

**ULSTER COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY REGULAR BOARD
MEETING MINUTES****July 23, 2026****Meeting began at 6:00 PM and ended 6:49 PM**

This meeting was held at the Agency's Main Office, 999 Flatbush Road, Kingston, NY and was live streamed on Youtube.com @UCRRA5008.

ROLL CALL**Board Members**

James Gordon	<u>Remote</u>
Donna Egan	<u>X</u>
Erica Brown	<u>Absent</u>
Mike Baden	<u>X</u>
Chris Hurlbert	<u>X</u>

Agency Staff

Marc Rider	<u>X</u>
Timothy DeGraff	<u>X</u>
Angelina Brandt	<u>X</u>
Tim Weidemann	<u>X</u>
Nancy Lam	<u>X</u>
Kevin Treutler	<u>X</u>

Donna Egan, as vice chair, lead the meeting since James Gordon joined the meeting remotely/virtually.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Manna Jo Greene stated she was at the Ulster County Fair and was informed that they will be hosting a 1-day pilot composting food waste program in collaboration with the Agency, and if the program is successful, intend to build on it next year. She stated she was impressed with the Fair taking ownership of the program. She was informed that they will do some outreach to the scouts to try to get younger volunteers to help.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mike Baden moved to approve the Agenda, and Chris Hurlbert seconded the motion.

Marc Rider, Executive Director requested the Board to remove Resolution #2679 on the Agenda to the next regular board meeting, as he just received new information regarding the matter and only was able to just now provide the information to the Board, and wanted to afford the Board an opportunity to review the new information, before discussing the Resolution regarding purchasing a new equipment for the Agency.

Mike Baden moved to approve the Agenda as amended, and Chris Hurlbert seconded the motion.
3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent (BROWN). (1 Remote - GORDON)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes of June 25, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

Mike Baden made a motion to adopt the minutes as written and it was seconded by Chris Hurlbert.
3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent (BROWN). (1 Remote - GORDON)

COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Scheduled Meetings:

- Regular Board Meeting (RBM) is scheduled for Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 6:00 PM (which will likely include the Budget workshop as an Agenda item on the Agenda)

GENERAL REPORTS**➤ Committees and official meeting reports by Board Members**

- *Chris Hurlbert, Chair to the Zero Waste Committee (ZWC)* stated that the ZWC recently met and achieved alignment on supporting UCRRA through recommended waste diversion initiatives. With 9 current members, including community representatives and a county legislator, the group aims for monthly meetings on a consistent day every month. The public is encouraged to attend the ZWC meetings.
- *Mike Baden, Chair to the Finance Committee (FC)* stated the FC met earlier today before the RBM and reviewed UCRRA's investment policy- UCRRA is currently legally compliant as confirmed by an independent auditor. No changes to the investment policy were suggested and it was recommended by Tim DeGraff for the Board to conduct an annual review during the Board's next organizational meeting. Also discussed were methods of investments and what options the Agency has with regard to banks.

➤ Recycling Program Update-Angelina Brandt, Director of Sustainability

Angelina Brandt reported the following for the month of June.

The Recycling Outreach Team conducted 12 workshops, 2 facility tours and participated in 15 outreach programs with partners including the UC Office for the Aging, Olive Public Library, Edison Elementary School, Rosendale Festival, etc. These efforts reached 84 adults and 190 children over 38 hours of direct Education.

The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) event was highly successful, with 285 participants. Registration is open for the next event on Aug 22, 2026 in New Paltz.

Master Composter Recycler Program (MCR) – the 4th cohort of the MCR Program concluded in June. The program modeled after Cornell Cooperative's Master Gardener program provides 25 hours of free training in waste management, composting science, soil, health, reuse and environmental education. In return, participants commit to 25 annual volunteer service hours. The program includes guest speakers, field trips, interactive sessions and resource materials.

This year, 4 residents completed training along with UCRRA Staff, Kevin Treutler. The volunteer base now totals approximately 21 active members (contributing 106 service hours in 2026 so far; based on the \$38.38/hr estimate value of volunteer time in NYS this equals \$4,068 in avoided staffing costs). One former volunteer is employed as UCRRA's Recycling Educator.

A board member congratulated Angelina and her team for the HHW event; he provided feedback regarding using Eventbrite.

➤ MSW Tonnage Report, Recycling Report, MRF Cost Center Analysis and the Treasurer's Report-Tim DeGraff, Director of Finance & Administration

Tim DeGraff provided the following updates:

MSW Tonnage Report & Recycling

For June:

- MSW Target: 9,581 tons; actual 73 tons below target
- C&D Target: 3,026 tons; actual 137 tons below target
- Sludge materials: 15 tons over target
- Y-T-D MSW and CD: Under target by 2,344 tons (3.6%),-- maintain trajectory toward the projected 130,000 ton annual volume (vs 135,000 ton budget).

Recycling Tonnage Report: Commodities:

- Co-mingle: +1.7 tons (nearly unchanged)
- Glass: -33 tons
- Soft mix: -31.55 tons
- Hard mix (City of Kingston): +1.07 tons
- Cardboard: +48.24 tons
- Food waste: -1,422 tons (-51.57%) indicating a projected annual intake of only ~2,300 tons

A new line item was added to the report: tipping fees from contaminated loads. In May, this generated \$916 based on historical averages and recent data. This reflects ongoing efforts to reclaim value from rejected materials.

Treasurer's Report (May)

Tim DeGraff stated there is no line items of note.

- Total Revenue: \$2,059,522
- Total expenses: \$1,790,254
- Net operating revenue: \$269,268
- Capital Outlay (MRF glass belt replacement): \$35,644
- Monthly surplus: \$232,624
- Y-T-D surplus: \$506,509

Marc Rider also added:

- All of the \$520,000 RIC budget remains unspent. At this point in the year we should have spent \$260,000.
- only \$35,000 of \$895,000 in capital outlay has been used
- unspent funds create a false surplus; actual financial position should be closer to a \$700,000 surplus, but offset by lower-than expected tonnage and higher operational costs in some categories

Tim DeGraff explained variances in expense categories:

- CLF Monitoring/maintenance is lower due to major repairs (panels and pumps) completed early in 2025
- Composting line costs dropped due to \$37,000 screener drum replacement in early 2025
- Administrative expenses include unbudgeted costs for outside counsel in first couple months

Mike Baden made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for the record and Chris Hurlbert seconded it. 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent (BROWN). (1 Remote - GORDON)

Executive Director, Marc Rider Updates

- Stakeholder Meetings

- Attended first Beyond Plastic Working Group meeting (along with Chris Hurlbert)- received 10 recommendations for action and planning; overall good meeting and great group
- Attended the Energy & Environment meeting – provided updates of UCRRA’s events such as HHW in Aug
- Attended the Town Supervisor Association meeting- presented climate smart communities grant plan- received 5 letters of support aiming to double that before submission on August 6, 2026
- Bulk compost sales resume July 27, 2026 with limits of 10 tons per day per customer
- Mattress recycling resumes week of Aug 11, 2026 following contamination training by contractor for UCRRA Staff on Aug 7- the pause was due to trailer logistics and staff availability
- **Global NRG Projects**
 - Partnership with National Laboratory of the Rockies – kick off meeting expected late summer/early fall – cost proposal requested in writing to consolidate the 4 options
- **Repower Project**
 - No hub established; Kevin Treutler, Reuse coordinator is working with towns on standalone e-waste sheds. Plan to be presented in August.
 - Marc Rider also highlighted a critical funding gap- the County Legislature originally committed \$1 million to support the RIC, but later shifted to match a climate smart communities grant. However, the county chose not to apply jointly effectively voiding the match. There has been no indication the county intends to honor the original commitment. As such, the 2027 budget will include a new revenue dependency line: expenses for the center will require verified revenue streams. Alternative funding mechanism will be explored and presented in Aug.
- Biennial Report- Angelina Brandt and the other directors have been working on the report and should provide Board with something to review by next meeting; the report is not something the Board has to approve.

RESOLUTIONS

None.

OLD (UNFINISHED) BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (if necessary)

The Board did not enter executive session as an executive session was not necessary for this meeting.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn July 23, 2026, Regular Board Meeting at 6:49 PM was made by Chris Hurlbert and it was seconded by Mike Baden. 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent (BROWN). (1 Remote - GORDON)

August 27, 2026

Motion to approve the above transcribed Minutes of July 23, 2026 Regular Board Meeting was made by _____, seconded by _____. ____ in favor, ____ opposed, ____ absent.

The Minutes were approved by the Board.

Transcribed by: Nancy Lam, Esq., Agency Counsel, Secretary.

Signatures:

James Gordon, Chair

DRAFT