

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

August 13, 2025 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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| Board Members Present | E. Bough Martin, D. Daley, C. Dunham, M. Jennings, V. Mangan, B. Blair, D. Quackenbush, A. Rodriguez, B. Sekarore, J. Wood |
| Board Members Absent: | J. drsicoll, L. Hradil, G. Popps, B. Stacer |
| Also Present: | M. Cirino, M. Mokrkycki, K. Lawton, R. Czerwiak, K. Spillane, C. Alburnio, J. Gascon, D. Haas, T. Palmer, M. Ballard-Fortin |
| Guests: | |

The August 13, 2025, Board meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

Roll was taken. Quorum is present.

The Board minutes from July were moved by B. Page seconded by B. Sekarore.

Roll was taken and the minutes were approved.

K. Spillane presented the written Executive Director’s report submitted in the Board packet, but yielded his time to Mike Mokrycki for the upcoming Budget information. K. Spillane’s written report contained the following for the record:

- Since the closure of the WTE facility in April OCRRA has closely monitored the operation of the facility.
- Concerns with operation have been discussed with Reworld.

Engineering:

- C. Alburnio has continued to spend time resolving issue with the operation of the WTE facility.
- C. Alburnio is also working with our consultant engineers in the final design of Ley Creek while overseeing the last of the demolition of the current facility on site.
- C. Alburnio is working with Barton and Loguidice on the landfill permit renewal for Site 31 and on the permit renewal for the Agency’s Title V air permit.

Transfer and Compost:

- D. Haas has been focused on bringing material from the transfer building to the WTE facility and using only his staff and equipment instead of outside haulers.
- D. Haas and staff have begun the MRF Glass Diversion Program. OCRRA is picking up curbside glass at the MRF and delivering it to the Madison County Landfill where it has benefit use as Alternative Daily Cover instead of being landfilled.

Recycling:

- The recycling department has a new team member, Andrew Crosby.
- A. Crosby will be managing purchasing responsibilities as well as administrative and data tracking tasks for the department.
- Summer recycling presentations continue.

Public Information:

- The PIO has spent a great deal of time creating and uploading imagery for the new battery section of the website.
- Postcards with recycling guidelines have been sent out and received by many in the community.

- The PIO has prepared and published a bid packet for newsletter printing services beginning in 2026.

Community Engagement and Government Relations:

- This past month OCRRA and other members of the NY Waste to Energy Coalition (NYWETC) submitted comments on two new proposed regulations.
- The NYWETC cited the failure of the EPA to perform a residual risk analysis as a missed opportunity.
- OCRRA’s Executive Director has stepped back from his positions as President of the NYWETC and as a Board member of the WTEA due to other personal commitments outside of his professional responsibilities. K. Spillane will continue to keep the Board updated on the organizations efforts.

M. Mokrzycki gave a update on the Budget process.

- 2026 Transfer tipping rates will rise.
- It has been a tough year in terms of expenses and the 2026 budget will reflect that.
- The first 2026 draft budget will be distributed at the August Recycling and Operations committee and then at the Administration committee. Final vote will be at the October Board meeting.

The **TREASURER REPORT** was presented by M. Jennings.

- This report reflects June results.
- Tipping revenues were close to budgeted expectations, slightly lower MSW volumes were offset by continued higher volumes of C&D.
- The Agency began the year with \$21.8M in cash reserves.
- Electricity rate was 3.7c/kWh in June.
- At the end of June the Agency has \$14.3M of operating cash and \$5.2M of Board designated cash for a total of \$19.5M.
- The Agency has billed haulers approximately \$446,500.
- The Agency has paid the MRF approximately \$419,413.

B. Page mentioned that it was nice to see that the electric revenue higher this term.

D. Douglas motioned and B. Blair seconded to approve the Treasurer Report.

There was a brief discussion on funding for the Ley Creek project and how the Agency’s expenses this year and the budget for next year could effect bonding.

Roll was taken and the report was accepted.

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

- The committee discussed a resolution for battery sorting services.
- The committee discussed a resolution to contract for additional private hauling services.
- The committee discussed glass and its place in the recycling stream.
- The committee discussed the new glass pilot program with Madison county – using glass as alternative daily cover for the landfill.

Resolution #2510 – Resolution Authorizing Contract for Battery Sorting Services was moved by D. Daley and seconded by D. Quackenbush.

The resolution as amended was adopted 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2511 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Contract for Additional Private Hauling Services was moved by D. Daley and seconded by J. Wood.

B. Page asked if this resolution will cover the rest of the outages that are planned for this year.

K. Spillane responded that this amount should be sufficient. D. Haas is working on a plan to move material using OCRRA staff and equipment.

B. Page asked what the Agency usually spends annually on outside hauling.

M. Mokrzycki responded that in 2024 OCRRA spent approximately \$260,000. As of now, the Agency has spent \$1.2M on outside hauling due to continuous issues at the WTE facility.

D. Daley motioned and J. Wood seconded to amend the resolution.

The resolution as amendment was adopted 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

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

- The committee discussed a resolution authorizing and addirming continued purchase of all risk property insurance for the WTE facility.
- M. Mokrzycki updated the committee on handbook policy changes.
- The committee discussed a resolution amending the standard workday and standard work week for non-represented employees.
- M. Mokrzycki updated the committee on the closing of the Agency’s Chase bank account.
- The committee discussed the 2025 Quarterly report.
- The committee discussed small contracts.

Resolution #2512 – 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 E. Bough Martin.

B. Page mentioned that the Agency has asked that next year the Broker will get the details of the new policy to OCRRA before the resolution is presented.

The resolution was adopted 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2513 – Resolution Amending Standard Workday and Standard Work Week for Non-Represented Employees was moved by B. Page and seconded by E. Bough Martin.

M. Mokrzycki gave a brief explanation of this resolution. The desire is to be current with other local municipalities and to use this as a benefit to employee recruitment.

There was a discussion regarding non-represented and represented staff.

There will be an adjustment to the location code in the further resolved of the resolution.

The resolution was adopted 9 ayes, 1 nay, 0 abstain.

B. Page is not in favor of the resolution at this time.

C. Dunham asked if any staff members had anything new to report.

C. Albunio –

- Water that had pooled at Ley Creek was tested and it was discovered that it will need to be treated before it can be discharged to WEP.
- This has changed the project schedule slightly.
- Contingency funds were used for this additional cost.

There was a discussion regarding future water testing and cost associated with that.

D. Haas –

- Recapped MSW levels and by pass issues which are getting better.

K. Lawton –

- Mercury event is coming up.

T. Palmer –

- OCRRA has been promoting the mercury event for the past month.
- Recycling mailers have gone out to community members that do not usually get our mailers.

M. Ballard-Fortin –

- Thanked the Board for passing the resolution amending the work wee/hours. It will be helpful as a hiring tool.
- E. Boyrs will be moving to the Recycling Department.

M. Cirino –

- Working on the cash counts / gatekeepers.
- Working on the record retention policy.

V. Mangan moved, and E. Bough Martin seconded to enter into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation.

Roll was called and the Board entered into Executive Session.

D. Daley motioned and A. Rodriguez seconded to adjourn the meeting.

A collective 'aye' was heard.

The Board adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak