

KANKAKEE RIVER METROPOLITAN AGENCY
MINUTES
November 20, 2025 – 9:00 A.M
1600 W Brookmont Blvd.

In attendance:

Board of Directors:

Mayor Christopher Curtis, City of Kankakee
Mayor Jeff Keast, Village of Bourbonnais
Alderman Danita Swanson, City of Kankakee
Alderman Larry Osenga, 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:

Bryan Kennedy, Superintendent

Other:

Dan Small, Engineer, Strand Associates
Ryan McGinnis, Lab Operation Manager, City of Kankakee
Terry Memenga, Director of Public Works, Village of Bourbonnais
Zachary Newton, Superintendent of ESU, City of Kankakee
Tara Latz, Financial Director, Village of Bourbonnais
Kellen O'Malley, Auditor Director of SIKICH via gotomeeting.com

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, Director Robert Romo and Dir Steven Hunter were absent.

II. Public Comment

Michael Williams with Williams Brother Construction expressed his concern regarding KRMA's 2025 Equipment Replacement and Modification Bid Process. Zack, Superintendent of ESU, City of Kankakee, also gave thanks to the Village of Bourbonnais, KRMA, and Village of Bradley for their assistance in helping the Environmental Service Utility of the City of Kankakee with issues they had faced.

III. Approval of Board Minutes

A. October 22, 2025 – Regular Board Meeting

Motion to approve October 22, 2025, Regular Board Meeting minutes was made by: Dir Osenga and seconded by Vice Chairman Keast. All board members present voted, in favor of and Secretary Stump, Dir Romo and Dir Hunter were absent. Motion carried.

Chairman, Mayor Curtis stated with consent of the Board, we have SIKICH Auditors via gotomeeting.com to give a presentation and answer any questions concerning our Audit and would like to conduct Audit Presentation from New Business first. Motion to amend the agenda VI.B to III.B was made by Dir Swanson and seconded by Dir Osenga. All board members present voted, in favor of and Secretary Stump, Dir Romo and Dir Hunter were absent. Motion carried.

B. Presentation of Final Audit

Kellen O'Malley Director of SIKICH presented the Audit Report. He gave a brief synopsis of the Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report and the Auditor's Communication to the Board of Directors on the Independent Audit Report, Basic Financial Statements, the Schedule of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position. Stating that they had no disagreements with Management, any changes in account policies, there was no delays while conducting our audit, no proposed audit adjustments, and any new recommendation for important. Chairman Curtis asked, the overall summary is this was a good audit with no adversary or markings against the agency. Mr. Kellen replied correct, it's actually rare that we have no proposed adjustment or recommendation. Mr. Kellen stated great job.

IV. Reports

A. Operations & Maintenance Report

Monthly Report

Bryan Kennedy, Superintendent, presented the MOR. Bryan there's nothing out of the ordinary. He references the four drafts and gauges of BOD, NH3, and TSS, showing the influent and the effluent and stating we within the average for the month per our permit limitations. Bryan informed the board, how they have been handling the problem with disinfection and the fecal treatment. Stating they have been checking daily with the lab help by using test strips for chlorine. Chlorine is appearing within our plant before we introduce chlorine in our process of treatment. During investigation, we are showing a higher fecal with higher chlorine levels and that doesn't match up. Therefore, there could a chemical present that tests as chlorine that's referred to as a positive interference agent, which narrows down on where this chemical is coming from, however, it might not be the sole source. Also, with Ryan McGinnis, Lab Operation Manager, we are testing different chemical that can cause this positive interference and I asked about to accompany him on his scheduled inspection to see if there's something within the industries, which is making its way to the plant. Bryan also informed the board that we have our annual IEPA inspection on Monday, December 29, 2025, with Al Gonzalez. In doing so, the CMOM is being reviewed by Al Gonzalez and there have been question, communication, and concerns.

B. Executive Director Report

1. Water, Gas & Electric Use/Cost

Exec. Dir. Dave Tyson presented yearly utility usage. Exec Dir Tyson stated we haven't received an electric bill due to meeting being held earlier for Holiday. Everything else is right where it's supposed to be on schedule.

2. Hauled In Waste Summary

Exec. Dir. Tyson stated hauled in waste is still over budget amount. Therefore, hauled in waste is looking pretty good for us at this point. Dir Swanson asked why Laraway Recycling went down so drastically. Exec Dir Tyson replied probably because they went somewhere else. Chairman Curtis asked is that the reason our TSS has lowered as well? Exec Dir Tyson replied yes. Then he added, RJ is looking at another source of hauled in waste.

3. Operations Report

Exec Dir Dave Tyson informed that in our new NPDES Permit we are being asked to conduct a mussel survey. Dan has gotten proposals is the survey will cost approximately \$20, 881.00 to complete. Exec Dir Tyson informed the board regarding on EIC hiring process, stating we will make a selection by middle of next week. Exec Dir Tyson reiterated the concerns of the CMOM's. Exec Dir Tyson also asked if we could combine November and December meeting into one due to difficulties having a quorum for the holidays, although our intergovernmental agreement calls for us to meet once a month. Attorney Neal replied, it would be doable by the appropriate vote and determination. Chairman Curtis asked do the vote have to be simply majority two-thirds. Attorney Neal replied, yes, because we wouldn't be amending the IGA, we would be voting to pressing the meetings. Exec Dir Tyson also informed the board that we are continuing our monthly Financial Meetings. Bill.com is up and running.

C. Financial Report

1. Reports

Karen Benson presented that Financial Reports. Karen references the Statement on Net Position shows the cash balance is down from a year ago, however, still solid and those cash flow projections are a little bit better than what we were thinking. Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Change of Net Position shows, everything is line, a few bills due to early meeting does not reflect on this statement. If you look at the percent of the annual budget expenses are a little bit over, however, for the annual total dollar amount they are not. Also Change of Net Position, is over, due to timing issues, and payment for general liability insurance. We're a little under budget for this month. Dir Swanson asked did we withstand any lost for the fraud activity. Karen replied, no, Midland did great and know Bill.com issues all checks. Karen also informed the board the SKDO, migrated over to QuickBooks Online and Bryan and Dave have read only access to day-to-day financials and Tawonda and Bryan is setup on Bill.com to pay vendors. Karen explained the process of Bill.com, there's no change in process, three approval signatures will still be needed, before payment is sent out and also, invoicing will be going through QuickBooks Online as well.

Dir Steven Hunter joined the meeting

Chairman Curtis shared his experience, stating he like the system Bill.com. Chairman Curtis also asked Neal to inform the board about the funds from the Sims lawsuit. Neal informed the board that KRMA received \$38,000.

2. Flows Graphs

Karen Benson presented the Flow Report.

D. Communications

None.

V. Old Business

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

None.

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

None

B. Assistant Superintendent Update

Chairman Curtis informed the Board that is to be discussed in Executive Session.

C. Update Local Financing for Phase 1

Chairman Curtis stated we have five local banks that are willing to work with us. Since we are in a stronger position financially, we will seek a line of credit instead of a loan.

VI. New Business

A. BID Results, Recommendation, and Authorization to enter into Agreement with Recommended Bidder for Construction for Phase 1

Chairman Curtis gave a recap of last month's BID Result, Recommendation for Construction for Phase 1. Exec Dir Tyson informed the board that the BID Reading was Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 2pm. Stating that Williams Brother's Construction Company was the lower bidder. Motion to accept the low bid from Williams Brother's Construction Company in the amount of \$8,274,000 was made by Dir Hunter and seconded by Vice Chairman Keast. All board members present voted, in favor of and Secretary Stump and Dir Romo were absent. Motion carried. Dir Hunter asked about local subcontractors. There was discussion regarding the subcontractors.

VII. Executive Session

Personnel & Probable or Imminent Litigation

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel and Probable or Imminent Litigations issue under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) was made by Dir Swanson and seconded by Dir Osenga. Motion carried.

Roll call was taken and all Board members were present, except for Secretary Brian Stump and Director Robert Romo were absent.

The Board went into Executive Session.

Roll call was taken and all Board members were present, except for Secretary Brian Stump and Director Robert Romo were absent.

Motion to exit Executive Session was made by Dir Osenga and seconded by Vice Chairman Keast. Motion carried.

Roll call was taken and all Board members were present, except for Secretary Brian Stump and Director Robert Romo were absent.

Return to Open Session.

Roll call was taken and all Board members were present, except for Secretary Brian Stump and Director Robert Romo were absent.

With the Board back in open session there was no action taken.

VIII. Next Meeting

Next Regular Board Meeting- **Thursday, December 18, 2025 (9:00 A.M. at KRMA Board Room)**

Motion to Adjourn was made by: Dir Osenga and seconded by Dir Swanson. Motion Carried.