

**ULSTER COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY  
ZERO WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 10, 2021**

The Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency held a Zero Waste Committee Meeting on May 10, 2021. This meeting was at the Agency’s Main Office located at 999 Flatbush Road, Kingston, NY 12401. There was also a call-in audio option available through Webex.

The proceedings were convened at 2:00pm.

The following Board members were present: Committee Chair Lisa Mitten, Members Katherine Beinkafner and JoAnne Myers.

The following Staff members were present: Executive Director/Controller Tim DeGraff, Director of Operations and Compliance Charlie Whittaker, and Director of Sustainability Angelina Peone.

From the public: Micheal Foalia, Sawyer Savings Bank (via Webex).

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

JoAnne Myers motioned to approve the minutes of the **August 18, 2020 Zero Waste Committee Meeting** and seconded by Katherine Beinkafner. **VOTE: Ayes: 3; Nays: 0** The motion passed.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Regular Board Meeting will be held on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 12:00 PM.

This meeting will be held in person at the Agency’s Administrative Office.

**OLD BUSINESS**

JoAnne Myers updated the committee regarding the Ulster County Zero Waste Implementation Plan. She stated they meet every Thursday morning from 8:30am-10:30am. The group includes Manna Jo Greene, Tracey Bartels, Emily Hauser, Europa McGovern, and Margot Becker. JoAnne Myers stated that they are going through everything that would become trash and trying to figure out how to achieve zero waste.

The committee members and staff discussed:

- Enforcement
- Recycling Compliance Officer position
- The impact an Administrative Law Judge would have
- Pay-As-You-Throw
- What is being done with violators of the recycling, flow control and composting laws
- Annual MSW and Recycling reporting

- DEC’s role with regards to recycling complaints

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Angelina Peone, Director of Sustainability updated the committee regarding status of grants related to UCRRRA Zero Waste Initiatives.

- Food Scrap Reduction “FSR” Grant for the Home Composting Demonstration Project- This grant will be completed by September 2022. Goals for the grant are to reduce organic waste at the point of generation and at the point of disposal through education and community engagement. Bins, signs, teaching tools, and program media have all been ordered and received. The site has been established. The only thing left to do is to set-up the site.
- P2I Zero Waste Seminar Project Grant- The goals for this grant is to raise awareness of the effects of plastic pollution and source reduction (zero waste) practices County-wide. The Zero Waste Seminar Project will be a webinar series of 6 events in July, Celebrating Plastic Free July. There will be several guest speakers and organizations covering several of the focus areas around plastic pollution. There will be a UCAT bus campaign, Radio Woodstock PSAs, new website resources, newspaper ads and a new outreach flyer about plastic pollution and reduction strategies. This grant does not focus on recycling it focuses on source reduction.
- 2021 Municipal Waste Reduction Recycling Grant “MWRR” Coordination and Education- The Agency has been awarded the grant and are executing the contract. This grant provides 50% reimbursement for eligible program expenses and personnel costs. The staff has 12 overarching tasks/goals in the work plan and 7 of them directly relate to zero waste/waste reduction. Recycling Education budget was previously approved by the Board for \$50,000 and \$30,279 is related to recycling promotions, advertising, teaching tools, signs, and media including stickers, booklets, guides and banners.

## **UCRRRA Municipal Hauling Pilot Project**

Tim DeGraff, Executive Director explained the municipal hauling pilot project idea. This project would expand the access to the Agency’s composting program by eliminating the barriers that currently pose a challenge to participating in municipal composting efforts. The Agency would loan mobile enclosed cargo trailers with totes that municipal facilities or event organizers would have access to, if participating in the program. The Agency would also supply signs, training and tools. The Agency would not be responsible for hauling the food scraps. At this time, the Agency has some interested participants. The project idea is from the successes of Tompkins County Department of Recycling and Materials Management.

The committee members and staff discussed the idea, benefits, and plans for the project.

## **GHG Emissions Discussion**

The committee and staff discussed GHG emissions, annual inventory, offsets and office building modifications. The discussion included:

- What is included and calculated in the GHG Emissions Annual Inventory report. Angelina Peone added that the Department of Environment has drafted a GHG Emissions Annual Inventory Report and she has reviewed the draft. At this time, she was not sure if there was a published copy.

- Possible offsets
- Office building modifications including hand-dryers instead of paper towels, solar panels on the office building and paperless board meetings

**ADJOURN**

JoAnne Myers motioned to adjourn the May 10, 2021 Zero Waste Committee Meeting seconded by Katherine Beinkafner at 3:34pm. 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

Motion to approve the above transcribed Minutes of the May 10, 2021 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Special Meeting was made by \_\_\_\_\_, moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_ in favor, \_\_\_ opposed, \_\_\_ absent. Absent: \_\_

The minutes were approved by the Board.

Transcribed by: Melinda France, Recycling Educator. Meetings are recorded and available upon request.

Signatures:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Mitten, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melinda France, Recycling Educator