

**ULSTER COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
June 1, 2010**

The Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency held a Regular Board Meeting on June 1, 2010 at 999 Flatbush Avenue, Town of Ulster, NY.

The meeting was commenced at 4:30 pm.

The following Board members were present: Chairman Steve Noble, Vice Chairman Katherine Beinkafner, Treasurer Don DeBrosky and Members Dennis Helm and Leon Smith.

Also present were: Michael Bemis, Executive Director; Timothy DeGraff, CPA, Agency Controller; Counsel/ Secretary Stephen Wing, and Recycling Coordinator Michelle Leggett. Tim Rose, Director of Operations also attended.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Public Comment was received.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 27, 2010 annual meeting and the April 27, 2010 regular meeting were approved unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Board is July 6, 2010 at 4:30pm.

**GENERAL REPORTS**

The MSW Tonnage , Recycling Tonnage and Leachate Collection Reports were provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Mike Bemis said that the solid waste receipts were lower, and recycling is off by 10%. But sale of recyclables has increased. Leachate collection is 11% higher than last year.

Michelle Leggett gave the Recycling Update Report. She provided a report to the Towns re contamination and operations. She provided Hurley's report for the Board's review. Steve Noble asked if there was input from the Towns on the report. Michelle Leggett said that some Towns wanted access to comparative information. The next HHW event is in Ellenville; sign up is slow at this point. An educational video is being developed, and it will be made widely available. Michelle Leggett described the issues with Sharps collection and disposal. The Agency provides the containers and the private sector pays for disposal. The Agency had been receiving the containers for nothing, but the company said it could only donate to a 501(c)(3) corporation. We partnered with the UCSPCA and will receive the containers for free. Katherine Beinkafner asked how the containers were distributed to the public. Michelle Leggett replied that the containers are available at certain pharmacies throughout the County. An outdoor presentation area has been

built behind the Agency's offices. The site was developed in house, with services from the Town of Ulster.

## **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Tim DeGraff gave the Treasurer's Report for March and April, 2010. The Agency has over 10,000 tons of MSW more than last year. Net operating revenues are up over \$500,000. Recycling revenues are up. Three payrolls occurred during this period increasing expenses. Tim DeGraff reviewed other expenditures. The Agency's internal borrowing is nearly paid off. Steve Noble asked about the relation of tonnage received to our financial performance – Tim DeGraff said that lower tonnage results in lower expenses, but higher tonnage does mean higher fees.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

### **Resolution No. 2165 -Re: Authorizing and Approving Amendment to Agreement with County Waste-Ulster LLC;**

Resolution moved by Steve Noble and seconded by Don DeBrosky .

Mike Bemis discussed the resolution. He said that County Waste-Ulster LLC ("County") is implementing single stream recycling ("SSR"), and the Agency has negotiated this amendment to lessen the negative impact of SSR on the Agency's dual stream system. The proposed amendment is a transfer agreement – the Agency would be paid by County to transfer single stream recyclables at its MRF, and would be paid by County for single stream recyclables the Agency collects from third parties.

County's SSR system will be implemented in two weeks. Steve Wing said the Agency needs to implement the contract amendment to ameliorate the loss of revenue that will come from County's implementation of SSR. Other companies may shift to SSR. Don DeBrosky and Katherine Beinkafner asked how the SSR materials would be handled. The SSR material will be dumped in the MRF and loaded into County Waste trucks for \$20 per ton. The SSR materials would be handled without our involvement otherwise, and the Agency would not receive any revenues for the SSR items and would lose the volume at the MRF which cannot process SSR items. Mike Bemis said that the Agency will review the possibility of doing a study regarding the impact of SSR on the Agency. The Agency had talked to Hudson Baler in Newburgh – they are paying \$10 to the customers providing SSR in Orange County. Leon Smith said we are going to lose 15% of our revenues – how are we going to make that up? We should do a study that includes the possible closing of the MRF. Mike Bemis said that the Agency will study the issue perhaps through an outside expert during the next few months and will report to the Board. Mike described the status of County Waste's efforts to implement the SSR process. County Waste will pay us \$30.00 for third party SSR waste. A discussion ensued on various other points. Steve Noble suggested that we should study this issue as part of the revision of the solid waste management plan. General support for that was stated.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed.

**Resolution No. 2166 -Re: Authorizing and Approving Third Amendment to Agreement with Town of Saugerties;**

Resolution moved by Steve Noble and seconded by Don DeBrosky .

Mike Bemis discussed the amendment, which would provide protection of the Agency's equipment. This same agreement would be provided to all other municipalities getting compactors for their MRDCs. Steve Wing reviewed the terms of the amendment, which stress the Town's responsibility to protect the equipment and to train properly its personnel.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed.

**Resolution No. 2167 -Re: Authorizing and Approving Procurement of Pick Up Truck;**

Resolution moved by Steve Noble and seconded by Don DeBrosky .

Tim Rose discussed the pick-up which is to be purchased through state-bid. Add-ons were described. The Agency is replacing the old service truck, which was a much more expensive vehicle. This truck would also help in plowing, but its main use will be as a mechanic's service truck. 12 weeks are required for delivery for which there is a charge.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed.

**Resolution No. 2168-Re: Authorizing Sale of Surplus Equipment;**

Resolution moved by Steve Noble and seconded by Don DeBrosky .

Mike Bemis advised the Board that a 1994 GMC pick-up truck and a 1997 Volvo tractor, both in poor condition, no longer were of any use to the Agency, and he requested that the Board authorize the public sale of the vehicles.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed.

**Resolution No. 2169-Re: Authorizing the Filing of an Application for a State Assistance from the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) State Assistance Program;**

Resolution moved by Steve Noble and seconded by Don DeBrosky .

Michelle Leggett discussed the resolution which authorizes a grant application to NYSDEC for the HHW program. Reimbursement is 50%.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed.

**Board Notification – Long Haul Contract performance and Operations Update;**

Tim Rose said that the performance of the new contractors is very good and Santaro provided extra loads for Memorial Day. Some small issues are being worked out. Tim will speak to the drivers or owners of the companies about using the Thruway. Tim Rose described his work as the new Director of Operations. Don DeBrosky was concerned that the sorting line in the MRF had only one means of ingress/egress. Tim Rose is addressing that issue and other safety matters.

**Board Notification** – Status of Leachate Reduction Project;

Katherine Beinkafner reported that she, Agency staff and consultants met with DEC representatives recently to discuss the above topic. She provided a report on the conference which is on file at the Agency. Katherine Beinkafner said that DEC requires a sampling to be taken during the driest season. She thought that DEC would allow us to divert the upper level ground water and treat only the water that has come in contact with the waste in the fill. Katherine Beinkafner was thanked by all for her help on this matter.

**Board Notification** – Report on 2010 Federation Conference;

Michelle Leggett reported on the annual solid waste conference in Bolton Landing, NY attended also by Mike Bemis. Product stewardship was a major theme. It involves the raw product suppliers, manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, consumers and the government. NYS must pass legislation before this can be implemented. Electronic recycling is the subject of a current bill which the Agency supports. Steve Noble received notice today that the bill has been approved by the legislature. Michelle Leggett also reported on a round table discussion on composting - diverting the material and marketing the product. Some of the composting technologies were also reviewed. Michelle will attend a State composting seminar in Albany in the near future. Grant monies are available for composting systems. SSR was also discussed, and there is controversy over that approach to recycling.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Steve Wing said that Agency staff met recently with DEC representatives regarding the update of the solid waste management plan, which must be completed by December 2011. A proposed schedule for the work with staff assignments was provided to the Board Members. The Agency's plan is to do the work in-house, with assistance by experts as needed, rather than to employ a firm to prepare the entire update.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION** to enter Executive Session to: Discuss employment status of certain employees was made by Steve Noble and seconded by Don DeBrosky.

Ayes 5 Nays 0. Time: 7:00 PM.

**MOTION** to enter into Regular Session was made by Don DeBrosky and seconded by Dennis Helm. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Time: 7:55PM.

**ADJOURN**

**MOTION** to Adjourn the Regular meeting was:

**MOVED** by: Don DeBrosky and **SECONDED** by: Katherine Beinkafner

**VOTE:** Ayes 5 Nays 0

**ADJOURNED:** 7:58 PM

The above transcribed Minutes of the June 1, 2010 Regular Meeting were **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** by the Board

Date: July 6, 2010

Minutes of the Executive Session are maintained by the Secretary in a separate file.