#### AGENDA

#### KANKAKEE RIVER METROPOLITAN AGENCY MEETING Tuesday, January 26, 2021 At 3PM

#### Location: REMOTE MEETING HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO CONFERENCE

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

The public will be offered an opportunity to speak during the public comment portion per the agenda below.

- I. <u>Roll Call</u>
- II. Public Comment
- III. Approval of Board Minutes
  - A. December 15, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

#### IV. <u>Reports</u>

- A. Operations & Maintenance Report
  - 1. Monthly Report
- B. Executive Director Report
  - 1. Water, Gas & Electric Use/Cost
  - 2. Hauled in Waste Summary
  - 3. Operations Report
- C. Financial Report
  - 1. Reports
  - 2. Hauled in Waste Report
  - 3. Flows Graphs
- D. Communications

#### V. Old Business

- A. Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with Kankakee County Concerning E-Waste.
- B. Blowers Update
- C. Capacity Analysis
- D. Leachate Treatment Agreement w/ Republic Services

#### VI. <u>New Business</u>

- A. Families First Coronavirus Response Act: Employee Paid Leave
- B. Vaccine for COVID-19
- C. Response Letter to IEPA Violation Letter
- D. 2021 Board Meeting Times
- E. Donation to the Annual African American Civic Leaders Scholarship
- F. Approval of Agreement with Megaplex I.T. Solutions, Inc. for certain IT maintenance work

#### I. <u>Executive Session</u>

A. Personnel & Probable or Imminent Litigation

#### VII. Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 (3:00 P.M. in KRMA Boardroom OR via www.gotomeeting.com)

#### 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.

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#### 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. <u>Public Comment</u>

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. <u>Reports</u>

#### 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. <u>Reports</u>

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. <u>New Business</u>

#### 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 shortterm 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month except for January and February. Those two months will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.



Providing Wastewater Treatment to the Kankakee River Valley

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYBODY



Monthly Operations Report December 2020

#### **KRMA's DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS:**

With the close of year 2020, the nation looks forward to 2021. The new year hold many challenges for the incoming Federal Governmental Administration as well as State Governments.

At the top of that list is the COVID-19 pandemic. At present water workers are in Phase 1c for the COVID vaccine distribution. There are water sector associations which are recommending that water workers be included in Phase 1b. The Kankakee River Metropolitan Agency will offer all employees the vaccine by request when the vaccine become available.

Strand Associates prepared a draft plan for the facility capacity loadings and a cost-of-service study for the next 20 years. Presentation and discussing to be held at the January's KRMA Board Meeting.

Annual Bio-solids reporting for the 2020 completed for IEPA and USEPA.

The month of December, the KRMA staff met all limits of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permits.

#### 1.0 WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY OPERATION

Attachment A Details the monthly operational information for the facility.

#### 2.0 INFLUENT FLOW

**Table 2.1** Summarizes total flow and average daily flow to the facility from each municipality.

Attachment B for details of daily flow rates.

		Plant Fl	OWS		
Municipality	Plant Influent	Kankakee	Bourbonnais	Bradley	Aroma Park
Total Flow (MGD)	315.85	189.91	88.227	36.528	1.186
Daily Average Flow (MGD)	10.19	6.13	2.846	1.178	0.038

#### Table 2.1

#### 3.0 EFFLUENT QUALITY

Table 3.1 Summarizes the effluent quality data.

Endern Quarty						
	IEPA Limits	Effluent Average				
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) – Monthly Average	20 mg/l	6 mg/l				
Total Suspended Solids (TSS) - Monthly Average	25 mg/l	10 mg/l				
РН	6-9 SU	7.48 SU				
Chlorine Residual	0.05 mg/l	N/A				
Fecal Coliform	400/100 ml	N/A				

### Table 3.1Effluent Quality

#### **ODOR ISSUES:**

- There were one odor complaints registered at the KRMA facility in December.
- There were no odor complaints registered at the East Gate site in December.

#### 4.0 PERSONNEL

The Agency would like to Congratulate these KRMA employees for December work anniversaries. Thank you all for being such a valuable and loyal member of our team. Your knowledge, hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated.

Dustin Scheppler, Assistant Superintendent, 12 years

Nick Scheppler, EIC Instrument Specialist, 8 years

The Agency would like to say "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" to all the employees' born in December.

Employees' continue to follow the COVID-19 Warning signs and Safety Tips. One of the best ways to help keep workers healthy is to stay home **except for** necessary outings, and when you do go out for the necessities, there are steps you can take to minimize the risk of spreading illness.

#### 5.0 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Number of Work Orders Closed for the Month:	1073
Hours of Scheduled Work Orders Performed:	764

#### 6.0 SLUDGE HANDLING

Start Date: End Date:	12/01/2020 12/31/2020	
Gallons of sludge	produced and sent to thickening:	2,438,453.00
Gallons of sludge	e put into storage after thickening:	783,600.00
Sludge removed	from the plant for land application:	3,048,000.00
Sludge remaining	in storage as of December 31st:	665,000.00

#### 7.0 WATER USAGE

DECEMBER 2020 (29 DAYS): 52,804 CU FT= 289,000 GALS. = \$1642.38 NUMBER OF DAYS IN THE BILLING CYCLE: 29 THE NUMBER'S FOR DECEM ER IS FROM KRMA METER READINGS

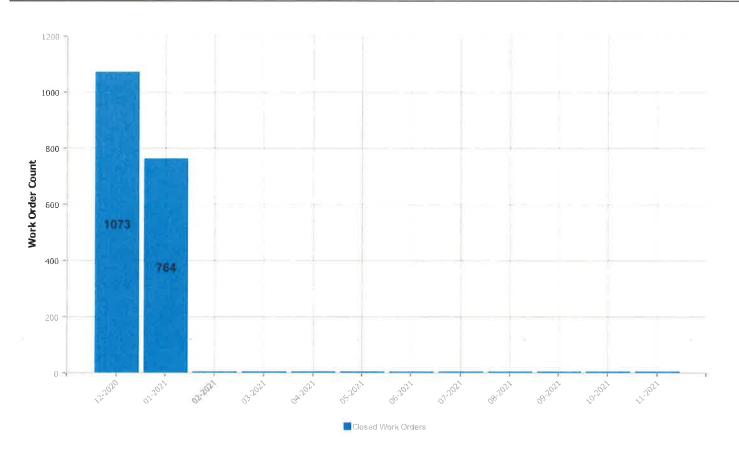
#### Service Requests 12/1/2020 To 12/31/2020

ID	Issue	Status	Caller
Logged By	Description	Closed By	
Logged Date	Response	Date	
SR-122820-1	Odor Complaint	Closed	John Henkelman
Dscheppler	Nasty Odor.	dscheppler	
12/28/2020	Reviewed Trending On Odor Control Unit. All Systems Functioning. No Obvious Source Of Odor.	12/28/2020	



#### Work Orders Closed By Month

From December, 2020 to November, 2021



Report Date: 01/21/2021

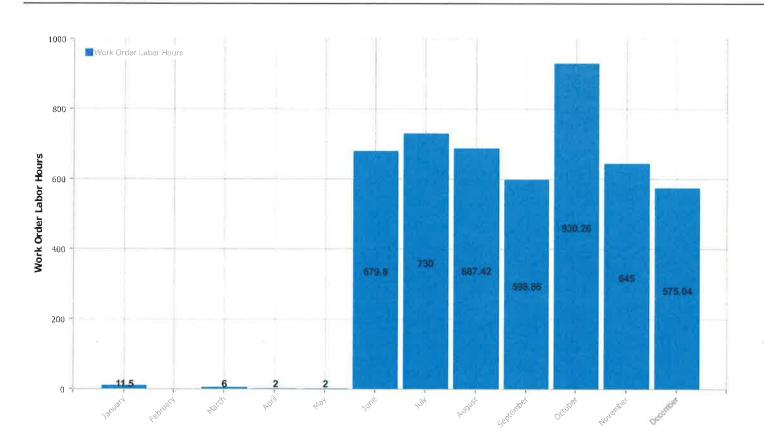
Page 1 of 1

Preserving Our Clean River Legacy

Kankakee River Metropolitan Agency

Report Template

2020



Report Date: 01/21/2021

Page 1

## ATTACHMENT



## **DMR Monthly Report** 12/1/2020 to 12/31/2020

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12/30/2020         11.762         7.58         15         1,471         6         58           12/31/2020         10.316         7.37         2         172         58										635
12/31/2020 10.316 7.37 2 172										589
	Ala income	0.000	7.40		0	470	005	0	e	308

Minimum	8.699	7.12	2	9	172	685	3	5	308
Maximum	20.894	7.84	36	10	2,839	868	13	7	1,021
Average	10.189	7.48	10	9	870	776	6	6	527
Sum	315.848	157.11	324	37	26,965	3,104	151	24	12,645

## DMR Monthly Report

Var #	352	187	191	401	101	450	115	451	455
	WeeklyAv eEffCBOD	001 EFF CL2	FECAL COLI 001	TOTAL INF FLOW	INFLUENT BOD	INF BOD LOAD	INFLUENT TSS	INF TSS	BOD REMOVAL
Date	LBS/Day	mg/L	#/100mi	MGD	mg/L	LBS/D	mg/L	LBS/D	%
12/1/2020				9.81	349	28,551	368	30,105	99
12/2/2020				9.55	358	28.520	266	21,191	99
12/3/2020				9.42	496	38,946	336	26,383	97
12/4/2020				9.41			246	19,302	
12/5/2020	499			9.12	271	20,612	296	22,514	
12/6/2020				8.96	218	16,283	230	17,179	
12/7/2020				9.12	200	15,207	64	4,866	
12/8/2020				9.19	348	26,667	378	28,965	
12/9/2020				8.98	327	24,487	334	25,012	98
12/10/2020				8.83	387	28,509	286	21,069	98
12/11/2020				8.94			126	9,396	
12/12/2020	569			20.89	102	17,774	42	7,319	
12/13/2020				13.24	120	13,249	82	9,053	
12/14/2020				11.73	246	24,064	174	17,021	
12/15/2020				10.90	259	23,542	268	24,361	98
12/16/2020				10.66	251	22,313	178	15,823	
12/17/2020				10.40	291	25,240	300	26,021	98
12/18/2020				10.04			220	18,414	
12/19/2020	440			9.79	259	21,141	288	23,508	98
12/20/2020				9.80	146	11,934	194	15,858	97
12/21/2020				9.76	312	25,399	212	17,258	98
12/22/2020				9.64	314	25,253	178	14,315	97
12/23/2020				9.82			206	16,871	
12/24/2020				9.71			84	6,800	
12/25/2020				8.70			100	7,255	
12/26/2020	460			9.17	266	20,350	176	13,464	98
12/27/2020				9.24	196	15,101	188	14,484	98
12/28/2020				9.46	423	33,363	260	20,507	98
12/29/2020				9.51	351	27,842	466	36,964	98
12/30/2020				11.76	307	30,115	728	71,413	
12/31/2020				10.32			158	13,594	

Minimum	440	8.70	102	11,934	42	4,866	96
Maximum	569	20.89	496	38,946	728	71,413	99
Average	492	10.19	283	23,519	240	19,880	98
Sum	1,968	315.85	6,797	564,461	7,432	616,284	2,344

### DMR Monthly Report 12/1/2020 to 12/31/2020

Var #	456	1040	1041	1042	1043	255	297	953	1023
	TSS REMOVAL	North Effluent DO -	South Effluent DO -	Daily Average Effluent	Effluent DO weekly average	FINAL EFF NH3N	Eff Nitrogen #	Eff_Total Phosphoru s- TP(TNT)	Effluent Total Nitrogen
Date	%	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	mg/L	#/day	mg/l	mg/i
12/1/2020	97	8.77	8.72	8.75		0.01	0.41	1.04	
12/2/2020	96	8.66	8.63	8.65		0.18	14.34	1.02	
12/3/2020	96	8.44	8.39	8.42		1.28	100.51	3.08	
12/4/2020	98	8.40	8.35	8.38					
12/5/2020	97	8.28	8.26	8.27	8.57				
12/6/2020	96	8.53	8.48	8.51		0.05	3.78	0.52	
12/7/2020	84	8.64	8.59	8.62		0.05	3.80	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	11.24
12/8/2020	97	8.31	8.26	8.29		3.89	298.08	3.30	
12/9/2020	96	8.32	8.28	8.30		0.86	64.25	1.21	
12/10/2020	96	8.69	8.66	8.68		0.48	35.21	1.79	
12/11/2020	92	8.51	8.48	8.50					
12/12/2020	86	8.43	9.03	8.73	8.52				
12/13/2020	93	8.67	9.48	9.08		0.05	5.52	0.29	58.40
12/14/2020	94	8.70	9.64	9.17		0.05	4.89	0.31	
12/15/2020	97	8.24	9.47	8.86		0.14	12.36		1
12/16/2020	96	8.03	9.28	8.66		0.05	4.44	0.50	
12/17/2020	97	7.86	9.21	8.54		0.14	12.32	0.66	
12/18/2020	94	7.71	9.12	8.42					
12/19/2020	97	7.76	9.13	8.45	8.74				
12/20/2020	95	7.82	9.02	8.42		0.06	4.59	0.67	
12/21/2020	94	8.33	9.39	8.86		0.05	4.07	1.29	3
12/22/2020	94	8.13	9.13	8.63		0.11	8.93	0.78	
12/23/2020	95	7.98	8.86	8.42			0.00	0.10	
12/24/2020	94	8.34	9.21	8.78					
12/25/2020	94	8.77	9.56	9.17					
12/26/2020	97	7.82	9.14	8.48	8.68				
12/27/2020	96	8.14	9.16	8.65	0.00	2.59	199.55	0.31	-
12/28/2020	86	8.49	9.49	8.99		0.06	4.97	2.04	
12/29/2020	96	8.75	9.66	9.21		0.05	3.97	0.31	
12/30/2020	98	8.21	9.20	8.71		1.04	102.02	2.89	77.40
12/31/2020	99	8.67	9.45	9.06		1.04	102.02	2.05	11.40
12/01/2020		0.07	3.40	3.00					
Minimum	84	7.71	8.26	8.27	8.52	0.01	0.41	0.29	11.24
Maximum	99	8.77	9.66	9.21	8.74	3.89	298.08	3.30	77.40
Average		8.34	8.99	8.67	8.63	0.56	44.40	1.21	49.01
Sum	2,936	258.40	278.73	268.57	34.50	11.18	888.01	22.98	147.04

# ATTACHMENT B

#### Flows KRMA Treatment Facility December, 2020

	PRECIPITA	PLANT	Kankakee	BOURB.	BradleyFlow	AromaPark
	INCHES	MGD	MGD	MGD	MGD	MGD
Date						
12/1/2020	0.00	9.81	5.97	2.823	0.981	0.040
12/2/2020	0.00	9.55	5.88	2.683	0.955	0.035
12/3/2020	0.00	9.42	5.90	2.548	0.934	0.035
12/4/2020	0.00	9.41	5.94	2.520	0.915	0.038
12/5/2020	0.00	9.12	5.57	2.545	0.968	0.038
12/6/2020	0.00	8.96	5.39	2.549	0.981	0.038
12/7/2020	0.00	9.12	5.82	2.383	0.883	0.034
12/8/2020	0.00	9.19	5.96	2.320	0.869	0.036
12/9/2020	0.00	8.98	5.81	2.288	0.842	0.034
12/10/2020	0.00	8.83	5.70	2.214	0.880	0.035
12/11/2020	0.00	8.94	5.55	2.320	1.029	0.043
12/12/2020	1.55	20.89	10.73	7.072	3.061	0.034
12/13/2020	0.00	13.24	6.92	4.309	1.966	0.043
12/14/2020	0.00	11.73	6.54	3.468	1.687	0.033
12/15/2020	0.05	10.90	6.09	3.245	1.526	0.033
12/16/2020	0.00	10.66	6.16	3.043	1.412	0.040
12/17/2020	0.00	10.40	6.35	2.906	1.108	0.036
12/18/2020	0.00	10.04	6.07	2.847	1.083	0.038
12/19/2020	0.00	9.79	5.82	2.823	1.108	0.038
12/20/2020	0.00	9.80	5.90	2.769	1.096	0.038
12/21/2020	0.00	9.76	5.78	2.877	1.060	0.039
12/22/2020	0.00	9.64	5.98	2.597	1.022	0.040
12/23/2020	0.00	9.82	6.09	2.640	1.045	0.042
12/24/2020	0.07	9.71	5.90	2.713	1.055	0.042
12/25/2020	0.00	8.70	5.24	2.463	0.956	0.042
12/26/2020	0.00	9.17	5.64	2.463	1.027	0.042
12/27/2020	0.00	9.24	5.70	2.459	1.034	0.042
12/28/2020	0.00	9.46	6.03	2.328	1.059	0.035
12/29/2020	0.40	9.51	6.20	2.205	1.065	0.039
12/30/2020	0.00	11.76	7.01	3.082	1.634	0.039
12/31/2020	0.00	10.32	6.26	2.725	1.287	0.045
Total	2.07	315.85	189.91	88.227	36.528	1.186
Average	0.07	10.19	6.13	2.846	1.178	0.038
Minimum	0.00	8.70	5.24	2.205	0.842	0.033
Maximum	1.55	20.89	10.73	7.072	3.061	0.045
# of data	31	31	31	31	31	31

# **ATTACHMENT** C



SAFETY MEETING January 12, 2021 9:30am & 1:30pm Agenda

#### I. Safety Minutes

**Review minutes from December 2020** 

#### II. Old Business

No lost time accidents for December 2020

#### III. New Business

A. Safety Training

Winter Walking

B. Safety Concerns

#### C. Safety Team Leader Report

D. Open Discussion

#### Next Meeting: Thursday, February 11, 2021 9:30am & 1:30pm



SAFETY MEETING December 10, 2020 9:30am & 1:30pm Minutes

#### In attendance:

9:30am session:			
Melanie Gossett, Facilit	ator		
Shaun Ownbey	Dan Combs	Kurt Mraz	Nick Scheppler
Brian Power	Bryan Kennedy	Mike Arseneau	Nick Tucker
1:30pm session:			
Melanie Gossett, Facilit	ator		
Jack Renchen	Shawn Malone	Ron Haney	Josh Peters
Andy Summers			
Absent:			
Dustin Scheppler, Jim	Churney, John Lund, Mil	ke Gowler, Max Gossett	

#### I. Safety Minutes

Reviewed minutes from November 10, 2020 – Approved.

#### II. Old Business

There were no lost time accidents reported for the month of November 2020.

#### III. New Business

#### A. 401-K Informational Session

- 1. A Power point presentation was given by Cory Buehler (via Zoom) of Buckingham/Strategic Wealth with respect to the KRMA 401-K program.
- 2. Open discussion/Q&A for participants. Contact information was provided in order to schedule an individual consultation.

#### B. Safety Concerns

- 1. The steps in Bldg. #55, west side by the top of the stairs, is deteriorating.
  - ✓ Needs to be addressed

2. A request for KRMA ID badges was made.

✓ Looking into software/equipment to supply.

#### C. Safety Team Report

- 1. No other safety concerns.
- 2. Safety Team Leader responsibilities transferred from John Lund to Shawn Malone.

#### D. Open Discussion

- 1. A question was asked about what effect the sale of Bourbonnais' collection system to Aqua will have on KRMA.
  - ✓ KRMA does not own or operate any collection system outside the facility, however, it does have to fulfill the CMOM special condition in its permit.
- 2. The new Cl2 analyzer is being installed.
  - ✓ This will make the Cl2 dosage procedure more efficient for KRMA.
- 3. A schedule for Employee Performance reviews was requested.
  - ✓ Annual evaluations are scheduled in the month of February 2021.
- 4. A suggestion was made to look into purchasing a new tripod/harness.
  - ✓ Ordered
- 5. A request for a Safety meeting operations report to be created to identify operational challenges for the month and how the team addressed/resolved them, including ways to modify team efforts to improve plant performance.
- 6. All operators were reminded to be mindful of the new CEU requirement for wastewater license renewal.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 12, 2020 9:30am & 1:30pm

# **ATTACHMENT D**

#### COMPANY: KRMA

FLOW METER MODEL: Siemens Hydro Ranger #1

PRIMARY DEVICE: Flume

<u>CITY:</u> KANKAKEE

**FLOW: 0-73 MGD** 

Influent January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021

MEASURING DEVICE: Ultrasonic

CHECK POINTS: LEVEL? YES FREE FLOWING? Yes TURBULENCE? Yes BLOCKAGE? NO SURFACE BUILD-UP? No HEAD MEASURING DEVICE MOUNTED PROPERLY? YES BLOCKAGE IN HEAD MEASURING DEVICE? NO IS FLOW METER PROGRAMMED CORRECTLY? YES

#### **CALIBRATION:**

NOTE: THE ZERO POINT FOR MEASURING MUST BE LEVEL WITH THE WEIR CREST OR FLUME ZERO POINT:

- A) IF POSSIBLE, CUT-OFF FLOW & SET LEVEL TO 0.000FT LEVEL BEFORE: LEVEL AFTER:
   B) IF FLOW CANNOT BE CUT OFF ADJUST LEVEL ON METER TO MEASI
  - B) IF FLOW CANNOT BE CUT-OFF, ADJUST LEVEL ON METER TO MEASURED POINT:
  - LEVEL BEFORE: Target Set 30.0 MGD As Found 30.03 MGD LEVEL AFTER: 30.03 MGD

LEVEL FLOW CONVERSION CHECK:

WITH FLOW THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, CHECK LEVEL TO FLOW CONVERSION WITH HANDBOOK OR PRIMARY DEVICE DATA SHEET: YES/OK

#### **TOTALIZER CHECK:**

WITH FLOW GOING THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, VERIFY THAT TOTAL FLOW IS INTEGRATING PROPERLY USING TIMED RATE METHOD: YES/OK

CALIBRATED BY: BRIAN SCHEPPLER DATE: 1/4/2021

#### COMPANY: KRMA

#### CITY: KANKAKEE/RIVERLANE

FLOW METER MODEL: Isco Signature

#### INFLUENT January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021

PRIMARY DEVICE: PHARSHAL

FLOW: 0-516 GPM 0-13.20 IN

MEASURING DEVICE: ULTRASONIC

CHECK POINTS:

LEVEL? YES FREE FLOWING? Yes TURBULENCE? NO BLOCKAGE? No SURFACE BUILD-UP? Yes HEAD MEASURING DEVICE MOUNTED PROPERLY? Yes BLOCKAGE IN HEAD MEASURING DEVICE? NO IS FLOW METER PROGRAMMED CORRECTLY? Yes

#### **CALIBRATION:**

NOTE: THE ZERO POINT FOR MEASURING MUST BE LEVEL WITH THE WEIR CREST OR FLUME ZERO POINT:

- A) IF POSSIBLE, CUT-OFF FLOW & SET LEVEL TO 0.000FT LEVEL BEFORE: LEVEL AFTER:
  - B) IF FLOW CANNOT BE CUT-OFF, ADJUST LEVEL ON METER TO MEASURED POINT
  - C) LEVEL BEFORE: TARGET SET 24.125 Level 23.869" LEVEL AFTER: 24.122"

LEVEL FLOW CONVERSION CHECK:

### WITH FLOW THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, CHECK LEVEL TO FLOW CONVERSION WITH HANDBOOK OR PRIMARY DEVICE DATA SHEET: Yes/OK

**TOTALIZER CHECK:** 

#### WITH FLOW GOING THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, VERIFY THAT TOTAL FLOW IS INTEGRATING PROPERLY USING TIMED RATE METHOD: Yes/OK

CALIBRATED BY: Brian Scheppler

**DATE:** 1/4/2021

#### COMPANY: KRMA

#### CITY: KANKAKEE

FLOW METER MODEL: Siemens Hydro Ranger #2

**INFLUENT January 4th**, 2021

PRIMARY DEVICE: Flume

FLOW: 0-73.425 MGD

MEASURING DEVICE: Ultrasonic

CHECK POINTS: LEVEL? YES FREE FLOWING? Yes TURBULENCE? NO BLOCKAGE? NO SURFACE BUILD-UP? No HEAD MEASURING DEVICE MOUNTED PROPERLY? YES BLOCKAGE IN HEAD MEASURING DEVICE? NO IS FLOW METER PROGRAMMED CORRECTLY? YES

#### **CALIBRATION:**

NOTE: THE ZERO POINT FOR MEASURING MUST BE LEVEL WITH THE WEIR CREST OR FLUME ZERO POINT:

- A) IF POSSIBLE, CUT-OFF FLOW & SET LEVEL TO 0.000FT LEVEL BEFORE: LEVEL AFTER:
  B) IF FLOW CANNOT BE CUT-OFF, ADJUST LEVEL ON METER TO MEASURED
  - POINT: LEVEL BEFORE: Target Set 30 MGD AS Found 30.50 MGD LEVEL AFTER: 30.09 MGD

**LEVEL FLOW CONVERSION CHECK:** 

WITH FLOW THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, CHECK LEVEL TO FLOW CONVERSION WITH HANDBOOK OR PRIMARY DEVICE DATA SHEET: YES/OK

#### **TOTALIZER CHECK:**

WITH FLOW GOING THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, VERIFY THAT TOTAL FLOW IS INTEGRATING PROPERLY USING TIMED RATE METHOD: YES/OK

CALIBRATED BY: BRIAN SCHEPPLER

DATE: 1/4/2021

#### COMPANY: KRMA

#### CITY: KANKAKEE/BROOKMONT

FLOW METER MODEL: ISCO Signature

INFLUENT January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021

PRIMARY DEVICE: PHARSHAL

FLOW: 0-516 GPM 0-13.20 IN

MEASURING DEVICE: ULTRASONIC

CHECK POINTS: LEVEL? YES FREE FLOWING? YES TURBULENCE? NO BLOCKAGE? No SURFACE BUILD-UP? NONE HEAD MEASURING DEVICE MOUNTED PROPERLY? BLOCKAGE IN HEAD MEASURING DEVICE? NO IS FLOW METER PROGRAMMED CORRECTLY? Yes

#### **CALIBRATION:**

NOTE: THE ZERO POINT FOR MEASURING MUST BE LEVEL WITH THE WEIR CREST OR FLUME ZERO POINT:

- A) IF POSSIBLE, CUT-OFF FLOW & SET LEVEL TO 0.000FT LEVEL BEFORE: LEVEL AFTER:
  - **B)** IF FLOW CANNOT BE CUT-OFF, ADJUST LEVEL ON METER TO MEASURED POINT:

LEVEL BEFORE: Target 24.125" Level 23.989 LEVEL AFTER: 24.119"

#### LEVEL FLOW CONVERSION CHECK:

WITH FLOW THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, CHECK LEVEL TO FLOW CONVERSION WITH HANDBOOK OR PRIMARY DEVICE DATA SHEET: Yes/OK

#### **TOTALIZER CHECK:**

WITH FLOW GOING THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, VERIFY THAT TOTAL FLOW IS INTEGRATING PROPERLY USING TIMED RATE METHOD: Yes/Ok

CALIBRATED BY: Brian Scheppler

DATE 1/4/2021

#### COMPANY: KRMA

#### **CITY: BRADLEY/ RIVER DRIVE**

FLOW METER MODEL: Isco Signature

**INFLUENT** January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021

PRIMARY DEVICE: PHARSHAL

FLOW: 0-21.36

MEASURING DEVICE: ULTRASONIC

CHECK POINTS: LEVEL? YES FREE FLOWING? NO TURBULENCE? Yes BLOCKAGE? NO SURFACE BUILD-UP? NONE HEAD MEASURING DEVICE MOUNTED PROPERLY? YES BLOCKAGE IN HEAD MEASURING DEVICE? NO IS FLOW METER PROGRAMMED CORRECTLY? YES

#### **CALIBRATION:**

NOTE: THE ZERO POINT FOR MEASURING MUST BE LEVEL WITH THE WEIR CREST OR FLUME ZERO POINT:

- A) IF POSSIBLE, CUT-OFF FLOW & SET LEVEL TO 0.000FT LEVEL BEFORE: LEVEL AFTER:
  - B) IF FLOW CANNOT BE CUT-OFF, ADJUST LEVEL ON METER TO MEASURED POINT: LEVEL BEFORE: Target 9" Level reading 9.109" LEVEL AFTER: 9.031"

**LEVEL FLOW CONVERSION CHECK:** 

WITH FLOW THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, CHECK LEVEL TO FLOW CONVERSION WITH HANDBOOK OR PRIMARY DEVICE DATA SHEET: YES/OK

**TOTALIZER CHECK:** 

WITH FLOW GOING THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, VERIFY THAT TOTAL FLOW IS INTEGRATING PROPERLY USING TIMED RATE METHOD: YES/OK

CALIBRATED BY: BRIAN SCHEPPLER

DATE: 1/4/2021

#### COMPANY: KRMA

#### **<u>CITY</u>: Kankakee Influent**

FLOW METER MODEL: Isco Laser Flow

**INFLUENT** January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

PRIMARY DEVICE: 72" PIPE

**FLOW: 0-115 MGD** 

MEASURING DEVICE:

CHECK POINTS: LEVEL? YES FREE FLOWING? Yes TURBULENCE? NO BLOCKAGE? NO SURFACE BUILD-UP? None HEAD MEASURING DEVICE MOUNTED PROPERLY? YES BLOCKAGE IN HEAD MEASURING DEVICE? NO IS FLOW METER PROGRAMMED CORRECTLY? YES

#### **CALIBRATION:**

NOTE: THE ZERO POINT FOR MEASURING MUST BE LEVEL WITH THE WEIR CREST OR FLUME ZERO POINT:

A) IF POSSIBLE, CUT-OFF FLOW & SET LEVEL TO 0.000FT LEVEL BEFORE: LEVEL AFTER:
B) IF FLOW CANNOT BE CUT-OFF, ADJUST LEVEL ON METER TO MEASURED POINT:

LEVEL BEFORE: Target level 47.250" As found 47.429" LEVEL AFTER: 47.429"

**LEVEL FLOW CONVERSION CHECK:** 

WITH FLOW THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, CHECK LEVEL TO FLOW CONVERSION WITH HANDBOOK OR PRIMARY DEVICE DATA SHEET: YES/OK

**TOTALIZER CHECK:** 

WITH FLOW GOING THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, VERIFY THAT TOTAL FLOW IS INTEGRATING PROPERLY USING TIMED RATE METHOD: YES/OK

CALIBRATED BY: BRIAN SCHEPPLER

DATE: 1/6/2021

#### COMPANY: KRMA

#### CITY: BOURBONNAIS/New

FLOW METER MODEL: Isco Laser Flow

INFLUENT January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

PRIMARY DEVICE: 36" PIPE

FLOW: 0-21.36 MGD

MEASURING DEVICE:

CHECK POINTS: LEVEL? YES FREE FLOWING? Yes TURBULENCE? NO BLOCKAGE? NO SURFACE BUILD-UP? None HEAD MEASURING DEVICE MOUNTED PROPERLY? YES BLOCKAGE IN HEAD MEASURING DEVICE? NO IS FLOW METER PROGRAMMED CORRECTLY? YES

#### **CALIBRATION:**

NOTE: THE ZERO POINT FOR MEASURING MUST BE LEVEL WITH THE WEIR CREST OR FLUME ZERO POINT:

- A) IF POSSIBLE, CUT-OFF FLOW & SET LEVEL TO 0.000FT LEVEL BEFORE: LEVEL AFTER:
  - B) IF FLOW CANNOT BE CUT-OFF, ADJUST LEVEL ON METER TO MEASURED POINT: LEVEL BEFORE: Target level 15" As found 14.791" LEVEL AFTER: 14.791" No adjustments made due to ISCO recommendations

#### **LEVEL FLOW CONVERSION CHECK:**

WITH FLOW THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, CHECK LEVEL TO FLOW CONVERSION WITH HANDBOOK OR PRIMARY DEVICE DATA SHEET: YES/OK

**TOTALIZER CHECK:** 

WITH FLOW GOING THRU PRIMARY DEVICE, VERIFY THAT TOTAL FLOW IS INTEGRATING PROPERLY USING TIMED RATE METHOD: YES/OK

CALIBRATED BY: BRIAN SCHEPPLER

DATE: 1/6/2021

# ATTACHMENT E



December 2020 Monthly Pretreatment Sample Analysis (metals, cyanide & VOA) for the permitted industries were a total of **67 samples** and a total of **516 analyses**.

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Gilster-Mary Lee Corporation	9 Samples
Hoffman Transportation, LLC	1 Sample
Kankakee Recycling & Disposal Facility	1 Sample
Laraway Recycling & Disposal Facility	1 Sample
Liberty Landfill, LLC	12 Samples
Livingston Landfill	5 Samples
Natural Gas & Pipeline Co. of America	4 Samples
Newton County Landfill	11 Samples
Prairie View RDF	5 Samples
Solvay USA Inc.	4 Samples
Tank Cleaning Solutions, LLC	13 Samples
Zutat Feed Solutions	1 Sample

Volumes Received for December 2020 for trucked-in industries.

Gilster-Mary Lee Corporation	88,000 gals	15 loads
Hoffman Transportation, LLC	10,000 gals	2 loads
Kankakee Recycling & Disposal Facility	14,000 gals	2 loads
Lake County C&D Landfill	0 gals	0 loads
Laraway Recycling & Disposal Facility	6,062 gals	1 load
Liberty 3 LFGTE Plant - Wabash Valley Power Alliance	0 gals	0 loads
Liberty Landfill, LLC	1,008,529 gals	152 loads
Livingston Landfill	179,724 gals	28 loads
Natural Gas & Pipeline Co. of America	45,000 gals	9 loads
Newton County Landfill	1,008,084 gals	155 loads
Peoria Packing Co.	0 gals	0 loads
Prairie View RDF	88,435 gals	14 loads
Solvay USA Inc.	49,654 gals	9 loads
Tank Cleaning Solutions, LLC	186,652 gals	41 loads
Zutat Feed Solutions	40,500 gals	7 loads
Totals:	2,724,640 gals	435 loads

The KRMA Facility received a total of **159 loads** of septage which totalled **541,300 gallons** for the month of December 2020

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							KRMA YEAR	KRMA YEARLY UTILITY USAGE - (YEAR)	AGE - (YEA	(R)				1
				<b>KRMA ELEC</b>	KRMA ELECTRIC ENERGY U	IY USE						<b>KRMA WATER USE</b>	R USE	
	Total KWH	Days	Total Cost \$/month	Total Cost \$/day	Hydro KWH	Methane KWH	Mid-American KWH	KWH/HR (Avg)	НWН	Gallons	Days	Total Cost \$/Billing Period	Gallons/Day	Total Cost \$/day
JANUARY	949,984	31	\$ 46,799	\$ 1,510		260544	689,440	1,277	\$ 0.0493	360,000	33	\$ 2,663	10,909	81
FEBRUARY	839,904	35	\$ 51,423	\$ 1,469		108,341	731,563	1,000	\$ 0.0612	300,000	33	\$ 2,336	160,6	71
MARCH	951,132	31	\$ 45,775	\$ 1,477		215,667	735,465	1,278	\$ 0.0481	350,000	29	\$ 2,608	12,069	06
APRIL	834,529	29	\$ 40,239	\$ 1,388		199,857	634,672	1,199	\$ 0.0482	380,000	29	\$ 2,829	13,103	86
MAY	954,846	30	\$ 46,728	\$ 1,558		189,479	765,367	1,326	\$ 0.0489	360,000	29	\$ 2,718	12,414	94
JUNE	866,806	29	\$ 44,430	\$ 1,532	190,805	221,918	454,083	1,245	\$ 0.0513	410,000	29	\$ 2,997	14,138	103
JULY	1,090,642	32	\$ 58,572	\$ 1,830	426,606	219,849	444,187	1,420	\$ 0.0537	480,000	34	\$ 3,388	14,118	100
AUGUST	690,341	29	\$ 36,180	\$ 1,248		189,320	501,021	992	\$ 0.0524	450,000	32	\$ 3,220	14,063	101
SEPTEMBER	902,779	30	\$ 39,084	\$ 1,303	135504	170854	596,421	1,254	\$ 0.0433	60,000	31	\$ 1,001	1,935	32
OCTOBER	853,628	32	\$ 36,282	\$ 1,134	155,521	180,910	517,197	1,111	\$ 0.0425		0	÷ \$	¦0/∧IQ#	#DIV/0!
NOVEMBER	750,426	31	\$ 44,165	\$ 1,425		14,337	736,089	1,009	\$ 0.0589	1,190,000	67	\$ 7,765	17,761	116
DECEMBER	0			#DIV/01				i0//ID#	#DIV/01				i0/NIC#	#DIV/01
TOTAL	9,685,017	339	\$ 489,677	#DIV/0	908,436	1,971,076	6,805,505	i0//ID#	#DIV/0i			\$ 31,525	i0//IC#	i0//IC#
	Total KWH	Days	Total Cost \$/month	Total Cost \$/day	Hydro KWH	Methane KWH	Mid-American KWH	KWH/HR (Avg)	s/kwh	Gallons	Days	Period	Gallons/Day	Total Cost \$/day

		KRMA NAT	KRMA NATURAL GAS USE		in standing
	Therms	Days	Total Cost 5/Billing Period	Therms/Day	Total Cost \$/day
JANUARY	40,548	31	\$ 15,363	1308	\$ 496
FEBRUARY	31,961	30	\$ 11,007	1065	\$ 367
MARCH	29,695	29	\$ 9,570	1024	\$ 330
APRIL	19,896	30	\$ 6,354	663	\$ 212
MAY	13,482	30	\$ 5,046	449	\$ 168
JUNE	8,022	31	\$ 3,146	259	\$ 101
JULY	7,160	30	\$ 2,835	239	\$ 95
AUGUST	10,363	31	\$ 3,978	334	\$ 128
SEPTEMBER	9,150	30	\$ 4,136	305	\$ 138
OCTOBER	23,032	31	\$ 8,429	743	\$ 272
NOVEMBER	35,032	30	\$ 14,431	1168	\$ 481
DECEMBER				#DIV/01	#DIV/01
TOTAL	228,341	333	\$ 84,295	#DIV/01	#DIV/0[
	Therms	Days	Total Cost \$/Billing Period	Therms/Day	Total Cost \$/day

# IV-B-2

# Preserving Our Clean River Legary Kankakee River Metropolitan Agency

2020

**Annual Load / Gallon Totals** 

# Loads	651	618	783	825	824	1,122	868	611	485	457	282	435	7,961	<b>663</b>		
Total	4,146,805	3,927,191	5,039,487	5,364,253	5,180,086	7,080,560	5,510,420	3,902,556	3,043,356	2,883,112	1,776,194	2,724,640	50,578,660	4,214,888		
Lutat Feed Solutions			36,000	54,000	42,000	55,300	42,000	36,000	54,000	42,000	48,000	40,500	449,800	44,980	0.071	0.071
Tank Cleaning Solutions, LLC		167,380	160,916	124,203	124,047	146,465	159,652	174,061	192,543	159,548	178,778	186,652	1,926,546	160,546	0.082	0.071
Solvay USA Inc.									5,541	21,568	43,745	49,654	120,508	30,127	0.131	0.114
Prairie View RDF	144,591	27,896	32,673	15,756	38,022	32,698	130,476	221,033	73,731	223,792	19,716	88,435	1,048,819	87,402	0.056	0.049
Peoria Packing Co.													A SAUSS		0.082	0.071
Vewton County Landfill	2,593,084	2,124,046	2,645,561	2,911,502	1,795,237	3,130,192	2,770,098	1,359,434	533,068	605,327	333,043	1,008,084	21,808,676	1,817,390	0.056	0.042
Matural Gas & Pipeline Co. of America	100,000	20,000	100,000	60,000	130,000	45,000	55,000	15,000	35,000	15,000	15,000	45,000	685,000	57,083	0.082	0.071
لـivingston لـintbns	164,827	134,003	186,443	177,859	222,303	178,260	136,557	170,391	173,564	151,944	165,402	179,724	2,041,277	170,106	0.056	0.049
Liberty Landfill. LLC	600,159	686,291	1,408,230	1,807,281	2,102,360	1,886,549	1,790,160	1.759.185	1,863,802	1,523,149	898,510	1,008,529	17,334,205	1,444,517	0.056	0.049
Laraway Recycling & Disposal Facility	240,843	586,575	367.664	104,652	510,902	1,229,074	302,477		5,405			6,062	3,353,654	372,628	0.056	0.049
Lake County Hiltbras C&D					108,215	244,022		47,452	12,702	31,784			444,175	88,835	0.056	0.049
Kankakee Recycling & Disposal Facility	21,000		21,000		14,000		14,000	7,000	2,000			14,000	98,000	14,000	0.056	0.049
Hoffman Transportation, LLC	60,000	40,000	30,000	20,000	35,000	20,000	15,000	15,000		10,000	5,000	10,000	260,000	23,636	0.056	0.049
Gilster-Mary Lee Corporation	70,000	91,000	51,000	89,000	58,000	113,000	95,000	98,000	87,000	000'66	69,000	88,000	1,008,000	84,000	0.082	0.071
Month Received	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals	Average	Treatment Costs as of 05/01/20	Treatment Costs as of 05/01/19

#### Stimulus Bill Gives Employers Option of Extending FFCRA Leave

Ro rsnlt.com/news/law-alerts/2020/12/30/stimulus-bill-gives-employers-option-of-extending-ffcra-leave/



On December 27, 2020, the federal government authorized \$900 billion in stimulus funds through the passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act to provide additional relief relative to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. A portion of the stimulus funds will be used to extend certain tax benefits first made available through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), which expires on December 31, 2020.

Unlike the FFCRA, the new law does not require employers to provide emergency sick leave or expanded medical leave for qualifying reasons related to COVID-19. Rather, it allows employers to voluntarily continue providing FFCRA leave benefits through March 31, 2021. Employers who choose to do so will remain eligible for related payroll tax credits during the same period. Moreover, employees who have already exhausted their use of FFCRA benefits will not be entitled to any additional leave under the new law, except in a limited circumstance. An employer who voluntarily chooses to extend FFCRA benefits may be required to provide additional leave to employees who have exhausted leave under the medical leave benefits of the FFCRA if the employer calculates entitlements under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) on a calendar year basis. We anticipate further guidance from the Department of Labor and Internal Revenue Service regarding the use of qualifying medical leave in those cases.

Most importantly, with FFCRA benefits set to expire on December 31, 2020, employers will need to determine quickly whether to allow employees to continue using any remaining leave through March 31, 2021. For further assistance regarding the impact of extending leave benefits, please contact any Robbins Schwartz attorney.

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#### **EEOC UPDATES GUIDANCE ON VACCINATIONS**

Written by Todd K. Hayden, Catherine R. Locallo and Tyler J. Bohman

In the days since the first COVID-19 vaccinations were administered to healthcare workers in the U.S., the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") issued new guidance for vaccinations in the workplace. The guidance document explains how an employer's vaccine program interacts with and implicates anti-discrimination statutes like the ADA, Title VII, and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act ("GINA"). It also provides parameters for employers who wish to require/administer vaccines.

The EEOC guidance implies that employers may mandate a COVID-19 vaccine for employees at this time. However, it is unclear whether an employer mandate is permissible because the current COVID-19 vaccines have only been approved by the FDA via Emergency Use Authorization ("EUA") procedures, rather than full approval and license. FDA guidance provides that for vaccines approved under an EUA. individuals must receive certain notifications about the vaccine, including notice of their right to opt out. Until such a time when the FDA or Secretary of Health and Human Services issues additional guidance to clarify this notice requirement, it is questionable whether employers may require employees to be vaccinated for COVID-19 at this time. When a standard FDA approval is issued for one or more of the COVID-19 vaccines. employers will have a much clearer basis to consider mandating that employees be vaccinated. In addition to this regulatory limitation, there is also a limitation on supply as the vaccine is not widely available and may not be for many months. Thus, until further regulatory relief and increased

availability of a vaccine, employer mandates may be premature.

In the meantime, the EEOC's new guidance addresses several issues that employers will likely encounter if they adopt a vaccination program. The EEOC explains that whether the vaccine is administered by the employer or an employer-contracted third-party, any prescreening questions must be "job-related and consistent with business necessity" to avoid eliciting unnecessary information about a disability in potential violation of the important ADA. This is as some prescreening questions will be necessary to determine if the employee is at increased risk of an adverse reaction to the vaccination. discussions can Such trigger ADA protections as they potentially involve the disclosure of a disability.

If an employee asserts that they cannot receive the vaccine because of an ADAprotected disability, employers must engage in the interactive process with the employee to determine whether they can provide a reasonable accommodation. This could include a discussion of other protective measures such as testing, symptom screening, masking, social distancing, etc. Notably, when an ADA-protected disability prevents an employee from receiving a vaccine, and no reasonable accommodation is possible, employers must evaluate on a case-by-case basis whether having the unvaccinated employee reporting to work poses a "direct threat" to the employee or others. If so, and the risks cannot be "reduced to an acceptable level," employers may exclude an employee from the workplace, but may not necessarily be able to terminate their employment because of

other federal, state, or local EEO protections. Similarly, when sincerely held religious beliefs protected by Title VII prevent an employee from receiving a vaccine, an employer must try to accommodate those beliefs unless the accommodation causes an undue hardship on the employer.

Finally, the EOOC guidance discusses that the COVID-19 vaccine is not likely to implicate GINA because the vaccine does not involve the use of genetic information to make decisions about employment status. Most of the promising versions of the COVID-19 vaccine are known as "mRNA vaccines" and do not interact with a person's genetic information (stored in cellular DNA) in any way. However, to avoid implicating GINA, employers or their third-party vaccine administrators should avoid inquiring about family medical history as part of the vaccine prescreening process as such is protected under the statute.

While the EEOC's guidance pertains to employees for school districts, similar issues exist for student vaccinations. That said, there is no vaccine currently approved (even under an EUA) for anyone under 16 years of age. Thus, the ability of school districts to require vaccinations for students is further constrained at this time.

Before starting a vaccination program, and for assistance navigating how employers can protect themselves from liability regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, contact your Robbins Schwartz Attorney.