

DRAFT

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
July 17, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present	B. Page, D. Daley, J. Driscoll, C. Dunham, D. Lawless, N. Jankowski, J. McMahon, N. Zaccaria
Board Members Absent:	G. Popps, R. Raman, L. Colon-Torres
Also Present:	M. Cirino, M. Mokrzycki, K. Lawton, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, J. Gascon, C. Albuino, T. Palmer, D. Haas
Guests:	

The July 17, 2024, Board meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

Roll was taken. Quorum is present.

D. Daley motioned and N. Zaccaria seconded to approve both the June 12th Board meeting minutes.

Roll was called and the minutes were approved as submitted.

K. Spillane presented the Executive Director’s report.

OCRRA has had a kickoff meeting regarding the landfill feasibility study for Wastebed 12 with the Town of Camillus. The County and Honeywell were in attendance.

K. Spillane mentioned that the demolition at Ley Creek is underway.

Engineering:

- OCRRA has been meeting quarterly with Reworld (Covanta) to discuss items of importance at the waste-to-energy facility.
- The wastewater system modification project at Amboy is underway.
- Pillar evaluation at Ley Creek is underway, as well as the demolition of the above ground fuel tank.
- Site 31 permit renewal continues.

Transfer and Compost:

- D. Haas has been focused on the continuity and accountability of time with the employees at the RCR transfer station.
- D. Haas and A. Semabia have been working at evaluating processes at RCR, emphasizing waste removal and meeting customer expectations.
- As evaluation continues, including equipment needs, the Transfer team is also looking at some changes and new recommendations as part of the capital planning for 2025 and beyond.

Recycling:

- Paige Bell has joined the Recycling Team. She will help manage OCRRA’s programs, procurements, billing, data and more.
- L. Piering recently submitted a NYSDEC Equipment Grant for a shredder that was purchased in 2023.
- M. Bianchetti continues to manage OCRRA’s Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Battery Recycling programs, recently issuing new RFQ’s for management of these services.

DRAFT

- ESF interns E. Borys and A. Gill are providing much needed assistance on various recycling projects including HHW appointment managing, recycling supply order fulfillment, Clearstream summer recycling event container loan program, mailing of OCRRA newsletters to town/village clerks and DPW's and contact database updating.

Public Information:

- T. Palmer has been focused of food reduction and the benefits of composting. She has been on News Channel 9 to review what can and cannot go into the compost pile.
- A social media series was created for Waste and Recycling Workers Week and featured multiple OCRRA employees.
- T. Palmer has connected with clerks in several municipalities that already have recycling carts to update our records on their methods of communication with residents.
- T. Palmer also created a Ley Creek album to document the demolition and rebuilding of the site.

Engagement, Outreach and New Opportunities:

- M. Mokrzycki and K. Spillane met with the County's Economic Development Director and attorney's representing OCIDA in preparation for a discussion with MICRON regarding their waste disposal needs as they develop their Environmental Impact Statement for the project.
- K. Spillane continues to engage with local communities in New York that have waste to energy facilities to discuss the upcoming changes to emission standards in New York and in the country.
- OCRRA now has four communities participating in the newly formed Waste to Energy Coalition in New York.
- K. Spillane will be meeting with the EPA regarding their most recent regulatory proposals.

A brief discussion followed.

The **TREASURER REPORT** was presented by J. McMahon

- This report reflects data from May 2024.
- Tipping volumes were approximately 13% ahead of budget.
- The electricity rate was 1.9c/kWh.
- Compost revenues remain strong with combined compost revenues 60% ahead of budget.
- Increased tonnages are resulting in significantly higher landfilling costs.
- The Agency cash balance at the end of May was \$21.7M.
- The Agency began the year with \$21.9M in cash reserves.
- At the start of July, the Agency fully funded the Board approved Capital Reserve Account. Reserve Funds are reported as "Assets Limited As to Use" in the financial statements.
- The Agency has bill haulers approximately \$343,000 in recycling tipping fees.
- The Agency has paid the MRF approximately \$225,392.

B. Page motioned and N. Jankowski seconded to approve the Treasure's Report.

Roll was taken and the report was approved as submitted.

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

- The committee discussed the MRF Audit.
- The committee discussed the Draft Strategic Planning process.
- The committee was presented with a resolution for fuel tank removal at Ley Creek.
- The committee was presented with a resolution to proceed with the contract for paving at RCR.
- The committee was presented with a resolution to purchase trailers from Spector Manufacturing.
- T. Palmer gave an update on current events.

DRAFT

Resolution #2449 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Enter Into Contract for Fuel Tank Removal was moved by D. Daley and seconded by B. Page.

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

Resolution #2450 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Proceed with Contract for Paving at Rock Cut Road Facility was moved by D. Daley and seconded by J. Driscoll.

There was a brief discussion on the contingency clause in the resolution.

There was a brief discussion regarding how long ago the paving was last done at RCR and if the Agency expects to have to continue to maintain the asphalt on a regular basis.

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

Resolution #2451 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Purchase Transfer Trailers from Spector Manufacturing was moved by D. Daley and seconded by N. Zaccaria.

There was no further discussion.

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

Before moving on with the agenda, Board Chair C. Dunham pauses the meeting to consult with Counsel on a personnel issue.

The Board meeting paused at 4:21pm and resumed at 4:47pm.

The **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** report was presented by B. Page.

- The committee was presented with a resolution allowing the hire of outside Counsel to assist in a personnel investigation.
- The committee was presented with a resolution to continue the purchase of all risk property insurance policies for the Waste-To-Energy facility.
- K. Spillane presented the Draft Strategic Planning process.

Resolution #2452 – Resolution Authorizing Hiring Outside Counsel to Assist in Personnel Investigation was moved by B. Page and seconded by D. Daley.

There was no further discussion.

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

Resolution #2453 – Resolution Authorizing and Affirming Executive Director’s Continuing Purchase of All Risk Property Insurance Policies for Waste to Energy Facility was moved by B. Page and seconded by J. Driscoll.

There was no further discussion.

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

DRAFT

K. Spillane reminded the Board that the Annual Board/Employee appreciation Picnic is coming up on August 7th at 5:00pm.

T. Palmer:

- Film plastics are the focus in the most current Newsletter.
- OCRRA's YouTube page has been updated with the latest message on film plastics. T. Palmer shared the clips.

C. Albunio:

- Throughput is an issue at the WTE facility – the Agency is working with Reworld to address the problem.

D. Haas:

- Moving and managing trash continues to be a priority.

K. Lawton:

- The recycling team continues to work with municipalities with the introduction of carts.
- The team has also met with folks from City Line in an effort to help streamline and re-educate on some trash and recycling topics where there was some confusion.

M. Cirino:

- Audit committee will be meeting soon.
- An RFP will be issued regarding a new Audit firm for the upcoming year.

J. Driscoll moved, and D. Daley seconded to adjourn the meeting.

A unanimous aye voice vote was recorded.

The Board adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak