

KANKAKEE RIVER METROPOLITAN AGENCY
MINUTES
December 15, 2020 - 3:00 P.M

On June 26, 2020, Governor Pritzker issued the fifth Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation for all counties in the State of Illinois. Due to the COVID-19 health pandemic, Chair Chasity Wells-Armstrong has determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent. As permitted by Public Act 101-0640, this meeting will be held without the physical presence of a quorum at the meeting location.

Directors, staff, participants and the public may attend by phone or video conference using the following:

<https://www.gotomeeting.com>

or dial 1 (872) 240-3212 when prompted enter conference PIN Access Code: 318-571-101

In attendance:

Location: REMOTE MEETING HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO CONFERENCE

Board of Directors:

Mayor Chasity Wells-Armstrong, City of Kankakee
Mayor Paul Schore, Village of Bourbonnais
Mayor Brian Stump, Village of Aroma Park
Financial Director Robert Romo, Village of Bradley
Alderman Carl Brown, City of Kankakee
Marc Wakat, Representative, City of Kankakee
Elizabeth Kubal, 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
Dustin Scheppler, Asst. Superintendent, Operations
Melanie Gossett, Asst. Superintendent, Technical Services

Other:

Dan Small, Strand Associates

Chairperson Mayor Wells-Armstrong called the meeting to order.

I. **Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken. All Board members were present via gotomeeting.com.

II. **Public Comment**

None

III. **Approval of Board Minutes**

A. **November 17, 2020 – Regular Board Meeting** – Motion to approve the November 17, 2020 Regular Board Meeting minutes was made by: Dir. Wakat and seconded by Dir Stump. Dir Schore, Dir Wakat, Dir Stump, Dir Brown, Dir Kubal, and Chairperson Wells-Armstrong, voted in favor, Dir Romo voted Abstained. Motion Carries.

IV. **Reports**

A. **Operations & Maintenance Report**

1. **Monthly Report**

Art presented the KRMA'S MOR. He stated the flows were low due to the lack of rain for the whole month. Lack of rain effects the amount of hauled in waste KRMA receives.

B. Executive Director Report

1. Water, Gas & Electric Use/Cost

Exec. Dir. Dave Tyson presented the monthly utility sheet. All utilities look in order except for water due to Aqua's meter readings. Aqua is aware of the problem and has informed us that the meter needs to be replaced.

2. Hauled In Waste Summary

Exec. Dir. Tyson pointed out our Hauled-In Waste is down for this month due to lack of rain causing low flows.

3. Operations Report

Exec Dir Dave Tyson stated several items that are being performed. For instance, KRMA received a notice of violation from the IEPA for ammonia. This is being addressed and there will be a report for January's board meeting. Capacity study is still ongoing. There have been a couple situations of COVID-19, where employees had to go get tested. However, KRMA is following the CDC guidelines and there is no COVID cases at this time at KRMA. Also, there's a problem with the generator that was fixed last year. They are asking KRMA to pay for repair; we are contesting that action. CAT Inc. is working out solution. Art also reiterated that the notice of violation from IEPA was based on the new permit for ammonia levels and we are addressing the violation.

C. Financial Report

1. Reports

Karen Benson stated the Statement of Net Position shows a strong cash position in the current assets. Statement of Revenue & Expenses shows most of the lines are in line with the actual vs budget for the month. YTD is still looking good.

2. Hauled In Waste Report

Karen Benson stated KRMA is a little bit over in the Hauled In Waste income, which is good.

3. Flows Graphs

Karen Benson stated the flow graphs are fairly in line when you look at the trends from prior years. There are some variances here and there.

D. Communications

1. Local Union 4.7% Rate Increase

Dave presented a letter that was received from Local 399. There is an increase in the insurance effective December 1, 2020, which will change the rate from \$1109 up to \$1161, a 4.7% increase for the Health and Welfare benefit for Union Employees.

V. Old Business

A. E-Waste update

Exec Dir Dave Tyson stated he talked to Delbert. Delbert is still waiting on the State's Attorney to get the Intergovernmental Agreement out to all the municipalities attorneys and KRMA's attorney for review.

B. Blowers Update

Dan Small stated he has been trying to get an update from Atlas Copco to see if blowers were sent to Texas for performance testing. No correspondence as of today. Neal reiterated he has not received any update as well, however, Atlas Copco was put on notice that after March 19, 2021 KRMA will be looking for liquidated damages.

C. Capacity Analysis

Dan Small acknowledged KRMA is faced with two scenarios: continuing to treat Newton County versus going without it. This shows two different capital improvement needs. They have been identified, and Strand Associates are going through the developing cost process. Dan also stated he would like to setup a meeting with KRMA Staff the 1st week in January to talk through the draft for capacity analysis along with the rate study to be ready to present to the Board by January's board meeting.

VI. New Business

A. Rate Study Update

Dan Small stated Strand Associates is calling the rate study "cost of service" because they're looking at the total cost to KRMA. The cost will be divvied up between the municipalities. This study is in conjunction with the capacity evaluation; therefore, they will be presented together.

B. **Approval for Leachate Treatment Agreement w/ Republic Services**

Attorney Neal stated this is a short-term agreement for what KRMA is charging for the leachate w/ the idea that something longer term will be in place once the capacity analysis is complete. Art discussed the rate charges if the Board decides to continue to accept Republic Services leachate, which consist of three landfills, hauled in waste with a minimum of 90,000 gallons and maximum of 120,000 gallons. Art stated he feels the plant can handle a max of 120,000 gallons per day. Art also mentioned that Republic Services has requested a permit from the State to allow them to inject the leachate in the ground. At this time there has not been a decision due to the public requesting additional information. Art and Dir Schore also remind everyone that accepting Republic Services hauled in waste brings in revenue, which then helps keep the cost down for the residents. Dir Wakat asked how much it costs to run the plant. Art and Karen agreed on approximately 12 million. Dir Wakat stressed concerns regarding accepting the leachate. Dan Small stated that he will have answers to all concerns once he finishes the capacity analysis and cost of service study. Dir Romo asked, "do we need an agreement?" Attorney Neal stated a short-term agreement is needed so KRMA can have predictability of the minimum amount of loads that they will bring, however, the agreement can be shorter than a year. Art added, yes, Republic Services wants an agreement for their budget purposes as well. Dir Stump asked, "when does our current agreement expire?" Art replied May 22, 2021. Attorney Neal stated there's a provision in the agreement that a new or revised agreement must be submitted within 90 days of existing agreement or the previous agreement stands. Dir Wakat asked, how often has Republic Services exceeded the guidelines of metals in their loadings. Melanie stated, they have had loads that have exceeded the regulation guidelines; however, with the pretreatment regs, Republic Services is held to a certain number of excursions on those metals and if they violate more than they are allowed, they are placed in significant noncompliance, which will put them in violation. They have not reached that level of significance within the last 12 months to be in violation. Dir Romo stated he would only feel comfortable if the equipment usage matches the timespan of the contract with Republic Services.

C. **Approval of 2021 Agenda Board Meeting Dates**

Chairperson Wells-Armstrong stated board meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month except for January and February. Those two months will be held on the 4th Tuesday due to holidays and county board meetings. Motion to approve 2021 Agenda Board Meeting Dates was made by Dir Kubal and second by Dir Schore. All voted in favor. Motion Carries.

D. **Approval to renew required ERISA Fidelity Bond and Fiduciary Liability Insurance**

Karen Benson presented two insurance policies giving explanation of each. They are up for renewal. They are 3-year policies required under ERISA, since we administer a 401K Plan. All the provisions are the same, only the amount of the policy changed from \$110,000 to \$180,000. Due to the increase of coverage, the rate will increase as well between \$2300 to \$3500 for both policies. Motion to approve renewal for ERISA Fidelity Bond and Fiduciary Liability Insurance was made by Dir Wakat and second by Dir Schore. All voted in favor. Motion Carries.

VII. **Executive Session**

No Update

VIII. **Next Meeting**

Next Regular Board Meeting- **Tuesday, January 26, 2021 (3:00 P.M. via gotomeeting.com)**

Motion to Adjourn was made by: Dir. Brown and seconded by Dir. Wakat. All voted in favor. Motion Carried.