

**ULSTER COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 28, 2019**

The Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency held a Regular Board Meeting on October 28, 2019 at 999 Flatbush Road, Kingston, NY.

The proceedings were convened at 12:00pm.

The following Board members were present: Chair Fred Wadnola, Vice Chair Katherine Beinkafner, Treasurer Charles Landi, Member JoAnne Myers, and Member Lisa Mitten.

Also present were: Counsel/Secretary Kenneth Gilligan, Executive Director Tim Rose, Controller Tim DeGraff, Director of Operations and Safety Charlie Whittaker, Recycling Coordinator Angelina Peone, Recycling Educator Melinda France, Administrative Assistant Brenna Whitaker, and Compliance Officer Tom Briggs.

From the public: Reporter Bill Kemble from the Daily Freeman, and Ulster County Legislator Manna Jo Greene.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Fred Wadnola told the Board about the incinerators he saw during his recent tour of five European cities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Fred Wadnola motioned to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2019 Regular Board Meeting, October 10, 2019 Public Hearing, and October 10, 2019 Special Meeting. Moved by Charles Landi and seconded by Katherine Beinkafner. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENERAL REPORTS

Tim Rose presented the MSW, Recycling Tonnage, Recycling Market, and Leachate Collection reports:

MSW

	September 2019		
	Target Tonnage	Actual Tonnage	Difference
MSW	11,031 tons	11,638 tons	607 tons
Sludge	279 tons	305 tons	26 tons

Recycling Tonnage

	September 2019	September 2018
Commingle	102.64 tons	39.95 tons
Glass	48.34 tons	30.62 tons
Mixed News	105.73 tons	76.96 tons
Kingston City Mix	78.11 tons	N/A
Single Stream	0 tons	520.53 tons
OCC	150.46 tons	115.34 tons
Food Waste	331.45 tons	299.02 tons

Recycling Market Report

The Recycling Market Report shows the price the Agency was offered for each commodity. NR means no response.

Lisa Mitten asked about #3-7 and tubs & lids.

Tim Rose responded that the Agency didn't sell any.

Lisa Mitten asked if the Agency had any to sell.

Charlie Whittaker responded that the Agency does have a load to sell, but there is only one buyer and he did not bid on the material this month.

Tim Rose added that sometimes the Agency will hold on to loads when the prices of commodities are down.

Fred Wadnola motioned to approve the September 2019 Recycling Market Report. Moved by Charles Landi and seconded by JoAnne Myers. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

Leachate Collection

	September 2019	September 2018
Ulster	2,307 tons	150,500 tons
New Paltz	17,560 tons	168,000 tons

RECYCLING PROGRAM UPDATE

Outreach/Education

- **Advertising**
 - RecycleRightNY message this month is HOW TO RECYCLE GLASS
 - Print Advertising: October Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Event
 - Radio Advertising: HHW/America Recycles Day

- **Community Engagement Events**
 - 10/02 Tour: Eileen Banyra, Community Compost Company
 - 10/12 Farm Day Event sponsored by the Woodstock Land Conservancy
 - 10/13th Hasbrouck Sewershed Tour at O+ Festival. The “Plastic Ball” traveled from the corner of Foxhall and Broadway in Mid-town Kingston, down Broadway to the Rondout Creek.
 - 10/18 “Recycling Jeopardy” at Marbletown Senior Center
 - 10/19 Household Hazardous Waste Event (368 participants – 1,036 participants during 2019)
 - 10/23 “Recycling Jeopardy” Rosendale Senior Center Presentation
 - 10/23 Tour Representatives from Sullivan County
 - 10/24 Tour Kingston YMCA Farm Project Youth
 - 10/28 Biannual Informational Meeting for Municipal Recycling Drop Off Centers w/guest Amy Bloomfield, NYSDEC Bureau of Waste Reduction & Recycling, Division of Materials Management
- **September 2019 electronics recycling program:**
 - 336 residents
 - 12 non-profits
 - 8 businesses

Administration

- Submitted for reimbursement 3rd Quarter 2019: NYSDEC Municipal Waste Reduction & Recycling Coordination
- Proposal submitted for 2020: NYSDEC Municipal Waste Reduction & Recycling Coordination
- Awarded Project - NYSDEC Food Scraps Reduction, Food Donation, Food Scraps Recycling Grant for project 10/01/19 - 9/30/22
- Developing new Compost Program Supplies for the Ulster County Municipal Composting Expansion Grant Project
- Participated in the 2019 NYS Recycling Cost Impact Survey (Solid Waste Association of North America in partnership with NYSAR3 - NYS Association for Reduction, Reuse, Recycling)

Miscellaneous Meetings

- 10/10 - Conference Call with NYSAR3 Single Use Plastics Committee regarding NYS Plastic Bag Ban
- 10/02 - Webinar: “Using Compost in Erosion Control & Infrastructure Projects” - North East Recycling Council
- 10/04 - Mtg. with Sebastian Pillitteri, Hasbrouck Sewershed Tour (O+ Festival)
- 10/09 - Conference Call with Alex Scilla from Environcom’s Mid-NY Environmental Sustainability Committee organized by NYSDEC
- 10/21 - Food Scraps Recycling Law: Hauler Stakeholder Meeting – NYS DEC Albany
- 10/22 - Conference Call with NYSAR3 Organics Conference Committee
- 10/29 - Conference Call with NYSAR3 Organics Committee

November Preview

- 11/4-11/6 - NYSAR3 Annual Recycling Conference
- 11/13 - 6:00 PM Saugerties Public Library "Rethinking Waste"
- 11/15 - UCRRA America Recycles Day Party

Angelina Peone stated that she and Melinda France will be calculating the stats on HHW participants at the end of the year so that the can understand better who is using these services.

Angelina Peone invited the Board to share their feedback on these recycling program updates, and to let her know if there is something else they would like to see within the report.

Fred Wadnola asked if the Agency was contacted by the Town of Ulster Police for assistance with their special drug takeback day.

Angelina Peone responded that October 28 (the day of the event) is National Prescription Drug Takeback day, so a lot of police departments throughout the country do special events for collection, however all of the police departments in Ulster County take medications for free year round. She added that we are not connected with these events at all.

Charles Landi asked for the status on the bagging operation.

Angelina Peone responded that the bags are not yet in production, but that the Agency is engaged with Manchester Packaging Company to create the bags. The ventilation hole sizes are still being decided. Once that is determined, the bags will go into production with a six week turnaround time. The bags are custom imprinted clear bags.

Angelina Peone explained the food waste totes that the Agency has purchased through a grant to distribute to Ulster County businesses who want to participate in the Agency's composting program. She requested feedback from the Board before moving forward.

Lisa Mitten requested that the recycling team present the information that they are giving at programs and presentations within the recycling program update.

Angelina responded that she and Melinda France can certainly do that.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Tim DeGraff presented the September 2019 Treasurer's Report and MRF Cost Center Analysis.

Treasurer's Report

For the month of September, the Agency's MSW tons were 8,323 and C&D tons were 3,315. Revenue line item of note: The Agency sold two loads of recycling that it doesn't sell often, one of UBCs and one of natural plastic. Sale of recyclables was \$34,293. Total revenue for the month of \$1,371,057. Expense line items of note: Vehicle Maintenance Facility – it has a negative amount due to the return of a

deductible payment of \$5,000 that was issued through subrogation. It relates to the property damage we incurred when someone drove through our fence. Composting Operations - costs are higher due to \$6,500 in monthly trommel screen rental costs. Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance - higher expenses due to major repairs to the 930G and 930H loaders. Total expense for the month of \$1,018,779. Net operating revenue was \$352,278. Capital Outlay of \$14,102 was due to the purchase of the Towmaster trailer. For the month of August the fund balance was a positive \$338,176. Year to date fund balance is \$388,777.

Fred Wadnola motioned to approve the September 2019 Treasurer's Report. Moved by Charles Landi and seconded by Lisa Mitten. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

MRF Cost Center Analysis

For the month of August, tipping fees were \$0. The total sale of recyclables was \$31,118. Total personnel expenses were \$28,667. Total operating expenses were \$5,149. Total expenses were \$33,816. Net loss for the month of \$3,913. Year-to-date net loss of \$226,040.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Resolution No. 2482 RE: Authorizing and Approving the Purchase of a 3400XL Diesel Bobcat

Tim Rose explained that this resolution was tabled last month because the Board requested he look into electric options. He stated that he spent numerous hours searching for an electric vehicle that would suit the Agency's needs, but was unsuccessful. He reminded the Board that this vehicle needs to be four wheel drive due to the terrain and seat six people. He recommends moving forward with the original resolution.

Charles Landi asked about putting lettering or the UCRRA logo on the vehicle.

Charlie Whittaker responded that he doesn't really think that is necessary because the vehicle will only be used on site.

JoAnne Myers asked if this vehicle will change the Agency's insurance coverage needs because it will be used sometimes for tours.

Tim DeGraff responded that it wouldn't be any different because Agency staff already has the public taking tours of the facilities, often in Agency vehicles.

Fred Wadnola motioned to approve Resolution No. 2482 RE: Authorizing and Approving the Purchase of a 3400XL Diesel Bobcat. Moved by Charles Landi and seconded by JoAnne Myers. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

Resolution No. 2487 RE: Approving the Draft Local Solid Waste Management Plan

Tim Rose told the Board that this is the draft plan, and once it is approved there needs to be a public comment period open for 45 days per the DEC. He added that there needs to be a Public Hearing held in

the middle of that 45 day period, which falls around November 18. After the public comment period, the plan would then go to the DEC and legislature for approval.

JoAnne Myers recommended that the executive summary include text about aiming for zero waste.

Manna Jo Greene agreed. She also recommended Ulster County create a position for Environmental Compliance Officer.

The Board discussed when the Public Hearing should be held, and whether to move the next Board Meeting due to the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday and the Board members various schedules. Tim Rose explained that the financial reports will not be ready to be presented at the meeting because they will not be ready yet. They settled on November 18 at 7pm for the Public Hearing, with the Regular Board Meeting being on the same day at 5:30pm.

JoAnne Myers brought up amending the plan's executive summary to add the "aiming toward zero waste".

Lisa Mitten recommended the wording "to move toward zero waste".

JoAnne Myers moved to amend the Draft Local Solid Waste Management Plan to include "to move toward zero waste" into the executive summary. Seconded by Lisa Mitten. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

Fred Wadnola motioned to approve the Resolution No. 2487 RE: Approving the Draft Local Solid Waste Management Plan (as amended). Seconded by Charles Landi. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

Resolution No. 2488 RE: Approving the 2020 Final Agency Budget

Tim Rose stated that there were no public comments on the draft budget. This resolution will finalize the Agency's 2020 budget.

Fred Wadnola motioned to approve Resolution No. 2488 RE: Approving the 2020 Final Agency Budget. Seconded by Charles Landi. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

Resolution No. 2489 RE: Approving the Final Fee Schedule for 2020 Tipping Fees

Tim Rose stated that this resolution will finalize the Agency's 2020 tipping fees.

Fred Wadnola motioned to approve Resolution No. 2489 RE: Approving the Final Fee Schedule for 2020 Tipping Fees. Seconded by Charles Landi. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

OLD BUSINESS

Charlie Whittaker explained that there are new regulations that affect the Agency regarding hauling commercial waste.

Per the DEC, the Town Transfer Stations are not allowed to take commercial waste. And the Agency is not allowed to haul it.

Tim Rose added that the DEC restrictions specifically on hauling have become stricter recently in part because of the legal battle going on with the C&D landfill in Saugerties.

Charlie Whittaker continued that the Agency has nothing to do with the enforcement the regulations when it comes to the towns accepting commercial waste, but that the Agency has to follow the rules by not accepting it. He added that the contract between the Agency and the towns does specify multiple times that the Agency cannot accept commercial waste. Another issue is that the towns are not keeping track of the amounts of commercial waste in the boxes, so even if the Agency wanted to become permitted to haul it, they couldn't.

Charlie Whittaker stated that he has had a continued problem with the towns stating that it is up to the operator's discretion what is commercial and what isn't.

Tim Rose stated that if the Agency's drivers get stopped while hauling commercial waste, the Agency would be in a lot of trouble.

JoAnne Myers asked Charlie Whittaker if the Agency could let the towns know they are on notice not to accept commercial waste. She added that the Town of Rochester Supervisor recently complained about this issue at an Ulster County legislative meeting.

Charlie Whittaker responded that the Agency gave the towns written notice one year before the regulations changed, as well as speaking with each town by phone and in person multiple times.

JoAnne Myers said that by the comments made by the Town of Rochester Supervisor, one would think the towns only just found out about this.

Ken Gilligan asked Charlie Whittaker how he knows that the towns are violating their contracts by accepting commercial waste.

Charlie Whittaker responded that there are multiple ways he and the drivers can tell if there is commercial waste in the boxes, including how fast they are being filled. He added that he can also tell by the materials being dumped on the floor at the Agency. Unfortunately you cannot see what is in the box until it has been dumped.

Charlie Whittaker continued that a big issue is that the businesses hauling this waste would rather pay more to dump their waste at the Town Transfer Stations to save time, even though the tipping fee is higher, because most of them are passing the costs on to their customers.

Lisa Mitten asked if the Agency's two transfer stations are the only two drop-off sites for C&D.

Tim Rose responded that those are the only sites in Ulster County, but that there is no Flow Control over C&D, so businesses can go out of county for disposal.

JoAnne Myers suggested that the Agency send out another letter to the towns, copying the Ulster County Legislature.

Lisa Mitten asked Charlie Whittaker what he needs from the Board.

Charlie Whittaker stated that is only informing the Board of the issue, and letting him know that he will not break the law by knowingly accepting this unauthorized material.

JoAnne Myers suggested the Board do a resolution directing the Executive Director to stop accepting the town's boxes if they contain commercial waste, such as the previous Board did with the issue of the towns packing and damaging Agency boxes in the past.

Ken Gilligan said that he would first gather information on what Charlie Whittaker has already done, and then send out a letter himself to the towns, saying that the Agency will cancel the contract if there is a violation.

Fred Wadnola suggested the Board authorize Ken Gilligan to write that letter.

Charles Landi seconded Fred Wadnola's suggestion.

Lisa Mitten asked about the Union contract negotiations. She mentioned the Agency doing a salary/benefits study.

Tim Rose responded that negotiations begin in the spring next year, so he recommended doing that early next year.

JoAnne Myers added that an MPA student may be able to do the study as a project.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken Gilligan explained the new Ulster County law changing the waste classifications and definitions.

The Board discussed illegal C&D dumping.

Katherine Beinkafner told the Board about her experience inspecting suspicious material for the DEC, to see if it contained certain hazardous materials.

Charlie Whittaker stated that he is unsure if this law is actually legal. Ken Gilligan agreed with him.

Ken Gilligan said that this law should not affect the Agency.

Charlie Whittaker responded that the Agency does receive some waste from other counties, so it may in fact affect us.

Angelina Peone expressed her worry that this may include food waste from out of the county, because the wording of the law is unclear.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board did not vote to enter Executive Session.

Fred Wadnola motioned to close the Executive Session of the October 28, 2019 Regular Board Meeting. Moved by Charles Landi and seconded by JoAnne Myers. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

CLOSING

There was no vote to adjourn the October 28, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.

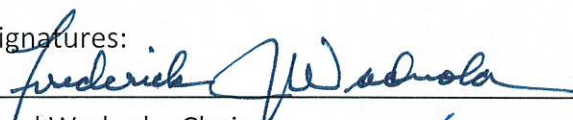
November 18, 2019

Motion to approve the above transcribed Minutes of the October 28, 2019 Regular Board Meeting was made by Fred Wadnola, moved by Charles Landi and seconded by JoAnne Myers. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent. Absent: N/A


The Minutes were approved by the Board.

Transcribed by: Brenna Whitaker, Administrative Assistant. Meetings are recorded and available upon request.

Signatures:



Fred Wadnola, Chair



Ken Gilligan, Secretary



Brenna Whitaker, Administrative Assistant