through Facebook and Instagram ads, there were 471 social media interactions, 26 post saves, 108 post shares, 47 comments and 290 post reactions.
- This ad campaign resulted in 4,640 new users.
- Google Display impressions has increased from 194,047 last year to 506,249 this year.
- Clicks to our website have increase from 1,142 last year to 9,376 this year.
- This continues to be a very successful event.

B. Page asked for staff updates:

- C. Alunio added that OCRRA is expecting a response from the DEC regarding stack test results.
- OCRRA is still waiting for a response from DEC regarding the permit application for Ley Creek.
- T. Palmer added that signups for headshots are available for any Board member that is interested.

B. Page concluded the meeting thanking the Board members for their input and attendance today.

D. Daley moved, and L. Colon-Torres seconded to adjourn the meeting.

A unanimous aye voice vote was recorded.

The Board adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak