ULSTER COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 25, 2026
Meeting began at 6:00 PM and ended 7:32 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		Agency Staff	
James Gordon	X	Marc Rider	X
Donna Egan	X	Timothy DeGraff	X
Erica Brown	X	Angelina Brandt	X
Mike Baden	X	Tim Weidemann	Remote
Chris Hurlbert	X	Nancy Lam	X
		Kevin Treutler	Excused

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Claudia Joseph asked a question about whether bulk compost is available for sale for local farmers at this time.

Marc Rider, Executive Director responded: bulk compost is currently unavailable due to significant drop in food waste in take (down to about 1,250 tons this year compared to 5,000 tons in previous years). A large customer shifted food waste to farm donations, reducing supply. Agency has updated its bulk compost sale policy by limiting bulk compost purchase to 5 tons per load, 2 loads per day (10 tons total). Agency cannot legally prevent commercial resale/or prioritize supplies for local farmers. He is hopeful that once the Kingston Curbside Compost Program kicks-off, it will help with the food waste supply issue.

Pia Davis stated her concerns about the bulk compost situation, including asking how big are the farmer's trucks that come to purchase the compost; and how did the Agency derive the 5 ton per load number; Angelina Brandt, Director of Sustainability, was able to provide additional context that it would be hard to determine how much a ton of compost in a truck would actually be by volume (average 2 cubic yard in a ton), as the moisture level of the compost will vary at the time of sale. Marc Rider responded that the decrease from 25 tons to 5 tons is hopefully a significant enough change to address the bulk compost issue.

Manna Jo Greene stated that composting education is very important and hopes that there can be an event such as a Composting Expo with the Chamber of Commerce for 2027 calendar. She further complimented the Agency and Chris Hurlbert, Zero Waste Committee Chair, for putting together a good team of people to work on the Zero Waste Implementation Plan.

PPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair, James Gordon requested to move up the item: "Recycling Compliance Officer Report" to the beginning f the "GENERAL REPORTS" section.

Donna Egan moved to approve the Agenda as amended, and Mike Baden seconded the motion.
5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes of May 28, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

Mike Baden made a motion to adopt the minutes as written and it was seconded by Erica Brown.
4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent (Donna Egan Abstained from voting as she was absent from the May meeting).

COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Scheduled Meetings:

- Regular Board Meeting (RBM) is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2026 at 6:00 PM
- Zero Waste Committee (ZWC) Meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2026 at 5:00 PM
- Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2026 at 5:00 PM
- Recycling Oversight Committee (ROT) is scheduled for July 15, 2026

PRESENTATION

Nancy Lam, Esq., Agency Counsel provided a status update regarding the proposed Amendments to County Code 304. She stated that she continued discussions with Angelina Brandt, Director of Sustainability, Robert Friedlander, Recycling Compliance Officer, and Marc Rider, Executive Director, regarding challenges they encounter in their work with regard to the County Code and how amendments could help eliminate said challenges.

4 categories of amendments are being proposed:
- Definitions – updated to meet DEC definition
- Clarification of Recycling Report vs Recycling Plan
- Increasing fine for recycling violation
- Clarification of enforcement/compliance language

Next steps: submit redline document to the Recycling Oversight Committee for review before legislative action.

Marc Rider clarified that since there is no mechanism in place for the agency to change the law, there will be no need for the board to vote on a resolution regarding this; since it is up to the UC Legislature to change the local law the agency intends to present the proposed amendments to Energy and Environment Committee to vote on.

GENERAL REPORTS

- ***Recycling Compliance Officer Report***

Robert Friedlander, Recycling Compliance Officer was present to provide a quarterly in person update. He stated that this month, he had been working on investigating summer camps with regard to recycling mpliance. He also stated that he has been talking with two new haulers thinking about entering the county; there is also one permitted hauler who is thinking about dropping UC as an account. He has begun using carbon copy sheets to document contamination during on-site inspections at transfer stations, which has been working well. Lastly, he reported that in his experience, the haulers will let him know that it is cheaper to pay a fine rather than comply with source separation law.

A board member asked when was the last time the Agency actually issued a fine; Tim DeGraff answered sometime around 2010.

Marc Rider, Executive Director provided further information regarding new administrative hearing officer (AHO), who he, Robert and Agency Counsel, will be meeting next week; the AHO will likely be available one day per month for violations to hopefully improve enforcement and compliance.

➢ ***Committees and official meeting reports by Board Members***

- Chris Hurlbert, Chair to the Zero Waste Committee (ZWC) stated that he was asked to join a working group regarding Beyond Plastics with the focus on how to mitigate exposure of plastics in food service in Ulster County; there will be a meeting during early July; The work that the ZWC does will hopefully add to this working group. He stated that he will ask if a staff member of UCRRA can join the working group.

➢ ***Recycling Program Update*-Angelina Brandt, Director of Sustainability**

Angelina Brandt reported the following for the month of May.

In May, the agency conducted 12 outreach programs, reaching 412 adults and 120 children. The Master Composter Program has around 20 active participants, each committing 25 volunteer hours annually

She highlighted International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW), noting that the Agency successfully engaged hundreds of people through educational workshops, including inviting all UC public libraries to install a compost themed display. Next year the goal is to expand the educational workshops into garden centers as well.

A board member asked a question about how the rain barrel/compost bin sale program went. Angelina stated that the program was very successful this year. The compost bin and rain barrel sale served about 100 customers.

A board member asked about the Ulster County Fair this year. Angelina stated the Agency is preparing for the fair with a lot of fun activities, including featuring a UCRRA 40th-anniversary celebration theme- and what the future of UCRRA will be; (For example, a youth sticker contest). There was also a discussion about improving the recycling and handling of waste at the UC Fair as it is important to the Board that UCRRA leads by example.

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

im DeGraff provided the following updates:

MSW Tonnage Report & Recycling

For May:
- MSW tonnage was 8,800 tons (short by 397 tons)
- C&D was 2,631 tons (short by 273 tons)
- Year-to-date, MSW and C&D are 4% below target.
- Sludge: This category outperformed targets by 5.4 tons for the month. Year-to-date, sludge is over the target by 142 tons.
- Food waste is down 49% year-to-date, impacting compost production. Intake dropped to 187.81 tons. Year-to-date, the agency has collected just under 1,157 tons
- The MRF had a net loss of $28,510 in April.
  - Break even number is about $59 for the month
  - Nothing new to report about commodities; consistent
- Overall, year-to-date, the total waste volume is trending toward approximately 130,000 tons, which is slightly below the annual budget of 135,000 tons

Treasurer's Report (March)

Revenue Line items of note:
- Fuel surcharge spike in April $203,676
- Regarding Miscellaneous Revenues: Workers comp premium dividend from 2024/2025 policy year $38,748

Expense Line items of note:
- April HHW Cleanup day $43,089
- Fuel price increases $120,477+ $14,665
- Mattress Recycling Costs $11,720
- Equipment rental related to mattress storage building $1,105

Mike Baden made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for the record and Erica Brown seconded it.
5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

Executive Director, Marc Rider Updates

- **Stakeholder Meetings**
  - June 3rd- attended Energy and Environment Committee – provided updates on UCRRA programs and events
  - June 16th- attended Town Supervisor Association Meeting – discussion about local building inspectors/ building department with regard to them not requesting/requiring specific surveys for their construction permits; Agency requires asbestos surveys and construction demolition permit; safety for Agency staff is priority
  - June 16th- Tour with executive staff from Putnam County, along with Angelina Brandt
  - June 16th- also presented Ulster County Circular Economy Strategic Plan in the evening
- **Global NRG Projects**
  - Concerns about financial capabilities; he will meet next week to discuss future of project
- **Repower Project**
  - Toured facility in Lake Katrine- he's meeting with Big Reuse and other companies to discuss

RESOLUTIONS

- **<u>Resolution #2677 Re: Appointing Non-Board Members to the Zero Waste Committee</u>**

Chris Hurlbert made a motion to discuss Resolution #2677 and it was seconded by Erica Brown.

The Board had a discussion regarding the Resolution; Marc Rider indicated that he provided a revised version of the Resolution by inserting the names of the 2 non-board member appointees that are being proposed as well as their full titles.

Mike Baden recused himself from the discussion and the vote, as one of the proposed appointees is his direct supervisor.

A board member asked for clarification on how long the appointment would be for; the appointment would be for just the year, until December 31, 2026, at which point the Chair in 2027 would have to decide whether or not there would be a need for a ZWC, since ZWC is not a standing committee, as per the By Laws.

A vote was then taken to approve Resolution #2677; the Resolution was approved: 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent (1 Mike Baden abstained).

- **<u>Resolution #2678 Re: Authorization to Collaborate with Ulster County to Apply for Grand Funding and Approving Use of Agency Funds for Required Match</u>**

Donna Egan made a motion to discuss Resolution #2678 and it was seconded by Chris Hurlbert.

The Board had a discussion regarding the Resolution. Marc Rider explained that this will be the Agency's 3rd go around with the climate smart community grant. Last year the Agency worked with town transfer stations/MRDCs and subcontracted with school districts. Per his debriefing, they did not like that much of the work was being subcontracted (i.e. sub-awarding to school district). As such, decision for this year to pull the school districts from the plan. Last year, Agency had to apply with UC as partner, because Agency was not eligible to apply by itself. Still working with county executive on whether County will be partnering with Agency or if they will be submitting on their own. Marc explained the point system with regard to the grant and the Agency's strategy/options. Marc will be meeting with the County next week to discuss; if the County does not have a project they feel strongly about, it is likely they will partner with Agency again. He further explained that the resolution is just for authorization of the amount to apply for—that the details are still being worked out and will be reported to the Board.

A vote was then taken to approve Resolution #2678; Resolution #2678 was approved: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent.

<u>OLD (UNFINISHED) BUSINESS</u>

None.

<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

None.

<u>EXECUTIVE SESSION (if necessary)</u>

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

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn June 25, 2026, Regular Board Meeting at **7:32 PM** was made by Mike Baden and it was seconded by Erica Brown. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 Absent.

July 23, 2026

Motion to approve the above transcribed Minutes of June 25, 2026 Regular Board Meeting was made by Mike Baden, seconded by Chris Hurlbert.. 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent (BROWN). (1 Remote GORDON).

The Minutes were approved by the Board.

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

Signatures: James E. Gordon

James Gordon, Chair