

KANKAKEE RIVER METROPOLITAN AGENCY
MINUTES
June 24, 2021 – 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 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:

Arthur Strother, Superintendent
Dustin Scheppler, Asst. Superintendent, Operations
Melanie Gossett, Asst. Superintendent, Technical Services

Other:

Dan Small, Strand Associates
Terry J. Memenga, Village of Bradley

Chairman, Mayor Curtis called the meeting to order

I. **Roll Call**

II. **Public Comment**

None

III. **Approval of Board Minutes**

- A. **May 25, 2021 – Regular Board Meeting** – Motion to approve the May 25, 2021, Regular Board Meeting minutes was made by: Dir. Hunter and seconded by Dir Schore. All board member voted in favor. Motion Carries.

IV. **Reports**

A. **Operations & Maintenance Report**

1. **Monthly Report**

Art stated our safety classes for the disinfection of wastewater goes from May 1, 2021, to October 31, 2021. Art also gave acknowledgement to Melanie, Tawonda, Jennifer, and Alan for completion of compliance of pretreatment audit requested by the USEPA. KRMA had no violations within the first month of the fiscal year. Dir Hunter asked for a syllabus to review regarding any training, safety, equality, sexual harassment, etc. Melanie replied, she will get that information to him.

B. **Executive Director Report**

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

Exec. Dir. Dave Tyson presented the monthly utility sheets. Exec Dir Tyson stated electric bill was redirected to Com-Ed, since we are changing providers. Com-Ed is charging .06kw. Next month, Champion Energy, the new provider, the electric bill should be less because they are only charging .04kw. Chairman Curtis ask how long the contract is for. Dustin replied 3-year term. The water bill is a little higher than usual, however, the days usage was 37 instead of 30. All utilities are in line with budget. Dir Schore asked was there a problem with the meter? Exec Dir Tyson stated yes, an adjustment was made to the last billing.

2. Hauled In Waste Summary

Exec. Dir. Tyson stated hauled in waste is consistent and steady.

3. Operations Report

Exec Dir Dave Tyson stated classified ads have been published and so far, we have received 11 applicants. The deadline to apply is this Friday, June 25, 2021. An evaluation was completed by Dustin regarding the generators, and it is more beneficial to KRMA to buy electricity at the new rate than to produce our own. KRMA is looking to purchase two new vehicles.

C. Financial Report

1. Reports

Karen Benson presented the financial statements. Balance sheet shows that cash is still consistently strong. There are still some adjustments that need to take place at the net position once the audit is complete. Dir Romo asked a question about the Net Position, Capital Assets, Phase 1a-1c, are these just a multitude of projects from prior years? Karen replied, yes Phase 1a-1c is the 2011 construction project here at KRMA.

2. Hauled In Waste Report

Karen stated hauled in waste is still strong.

3. Flows Graphs

Karen Benson presented the flow graphs explaining the estimated percentage is based off the prior year of average flows, to project what they believe flows would be this fiscal year.

D. Communications

None

V. Old Business

A. Blowers Update

Exec Dir Tyson stated there was a meeting held with Atlas Copco. Fourth blower is being installed and will be complete by next week. Testing will be conducted on blowers, then we will schedule a walk through after 14 days running. Once the blowers are complete, we will get a Rebate Energy Savings grant from Com-Ed. Chairmen Curtis asked the rate of return regarding the savings from the rebate. Dan Small, replied once the blowers are complete before the end of the year.

B. Republic Service Update

There was discussion about the Republic Service Agreement.

C. E-Waste Update

Exec Dir Tyson stated KRMA terminated their contract to maintain the e-waste sites. Kankakee has closed their e-waste site down. Belson Steel is accepting e-waste for Kankakee County. Board members stressed the concern about the road repair getting to Belson Steel. Bradley Dept. of Public Works site is also still open. Terry, from the Village of Bradley is stating they are having an overflow of e-waste and it's becoming a burden.

D. CSL Update

Exec Dir Tyson stated CSL is moving forward with their pretreatment plan. KRMA received their permits to be signed. CSL pretreatment plan should be done by next year.

E. Proposed Draft Budget Ordinance No. 2020-01 for fiscal year end April 30, 2022

Karen reiterated that the proposed budget is for the Board Members review. We will be asking for approval at the next board meeting.

VI. **New Business**

A. **Capacity Proposal Discussion**

Exec Dir Tyson gave a summary on why this capacity proposal for expansion is necessary. There were questions regarding how often the plant is updated and is KRMA accepting proposals for this expansion? Exec Dir Tyson replied the last expansion was supposed to be for 20 years, however, due to the growth of the communities, the expansion is needed now. IEPA needs this plan before KRMA is eligible for IEPA loans and yes, we can get proposals for the expansion.

B. **Summer Help**

Exec Dir Tyson stated KRMA has hired one person for summer help. Chairman Curtis asked if there is a need for more help stating, City of Kankakee is partnering with District 111, and they will be hiring 25-30 youth for summer jobs, they are willing to send some youth workers to KRMA at no cost to KRMA.

C. **Approval of NARP Proposal**

Exec Dir Tyson stated management staff is recommending going with Strand Associates for the NARP Proposal. The NARP study must be done by 2023 per our permit. KRMA needs to work on showing there is no eutrophication of the river due to discharge levels of nitrogen and phosphorus and there will be no issue with lack of oxygen or killing the aquatic life. KRMA wants to prove this and have the permit requirements reflect this data. As part of this program, we will notify the surrounding communities upstream and downstream. Testing will be done by KRMA. Dan Small added this process is continuous monitoring and it has to be in the middle of the stream. Motion to approve the NARP Proposal by Strand Associates was made by Dir Hunter and seconded by Dir Romo. All board member voted in favor. Motion Carries.

D. **Discussion amending By-Laws to reduce compensation of KRMA Directors**

There was discussion regarding the Board of Directors compensation.

VII. **Executive Session**

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel, and probable or imminent litigation pursuant to Sections 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(11) of the open meetings act, was made by: Dir. Hunter and seconded by: Dir. Stump. Motion carried.

Roll call was taken, and all Board Members were present.

The Board went into Executive Session to discuss Personnel and probable or imminent litigation.

Motion to return to Open Session was made by: Dir. Hunter and seconded by: Dir. Swanson. Motion carried.

Roll call was taken, and all Board Members were present.

With the Board back in open session, there was no motion.

VIII. **Next Meeting**

Next Regular Board Meeting- **Thursday, July 22, 2021 (9:00 A.M. at KRMA Board Room)**

Motion to Adjourn was made by: Dir. Osenga and seconded by Dir. Stump. All board members present voted in favor. Motion carried.