

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
March 12, 2025 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present	E. Bough Martin, C. Dunham, L. Hradil, N. Jankowski, M. Jennings, V. Mangan, B. Page, G. Popps, A. Rodrigues, B. Sekarore, J. Wood, N. Zaccaria
Board Members Absent:	D. Daley, J. Driscoll, B. Stacer
Also Present:	M. Cirino, M. Mokrzycki, K. Lawton, K. Spillane, R. Czerwiak, C. Albuino, J. Gascon, D. Haas, T. Palmer
Guests:	M. Ciarelli – Grossman St. Amour, W. Vanderwater – Town of VanBuren

The March 12, 2025, Board meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll was taken. Quorum is present.

G. Popps motioned and V. Magnan seconded to move the February 12, 2025, Board meeting minutes.

Roll was called and the minutes were accepted as submitted.

K. Spillane presented the Executive Director report.

- The outside Auditors are present today to review their findings.
- Engineering
 - The Director of Engineering has been working with Reworld to address several outstanding operational issues.
 - The NYSDEC has not yet issued the permit for Ley Creek.
 - Throughput continues to be an issue.
- Transfer and Compost
 - The Director of Transfer Operations has been coordinating with the Executive Director to provide guidance and orientation of the new Compost Manager, Brian Cole.
 - Brain has been doing great job in his first month with OCRRA.
 - D. Haas has been busy finishing up the acquisition of all the equipment specified in the Capital Plan for 2025.
- Recycling
 - The Recycling team, led by L. Piering submitted our latest Household Hazardous Waste grant for reimbursement of our expenses in this program from 2024.
 - The Recycling Director visited Albany in February and joined other NYSAR3 members in meeting with NYS Senators and Assemblymembers to share our 2025 legislative priorities including EPR for Packaging and Paper, Bottle Bill Expansion, and Expansion of Funding for Organics Management Infrastructure.
 - The entire recycling team, the Public Information Officer and administration staff are working together to prepare for the Home and Garden Show happening March 14th through March 16th.
- Public Information
 - The Public Information Officer spent a significant part of the month organizing and updating OCRRA’s vast library of brochures, flyers and other tabling/event information, as well as creating new materials.
 - T. Palmer has also launched the Earth Day registration sign-up and has begun promotions with a

news release, social media posts, email blasts and website updates.

- In February the spring newsletter layout was completed, finalized, printed and prepped for distribution in early March.
- Engagement, Outreach and New Opportunities
 - The Executive Director attended a meeting with the federal EPA staff once again and opened comment period for a potential new ruling on the MACT floor issue. OCRRA's emissions at the WTE facility are regulated by standards issued several years ago. These base standards are referred to as the MACT floor.

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

- This report reflects data from January 2025.
- The electricity rate was 7.4c/kWh in January.
- Expenses were in line.
- The Agency began the year with \$21.8M in cash reserves.
- At the end of January, the Agency had \$16.6M of operating cash and \$5.2M of Board designated cash, for a total of \$21.8M.
- The Agency has billed haulers \$28,000 in recycling tipping fees.
- The Agency has paid the MRF \$68,329.

There was no further discussion.

V. Mangan motioned and E. Bough Martin seconded to approve the Treasurer Report.

Roll was taken and the report was accepted.

The **AUDIT COMMITTEE** report was presented.

- M. Ciaralli from Grossman St. Amour presented the 2024 Audit Findings report. Reporting the highlights only.
- The financial statements of the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (OCRRA) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements which collectively comprise OCRRA's basic financial statements and are included in this report dated March 12, 2025.
- All financial statements of OCRRA present fairly, in all respects, the respective financial position of OCRRA as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the respective changes in its financial position and cash flows thereof for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the US.

There was a brief discussion regarding how possible future debt would affect the yearly audits and liability.

Resolution #2488 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Contract for Private Hauling Services was moved by M. Jennings and seconded by G. Popp.

The resolution was adopted 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

C. Dunham announced that with the departure of D. Lawless, D. Daley will be the Chair of the Ley Creek Adhoc committee and L. Hradil will now be the Chair of the Recycling and Operations committee.

The **RECYCLING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** report was presented by L. Hradil

- The committee discussed a resolution for the purchase of four loader tires.
- The committee discussed a resolution to purchase three 48' walking floor trailers.
- The committee discussed a resolution to pay for the lease of the Volvo Excavator.
- The committee discussed a resolution for the purchase of a forklift.

Resolution#2489 – Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Four Loader Tires was moved by L. Hradil and seconded by J. Wood.

B. Page asked how many bids were received.

D. Haas responded that there were 3 received bids.

The resolution was adopted 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2490 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Purchase Transfer Trailers from Syracuse Trailer Services was moved by L. Hradil and seconded by V. Mangan.

There will be two language updates made to the resolution.

There was a brief discussion on delivery time and height requirements.

The resolution, with changes was adopted 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2491 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Pay for Lease of Excavator for Compost was moved by L. Hradil and seconded by N. Zaccaria.

There will be one change to the language in the second Whereas clause.

The resolution was adopted 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2492 – Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Forklift was moved by L. Hradil and seconded by E. Bough Martin.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

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

- The committee discussed a resolution to purchase insurance policies for the Agency.
- The committee discussed a resolution approving investment Guidelines and Investment Report for 2024.
- The committee discussed the internal Audit by M. Cirino.
- The committee discussed a resolution to change the Agency's Civil Service Roster for two different positions.

Resolution #2493 – Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Purchase Insurance Policies for the Agency for the Period Beginning April 1, 2025 was moved by B. Page and seconded by G. Popp.

M. Mokrzycki gave a brief overview.

There was a brief discussion on the small premium increase.

The resolution was adopted 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2494 – Resolution Approving Investment Guidelines and Investment Report of Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency for Calendar Year 2024 was moved by B. Page and seconded by N. Jankowski.

M. Mokrzycki gave a brief overview.

There was no further discussion.

The resolution was adopted 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2495 – Resolution Authorizing Change to the Agency’s Civil Service Roster – Compliance Specialist was moved by B. Page and seconded by G. Popps.

K. Spillane gave a brief overview.

Compliance Specialist will be added to the title of the resolution.

There was a brief discussion on the position and responsibilities of this new position.

The resolution was adopted 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2496 – Resolution Authorizing Change to the Agency’s Civil Service Roster – Personnel Specialist was moved by B. Page and seconded by E. Bough Martin.

M. Mokrzycki gave a brief overview.

Personnel Specialist will be added to the title of the resolution.

The resolution was adopted 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

The **LEY CREEK AD_HOC COMMITTEE** report was presented by E. Bough Martin.

C. Dunham has asked that the resolution authorizing final design be tabled.

- The committee discussed a resolution modifying resolution 2398 of July.
- The committee discussed a resolution authorizing a contract with Cornerstone for final design.
- The committee discussed a resolution modifying resolution 2455 for additional contingency to the demolition project at Ley Creek.

Resolution #2497 – Resolution Modifying Resolution No. 2398 of July 2023 for Consulting Engineering Services with Cornerstone Engineering and Geology was moved by E. Bough Martin and seconded by A. Rodriguez.

There was no further questions.

The resolution was adopted 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2498 – Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Cornerstone Engineering and Geology for the Final Design of the Ley Creek Transfer Station was moved by E. Bough Martin and seconded by B. Page.

This resolution was tabled for consideration until next month’s Board meeting.

The resolution was tabled 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Resolution #2499 – Resolution Modifying Resolution No. 2455 of September 2024 to Authorize an Additional Contingency to the Demolition Project at Ley Creek with Ritter and Paratore was moved by E. Bough Martin and seconded by G. Popps.

C. Albunio gave a brief overview.

Language in the Resolved clause will be altered for clarity.

The resolution was adopted 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

Staff Updates :

K. Lawton

- OCRRA will be offering a MRF tour in April.

T. Palmer

- Newsletter is being delivered to homes and is available here in office.

R. Czerwiak

- Financial Disclosures and Board Evaluation forms are due.

C. Albunio

- Dealing with WTE issues.

M Cirino

- ABO training for new Board members is due.

V. Mangan moved, and L. Hradil seconded to go into Executive Session to discuss a land transaction.

A unanimous ‘aye’ voice vote was recorded.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 5:45 PM, the subject of which was a potential land transaction. A motion was made by Greg Popps to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by Elizabeth Bough Martin, all were in favor. The meeting ended at 5:50 PM.

Board Minutes were taken by R. Czerwiak