

**ULSTER COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
August 19, 2024 at 6:15**

The Finance Committee of the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency held a Committee Meeting on August 19, 2024.

The proceedings were convened at 6:20 PM. The meeting was held at the Agency's Main Office, 999 Flatbush Road, Kingston, NY.

**ROLL CALL**

Karen Sheard, Agency Counsel, took roll call:

**Board Members**

Chairman Regis Obijiski – Present

Member David Gilmour – Present

Member Donna Egan – Present (Remote – Non-Voting)

**Staff**

Executive Director Marc Rider – Present

Director of Finance and Administration Tim DeGraff – Present

Ken Gilligan, Agency Counsel – Absent

Karen Veronica Sheard (DeFio), Agency Counsel – Present

Board Members observing the meeting, but not participating included: Andrew Ghiorse and James Gordon.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Regis Obijiski lead the Committee and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Obijiski acknowledged that no members of the public were present and that there was no public comment.

**AGENDA**

David Gilmour made a motion to accept the Agenda, and it was seconded by Regis Obijiski. The motion was passed with 2 in favor, 0 opposed. (Donna Egan participating remotely and unable to vote).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regis Obijiski provided that because our July 22nd Finance Committee Meeting was complicated by much rapid-fire discussion, these Minutes are as close to verbatim as possible, mirroring the official verbal recording. Normally, Minutes, according to Section 48:2 of Roberts Rules of Order, 12th Edition, “should maintain a record of what was done at the meeting, not what was said by the members.”

Motion to accept the Minutes on July 22, 2024 Meeting as prepared Motion: David Gilmour  
Second: Regis Obijiski

Discussion: Corrections, Modifications

David Gilmour indicated a few typographical errors existing in the minutes and requested that they be corrected. The corrections were made.

Motion to accept with modifications: David Gilmour, Second: Regis Obijiski. Passed 2 in favor, 0 opposed. (Donna Egan participating remotely and unable to vote).

Motion to accept the Minutes of the August 12, 2024 Meeting as prepared

No action was taken with respect to the Minutes of the Finance Committee of August 12, 2024, and approval will be held until the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

### **COMMUNICATIONS and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no communications or announcements.

### **GENERAL REPORTS**

None.

### **OLD (UNFINISHED BUSINESS)**

Old Business (Unfinished Business)

At the August 12 meeting of the Finance Committee, UCRRA management presented a scenario that did not include all the information that would be required to support a preliminary budget. Three budget scenarios were presented at the meeting that included all the information known to the Agency as of the time of the meeting. The presentation of the three scenarios was led by Marc Rider, and Tim DeGraff as needed, highlighting the differences among the three scenarios. The Board requested management (Marc Rider and Tim DeGraff) to also recommend their prioritization order of the three scenarios with rationale. Then, the members of the Finance Committee will make comments and ask questions.

Marc Rider indicated that 4 haulers submitted bids and that after an analysis and discussion with Seneca Meadows, it was determined that Seneca Meadows afforded the best overall response to the site RFP submitted.

The discussed scenario with Seneca Meadows contained two allowances critical to the determination. First, with respect to Seneca's permit modification, if the permit modification is not approved, the Agency could go back out to RFP and would not be required to use the costly alternative of hauling the waste by rail to Alabama. The other allowance included a provision that 20,000 tons would be hauled to and disposed of at Greenridge (a site much closer in distance that would result in a reduction of hauling fees and reduce the Agency's carbon footprint).

Calculation of operational costs using this arrangement as the most ideal (given the Agency's options), three scenarios of approximate tipping fees for the 2025 Budget included:

1. \$139/ton (assuming no use of any former debt service payment amount);
2. \$134/ton (assuming reduction of the tipping fee by 1/2 former debt service payment amount)
3. \$129/ton (assuming reduction of the tipping fee amount by the entire debt service payment amount).

Management recommended that with the anticipated increases future capital projects being considered for upcoming years, it would be prudent to consider a future bond project and apply all the current debt service relief to reduce the tipping fees.

The proposed tipping fee, budget scenarios, budget categories, and capital management plan were discussed.

An inquiry was made as to whether the current scenarios included the cost proposed for Retiree Health Care (anticipated if Resolution 2622 were to be passed). It was explained that the \$.70 per ton increase was not included as the Board had not passed the resolution.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution 2622 (together with its attachments setting forth the anticipated financial impact) was discussed. Notably, it was mentioned that the Agency's current competitors (County and other municipalities) already provide the benefit to their retirees and that the plan is a smart plan, providing employees and retirees if eligible with the best health plan at the least cost to the Agency). It was also noted that the benefit would only include the retiree and his/her spouse.

David Gilmour made a motion to approve Resolution 2622. Regis Obijiski seconded the motion.

Discussion.

The wording of Resolution 2622 was discussed, and David Gilmour proposed certain modifications.

David Gilmour made a motion that the Committee adopt Resolution 2622, as modified, for consideration by the full Board. Regis Obijiski seconded the motion which passed 2 in favor, 0 opposed. (Donna Egan participating remotely and unable to vote).

## **BUDGET**

David Gilmour made a motion that the Committee recommend to the full Board for approval Budget Scenario 2 (increasing the tipping fee to \$135/ton). Regis Obijiski indicated that he favors management's recommendation of Scenario 3 (increasing the tipping fee to \$129/ton), but seconded the motion which passed 2 in favor, 0 opposed. (Donna Egan participating remotely and unable to vote).

**ADJOURN**

David Gilmour made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:19. Regis Obijiski seconded the motion which passed 2 in favor, 0 opposed. (Donna Egan participating remotely and unable to vote).

October 10, 2024

Motion to approve the above summarized and transcribed Minutes of the August 19, 2024. Finance Committee Meeting was made by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_. in favor, 0 opposed, absent.

The Minutes were approved by the Board.

Transcribed by: Karen Veronica Sheard (DeFio), Agency Counsel.

Signatures:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Regis Obijiski, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
K.V. Sheard (DeFio), Secretary