

**AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES
1600 GENESEE ST., UTICA, NY
MAY 12, 2014**

Board Members Present: Chairman Neil Angell, Alicia Dicks, James D’Onofrio, James Franco, Barbara Freeman, Harry Hertline, Ken Long, Robert Roberts and James Williams

Absent: Vincent Bono

Authority Staff Present: Bill Rabbia, Jodi Tuttle, Joe Artessa, Patrick Donovan, David Lupinski, Andy Opperman, Bill Schrader and Jamie Tuttle

Others Present: Kevin Martin, Esq.

Chairman Angell called the May 12, 2014 Authority Board meeting to order at 4:30 PM, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Ms. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Williams and passed to approve the March 24, 2014 Authority minutes.

There was no one present for public comment period.

Comptroller Pat Donovan provided an overview of the Authority’s First Quarter Financial Report, which was reviewed earlier by the Finance Committee. Operating surplus for the quarter ended was \$290,625; a decrease of \$270,000 from 2013 first quarter surplus. Mr. Donovan said that reduction in State grants (\$312,000) and lower tipping fees were contributing factors. The 2014 first quarter revenues were \$4,421,175, compared to \$4,799,000 for 2013 first quarter. As a result of processing Oswego County’s recyclables, the Authority has generated over \$100,000 in revenue. The 2014 first quarter expenses were \$4,130,550, compared to \$4,239,000 for 2013 first quarter. Expenses decreased as the result of fuel costs (\$10,000), leachate disposal (\$22,000) and automotive supplies (\$10,000). Utility costs increased over 75%, in comparison to first quarter of 2013. Mr. Donovan reviewed the Authority’s March 31, 2014 balance sheet and income statement. Total assets increased by about \$1.7 million from first quarter 2013. The major growth area was in current assets which increased by over \$3.8 million as a result of 2013 activity. Total fixed assets were down as a result of depreciation of existing assets. Total long-term liabilities decreased as a result of Authority debt payments being made. Retained earnings increased as a result of the 2013 final audit report. The income statement, which includes all Authority and local government [City of Utica and Villages of Ilion, Frankfort, Mohawk, Herkimer and Dolgeville] revenues and expenses, was reviewed. Overall 2014 revenues declined by \$90,000; expenses declined by \$145,000; and changes in net assets was \$248,557.

Mr. Donovan said that Resolution No. 11 is a budget transfer required to move \$50,000 from the Recycling Center salaries account to the Recycling Center temporary labor account.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Neil C. Angell
Chairman

Harry A. Hertline
Treasurer

Alicia Dicks
James M. D’Onofrio

Barbara Freeman
Robert J. Roberts, III

William A. Rabbia
Executive Director

Kenneth A. Long
Vice Chairman

Vincent J. Bono

James A. Franco

James M. Williams

Jodi M. Tuttle
Authority Board Secretary

AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

MAY 12, 2014

Page 2

Resolution No. 11 was introduced by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Franco and passed to approve 2014 budget transfers in the amount of \$50,000 to cover the cost of temporary labor at the Recycling Center.

School Recycling Coordinator Jamie Tuttle provided an update on recycling education and public information. Ms. Tuttle noted that the Authority's website search box has been upgraded to include visual icons and that website visitor sessions are up about 10% from 2013 with 11,000 website sessions from over 8,000 different users. As part of the 2014 community outreach, updated versions of the "Mix It Up" television spot, which illustrates the ease of the Authority's RecycleOne program, ran for approximately one month; and local newspapers published articles highlighting Authority facilities and programs, including a re-print of the Authority's *RecycleOne* poster. As of the 2013/2014 school year, 22 out of 25 school districts in the two Counties are participating in the Authority's "Go Green" school recycling program; 18 school assemblies and 63 presentations and/or green team meetings were held; and over 20 tours of the Recycling Center were given. This past spring the Authority sponsored its fourth annual Zero Waste Lunch Challenge with the goal of demonstrating how students can reduce the amount of food waste they produce. A total of 12 schools (over 5,000 students) participated. First place winners were Louis V. Denti Elementary School (Rome) [471 students produced less than .5 pounds of lunchtime waste] and Holland Patent Middle School [313 students produced 2 pounds of lunchtime waste]. To date, 16 schools have participated in a food waste composting program and have been provided Mantis Compost Units.

Executive Director Bill Rabbia provided an update on landfill construction of cell #6 and landfill gas to electricity through a powerpoint presentation. He said that Kubricky Construction has mobilized; all liner material has been delivered and insured; and dewatering of the soil mine area has begun. Mr. Rabbia explained fill progression in Cell #5, which was newly opened. He described when a new cell opens, municipal soft waste must be segregated from mixed construction and demolition debris (C&D). Currently C&D is delivered to cell #1, #2 and #3 and soft waste (msw) to cell #5. Although regulations require a 5-foot soft lift, the Authority uses a 10-foot lift to protect the integrity of the liner system. Mr. Rabbia noted that last fall the Authority used internal forces to build the new cell access road to get to the top of cells #1, #2 and #3. The access road also allows contractors to come on-site without hindering Authority operations. Mr. Rabbia said that there is a full-time inspection engineer from Barton & Loguidice on-site during construction. The cost for building cell #6 and for engineering oversight was built into the Board-approved capital plan [landfill liner extension fund].

Mr. Rabbia said that when the Authority first installed its landfill gas collection system in November 2010, there were 12 vertical wells. By July 2014 there will be 48 vertical wells and 12 horizontal wells. As the waste mass progresses, more wells will need to be drilled. The landfill is currently flaring 250 scfm of additional landfill gas. When landfill gas reaches 400 scfm, WMRE will be put on notice that there is enough gas for an additional engine. Once on notice, WMRE will have one year to obtain the necessary permits to put in a new engine. Mr. Rabbia anticipates hitting 400 scfm in July 2014. The Authority's long-term financial plan projects another engine to be installed in 2016.

Mr. Rabbia reported that for the first four months of 2014, the Authority received over 2,000 tons of recyclables from Oswego County, which translates into \$140,000 in revenue (\$65 per ton). Mr. Rabbia said that from an O&M standpoint, the Authority has been able to accommodate the additional tonnage and Oswego County is pleased with the arrangement.

At 5:12 PM a motion was made by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Ms. Dicks and passed to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation.

AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

MAY 12, 2014

Page 3

At 5:58 PM a motion was made by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Ms. Freeman and passed to come out of executive session.

With no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Hertline and passed to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi M. Tuttle
Authority Secretary

