

KANKAKEE RIVER METROPOLITAN AGENCY
MINUTES
November 21, 2024 – 9:00 A.M
1600 W Brookmont Blvd.

In attendance:

Board of Directors:

Mayor Christopher Curtis, City of Kankakee
Mayor Paul Schore, Village of Bourbonnais
Alderman Danita Swanson, City of Kankakee
Steven Hunter, Representative, City of Kankakee
Alderman David Crawford, City of Kankakee

Administration:

Dave Tyson, KRMA Executive Director
Karen Benson, Smith, Koelling, Dykstra & Ohm, P.C

Attorney:

Neal Smith, Robbins Schwartz

KRMA Staff:

Arthur Strother, Superintendent
Bryan Kennedy, Assistant Superintendent
Richard Tyson, Operation Manager

Other:

Dan Small, Engineer, Strand Associates
Tara Latz, Financial Director, Village of Bourbonnais
Zachary Newton, Superintendent of ESU, City of Kankakee
Ryan McGinnis, Lab Operations Manager, City of Kankakee

Chairman, Mayor Curtis called the meeting to order.

I. **Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken. All Board members were present, except for Mayor Brian Stump, Alderman Larry Osenga, Financial Director Robert Romo absent. Alternate Alderman David Crawford, City of Kankakee, sitting in for Alderman Larry Osenga for deciding vote.

II. **Public Comment**

None

III. **Approval of Board Minutes October 24, 2024 – Regular Board Meeting**

Motion to approve the October 24, 2024, Regular Board Meeting minutes was made by: Dir Hunter and seconded by Dir Swanson. All board members were present, and Alternate David Crawford voted in favor of, Dir Brian Stump, Dir Robert Romo, and Dir Larry Osenga absent. Motion Carried.

IV. **Reports**

A. **Operations & Maintenance Report**

Monthly Report

Chairman Curtis acknowledge Superintendent Strother article that was written in the Kankakee Daily Journal. Art presented the MOR. He references Attachment C: Renewal Permit from IEPA. He informed them that certain people who will get notification of any comments from the IEPA. He also stated the public has to be made aware of the renewal and they have the opportunity to give their opinions and thoughts of the renewal. He informed the board that our Permit last 5 years and it expires on February 28, 2025. Art thanked Dan Small, for assisting with the current Permit. Dir Hunter asked do you anticipate any adverse comments from the public and/or any other entity.

Art stated landfills and farmers may have a problem with sludge being put on farmland and also PFAS an issue for industries and landfills. Dan Smalls added, we should get a draft, therefore, we will bring it to the board. He also stated he do not expect major changes within in the permit, however, PFAS will be a new item, changes to the NARP Program, and making sure the CMOM language have not changed and, within the permit. Art also informed the board that the season for chlorination ended October 31, 2024, unfortunately, we had a violation of fecal for October 31, 2025. We do not have to chlorinate again until May 1, 2025. Dir Hunter asked is there a regiment and protocol for the procedure. Art replied, yes and he has also given an explanation to the State. And the State Rep. and they informed him that it is not about the number of lbs., it is about the frequency, how often it is being done. Dir Swanson asked questions about the increase in TSS. Art replied, we are still investigating the spikes in TSS. There was open discussion regarding low flows and how it effects our BOD concentration.

B. Executive Director Report

1. Water, Gas & Electric Use/Cost

Exec. Dir. Dave Tyson presented yearly utility usage. Exec Dir Tyson stated we still have not received a month-to-month Electric bill. All other utilities are in line.

2. Hauled In Waste Summary

Exec. Dir. Tyson said hauled in waste is down this month. Liberty has decreased their loads; however, we are still above what we budget. Also, in the prior year around this time Liberty decrease their loads. We have a site visit with Liberty the beginning of year and we will converse with them to see what their plans are.

3. Operations Report

Exec Dir Dave Tyson informed the board, he will be sending out all the municipalities the new CMOM Report that needs to be complete and returned to us by February 1, 2025, to stay compliance with our NPDES Permit. Art informed the board that KRMA has a schedule inspection for December 6, 2024.

C. Financial Report

1. Reports

Karen presented the financial statements. Net position: cash is still strong. Statement of Revenue/Expenses: hauled in waste is above the month and fiscal budget. Change of net position is above our monthly budget.

2. Flows Graphs

Kankakee average percent flows is 65.649% which is above the estimate budget flows. Therefore, for Bradley and Bourbonnais, will have a surplus.

D. Communications

None

V. Old Business

A. Update on Engineering for Phase 1, Phase 2, Phase 3

Dan Small stated everything is on track. We have had a several meetings with KRMA. We are wrapping up Phase 1 and getting ready for shovel ready purposes for grant discussion. Also 2 months into the Phase 2 project. For the January and/or February meeting we will have a cost update/change. Bradley property.

1. Projections of Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3 impacts on the rates for the members municipalities

None

VI. New Business

A. Local 399 Health & Welfare Rate Increase for 2024-2025 contract year effective for December 1, 2024

Exec Dir Tyson informed the board that Local 399 Health and Welfare is increase their Health and Welfare to 5.3% rate increase effective for December 1, 2024, for the Union Employees. Motion to accept the new rate of \$1369 a month versus the current rate of \$1300 a month effective for December 1, 2024, was made by Dir Swanson and seconded by Vice Chairman Schore. All board members were present, and Alternate David Crawford voted in favor of, Dir Brian Stump, Dir Robert Romo, and Dir Larry Osenga absent. Motion Carried.

B. Resolution Ratifying and Approving Purchase of New Wilo Pump

Exec Dir Tyson informed the board this is a dewatering pump we need. It is covered in our line item in maintenance. It is an emergency situation. Motion to Authorize the Resolution Ratifying and Approving the Purchase of a New Wilo Pump was made by Vice Chairman Schore and seconded by Dir Swanson. All board

members were present, and Alternate David Crawford voted in favor of, Dir Brian Stump, Dir Robert Romo, and Dir Larry Osenga absent. Motion Carried.

Vice Chairman Schore acknowledge Exec Dir Tyson and Superintendent Strother for coming and presenting at the Village of Bourbonnais Utility Committee Meeting the explanation and reasoning for the potential expansion for KRMA.

C. Review and Approval of Gas Pricing

Exec Dir Tyson recommended that we enter into a four-year contract with our current Gas Company, Engie Company at 4.49 cents per therm. which is cheaper than what we are currently paying. Motion to accept contract after legal review was made by Dir Hunter and seconded by Vice Chairman Schore. All board members were present, and Alternate David Crawford voted in favor of, Dir Brian Stump, Dir Robert Romo, and Dir Larry Osenga absent. Motion Carried.

D. Recommendation of Geotechnical work for Design of Plant

Exec Dir Tyson informed the board that there are certain boring and ground testing that has to be for Phase 1, 2, and 3 in order for them to complete their work. Strand Associates complete the BID Specifications and retrieve four Bids.' Dan sent them to us for review. Exec Dir Tyson recommend SEECO who had the lowest bid for the Geotechnical work. Motion to accept the low Bid from SEECO and not to exceed \$46,515.00 was made by Dir Swanson and seconded by Dir Crawford. All board members were present, and Alternate David Crawford voted in favor of, Dir Brian Stump, Dir Robert Romo, and Dir Larry Osenga absent. Motion Carried.

VII. Executive Session

Personnel & Probable or Imminent Litigation

None

VIII. Next Meeting

Next Regular Board Meeting- Thursday, December 19, 2024 (9:00 A.M. at KRMA Board Room)

Motion to Adjourn was made by: Vice Chairman Schore and seconded by Dir Crawford. Motion Carried.