

**ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY**  
**November 12, 2025 BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

<b>Board Members Present</b>	<b>E. Bough Martin, D, Daley, C. Dunham, L. Hradil, M. Jennings, V. Mangan, B. Page, D. Quackenbush, A. Rodriguez, B. Sekarore, J. Wood</b>
<b>Board Members Absent:</b>	<b>G. Popp, J. Driscoll</b>
<b>Also Present:</b>	<b>M. Mokrkycki, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, J. Gascon, D. Haas, M. Ballard Fortin</b>
<b>Guests:</b>	

The November 12, 2025, Board meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.

Vice Chair D. Daley will conduct the meeting until C. Dunham arrives.

No members of the public are present.

Roll was taken. Quorum is present.

There will be two spelling errors corrected in the minutes.

The Board minutes from October were moved by B. Page seconded by V. Mangan.

Roll was taken and the minutes were approved.

K. Spillane presented the Executive Director’s report:

- There are three anticipated planned outages at the WTE facility, but unfortunately the WTE facility went into an outage early requiring more outside waste haulers to help bypass the waste This was not the initial plan but because of the change made by Reworld to the schedule, the Agency had to ensure that the facility had adequate room to accommodate the curbside waste from the County residents and began to bypass more waste.

Engineering:

- C. Albunio continued to spend time working to resolve issues at the WTE facility.
- Work with Cornerstone on the final design of Ley Creek North while also wrapping up the contract and work related to the demolition of the old facility and its underlying structures moves forward.

Transfer and Compost:

- D. Haas has been focused on addressing the new waste diversion plan as the Agency had to pivot from what was previously planned.
- Work with compost continues in preparation of closing Jamesville compost just before the Thanksgiving holiday.

Recycling:

- The Local Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) Biennial Update and the full SWMP 2-year Extension Request were submitted to the NYSDEC by their October deadline.

- The Outreach and Education grant was submitted to the NYSDEC in October.
- On October 24<sup>th</sup>, the second MRF Audit took place.
- On October 24<sup>th</sup>, the Recycling team toured a new electronics recycling facility that opened in East Syracuse. The TechBack tour was very informative.

Public Information:

- T. Palmer spent the early part of October creating several outreach materials for Fire Prevention Week.
- The winter newsletter has been finalized.
- Photo shoots and designs for large background displays for events where OCRRA has a booth, tent or table have been completed.

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

- This report reflects September results.
- Tipping volumes and revenues were strong in September.
- For the year, the Agency is ahead of budget on tipping revenues.
- The electricity rate was 2.8/kWh.
- The Agency paused bypassing waste for the beginning of September. Bypassing resumed at the end of the month.
- The Agency began the year with \$21.8M in cash revenues.
- At the end of September the Agency had \$13.1M of operating cash and \$5.2M in Board Designated Cash for a total of \$18.3M.
- The Agency has paid the MRF \$738,865 and collected \$718,725 from haulers for residential recycling costs.

There was a brief discussion regarding the end of Westrock material coming into the WTE facility.

There was a brief discussion regarding C&D material volumes and costs.

B. Page motioned and V. Mangan seconded to approve the Treasurer Report.

Roll was taken and the report was accepted as submitted.

C. Dunham has arrived and will now conduct the rest of the meeting.

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

- The committee discussed a resolution for battery collection receptacles.
- The committee discussed a resolution for prepaid fluorescent bulb shipping boxes and recycling services for 2026.
- The committee discussed a resolution for additional private hauling services.
- The committee discussed a resolution for the purchase and installation of an overhead door at RCR.
- The committee discussed a resolution to enter into a power purchase agreement with Niagara Mohawk.
- The committee discussed a resolution directing certain revenues to the capital reserve fund.
- The committee discussed the 2026 nominating committee.
- The committee discussed the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter investment reports.
- The committee discussed the small contract report.

B. Page expressed concern regarding the move to take alkaline batteries out of the recycling stream and changing the message to dispose of them in the trash. There is concern that the message will be confusing to

the public. He believes that we should not take the alkaline batteries out of collection.

Alkaline batteries no longer contain hazardous materials and do not need to be collected, separated and recycled.

A discussion followed.

K. Spillane added that alkaline batteries have already been removed from collection in many communities across the country. The priority for battery recovery needs to be focused on the rechargeable batteries as they are the cause of devastating fires in homes and businesses.

D. Daley added that he had gone onto the NYSDEC website and the guidance from the site was that alkaline batteries are to be placed in the trash. He does agree that OCRRA will need to be careful and consistent with its message regarding batteries.

**Resolution #2525 – Resolution Approving the Procurement of New Battery Collection Receptacles** was moved by B. Page and seconded by D. Daley.

E. Bough Martin added that even with a changing message, residents will still continue to sort alkaline batteries out of habit.

L. Hradil asked if OCRRA could talk to local bike shops regarding collection of bike batteries.

The resolution was adopted 10 ayes, 1 nay, 0 abstain.

**Resolution #2526 – Resolution to Enter into Contract for Purchase of Prepaid Fluorescent Bulb Shipping Boxes and Recycling Services for FY2026** was moved by B. Page and seconded by L. Hradil.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**Resolution #2527 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Contract for Additional Private Hauling Services** was moved by B. Page and seconded by D. Quackenbush.

D. Daley asked if this was for the remainder of 2025.

K. Spillane responded that, that was correct. This is for the remainder of 2025.

The resolution will be amended to read “through December 31, 2025”.

The resolution was adopted 11 yes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**Resolution #2528 – Resolution Approving Purchase and Retaining Services for the Installation of an Overhead Door for Rock Cut Road Transfer Station** was moved by B. Page and seconded by B. Sekarore.

E. Bough Martin asked how the door was damaged.

D. Haas responded that this door has been in use since the late 1970’s and was simply in need of replacement.

The resolution was adopted 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**Resolution #2529 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Enter into Interim Energy Sales Agreement with Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation for Sale of Electric Energy** was moved by B. Page and seconded by M. Jennings.

L. Hradil asked what the terms were for the previous agreement.

M. Mokrzycki responded that the last agreement was for 25 years.

The resolution was adopted 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**Resolution #2530 – Resolution Directing Certain Revenues to the Capital Reserve Fund** was moved by B. Page and seconded by J. Wood.

There was no further discussion.

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

The **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE** report was presented by C. Dunham.

- The committee discussed a resolution regarding a valuation study for the Site 31 landfill.

C. Dunham updated the Board on the specifics of the study and why it is necessary.

**Resolution #2531 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Enter into Contract for Landfill Valuation Study** was moved by C. Dunham and seconded by D. Daley.

The resolution was adopted 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

D. Daley asked what the time frame is anticipated to be.

K. Spillane responded that the time frame is set for 6-8 weeks, not including the holidays.

C. Dunham asked staff for any updates.

M. Ballard Fortin:

- The Agency has hired a new Assistant Engineer.
- The Agency is recruiting an Assistant Public Information Officer.
- Two OCRRA drivers are retiring.

D. Haas:

- At the transfer station, this November was busier than November 2024.
- Pit levels remain manageable.

L. Hradil motioned and D. Quackenbush seconded to adjourn the meeting and enter into private meeting with Counsel.

A collective 'aye' was heard.

The Board adjourned at 4:59 PM.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak