

**KANKAKEE RIVER METROPOLITAN AGENCY**  
**MINUTES**  
**August 22, 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  
Mayor Brian Stump, Village of Aroma Park  
Financial Director Robert Romo, Village of Bradley  
Alderman Larry Osenga, City of Kankakee  
Alderman Danita Swanson, City of Kankakee  
Steven Hunter, Representative, 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 via GoToMeeting.com  
Bryan Kennedy, Assistant Superintendent

**Other:**

Terry Memenga, Director of Public Works, Village of Bourbonnais  
Dan Small, Engineer, Strand Associates  
Tara Latz, Financial Director, Village of Bourbonnais  
Ryan McGinnis, Lab Operation Manager, City of Kankakee  
Jessica Kinnersley, Director for State Representative Jackie Hass  
Alexis Brown, Deputy Director for State Representative Jackie Hass

Chairman, Mayor Curtis called the meeting to order.

I. **Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken. All Board members were present, except for Secretary Brian Stump and Director Larry Osenga.

II. **Public Comment**

None

III. **Approval of Board Minutes August 22, 2024 – Regular Board Meeting**

Motion to approve the August 22, 2024, Regular Board Meeting minutes was made by: Dir Romo and seconded by Vice Chairman Schore. All board members that were present voted in favor of except for Secretary Stump and Director Osenga being absent. Motion Carried.

#### IV. **Presentation**

##### A. **Strand Associate Presentation for Legislative Officials**

Chairman Curtis informed the board that this presentation is the Legislative Officials to understand the capital needs for the KRMA facility along with the assistant to seek some funding. Chairman Curtis ask the Representative from Jackie Hass office to introduce themselves. Introduction was given. Chairman Curtis also informed the board that Senator Patrick Joyce and Senator Elgie Sims was invited, however, had a conflict in scheduling and was not able to attend. He also informed the board that we also had a presentation with Senator Tammy Duckworth from a federal level, advice was given to us. Dan Small with Strand Associate presented his presentation on the Capital Project Maintains a Valuable Regional Asset for KRMA. Dir Hunter asked is there a possibility of a solar component with the KRMA expansion. Dan replied yes, however, there will need to be some discussion put in place for it. Dir Hunter asked about the completion of repairs on the hydro plant. Chairman Curtis stated it should be up by Spring 2025. Exec Dir Tyson added KRMA is operating at almost 80% of our capacity due to changes that are required by our IEPA. To be able to meet the growing needs of your community, when your plant gets to 80% it is time for expansion. KRMA is looking for help to try to subsidize the expense which will keep the cost down on the community. Chairman Curtis reiterated that even without the expansion, Phase 1 of the capital need improvement is something we have to do to keep the plant operating at a good capacity. Vice Chairman Schore expressed his passion for the capital need improvement and expressed the important of the plant operating in good standard for health purposes, sanitation, and protection Kankakee River. Jessica stated they will consult with their contact with local agencies and report back to Jackie Haas.

#### V. **Reports**

##### A. **Operations & Maintenance Report**

###### **Monthly Report**

Art gave his definition of a team and referenced his staff as a team and acknowledged how well they all are doing. He also gave acknowledgement to the Summer Help workers.

**Director Jessica Kinnersley and Deputy Director Alexia Brown Representative for Jackie Haas left the meeting.**

Dir Romo asked for an update on Rohm Hass. Art replied they are still working out their issues. We have a handle on how to treat their waste. Exec Dir Tyson added he thinks some of the high levels of TSS are coming from the construction from the surrounding areas. As the construction has stopped, the TSS has gone down.

##### B. **Executive Director Report**

###### 1. **Water, Gas & Electric Use/Cost**

Exec. Dir. Dave Tyson presented yearly utility usage. He stated everything seems normal, however, the gas bill is a litter higher due to running the generator.

###### 2. **Hauled In Waste Summary**

Exec. Dir. Tyson said hauled in waste is down a little, however still over what we budgeted.

###### 3. **Operations Report**

Exec Dir Dave Tyson also plant operating well. There is some maintenance issue we are working on, also some of our equipment is getting worn out, we are working on replacing it. He also acknowledges Art for 40 years of service.

##### C. **Financial Report**

###### 1. **Reports**

Karen presented the financial statements. Karen stated the Statement of Net Position showing an increase from the prior year. Karen stated that she met with Midland Bank to make sure we are getting the highest interest rate we can receive. Vice Chairman Schore recognize that the long-term liabilities have decrease by approximately \$5 million dollars. Karen stated we are getting to the end of some of the loans, bonds, and some of the IEPA loans are tapering off. Statement of Revenue/Expenses shows hauled in waste for July is above budgeted item.

###### 2. **Flows Graphs**

None.

##### D. **Communications**

Exec Dir Tyson presented a letter from the Illinois Association of Wastewater Agencies for the Second Quarter of 2024 regarding PFAS. Exec Dir Tyson summarized the letter. We are currently not being affected by it, however, wanted to make the board aware.

VI. **Old Business**

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

Dan Small stated Strand Associate is ready to discuss Phase 2 and Phase 3 design. He just wanted to make sure KRMA is still on track to continue to proceed and/or consider. Exec Dir Tyson stated we are planning to have another meeting with staff. Dan Small gave an update about the engineering and design cost thus far.

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

None

VII. **New Business**

A. **Approval of Job Description**

Motion to accept the approval of the KRMA Organizational Chart with attached job descriptions that was handed out was made by Dir Swanson and seconded by Dir Romo. Chairman Curtis asked is there any questions and/or comments regarding the KRMA Organizational Chart. All board members that were present voted in favor of except for Secretary Stump and Director Osenga being absent. Motion Carried.

B. **Gas Supply Update Extension**

Exec Dir Tyson informed the board that we currently have a contract with Five Star, who seek out the best price and we pay them a commission for our gas utility, which ends in August 2025. We are at a historic low rate for gas prices, and they believe they can lock them in another four years. The data show a 4% saving every year for the next four years. There was more discussion regarding the lock in rates.

VIII. **Executive Session**

**Personnel & Probable or Imminent Litigation**

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel issue under ILCS 120/2(c)(1) was made by Dir Swanson and seconded by Dir Hunter. Motion carried.

Roll call was taken and all board members were present, except for Secretary Stump and Director Osenga being absent. Motion Carried.

The Board went into Executive Session.

Motion to exit the Executive Session was made by Dir. Hunter and seconded by Dir Romo. Motion carried.

Roll call was taken and all board members were present, except for Secretary Stump and Director Osenga being absent. Motion Carried.

Return to Open Session.

Roll call was taken and all board members were present, except for Secretary Stump and Director Osenga being absent. Motion Carried.

With the Board back in open session there was one action taken.

IX. **Next Meeting**

Next Regular Board Meeting- **Thursday, September 26, 2024 (9:00 A.M. at KRMA Board Room)**

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