

KANKAKEE RIVER METROPOLITAN AGENCY
MINUTES
October 26, 2023 – 9:00 A.M
1600 W Brookmont Blvd.

In attendance:

Board of Directors:

Mayor Paul Schore, Village of Bourbonnais
Financial Director Robert Romo, Village of Bradley
Alderman Danita Swanson, City of Kankakee
Steven Hunter, Representative, City of Kankakee
Alderman David Crawford, 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, Director of Technical Services

Other:

Dan Small, Strand Associates
Mayor Michael Watson, Alternate, Village of Bradley
Tara Latz, Alternate, Village of Bourbonnais
Terry Memenga, Alternate, Village of Bourbonnais
Elizabeth Kubal, Comptroller of City of Kankakee
Jim Savio, Sikich LLP via www.gotomeeting.com

Vice Chairman, Mayor Schore called the meeting to order.

I. **Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken. All Board members were present, except for Chairman Christopher Curtis, Dir Brian Stump, and Dir Larry Osenga. Alternate Alderman David Crawford, City of Kankakee, sitting in for Director Larry Osenga for deciding vote.

II. **Public Comment**

None

III. **Approval of Board Minutes September 28, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting**

Motion to approve the September 28, 2023, Regular Board Meeting minutes was made by: Dir. Hunter and seconded by Dir Swanson. All board members present voted in favor of, Chairman Christopher Curtis, Dir Brian Stump, and Dir Larry Osenga absent. Motion Carried.

IV. **Presentation of Audit Report from Sikich LLP**

Jim Savio with Sikich gave a presentation on KRMA's 2023 Audit. Jim ended his presentation by stating, great job by Karen, there was no adjustment, no deficiencies, and no material weakness. Dir Romo had a question regarding note four, page 17 as to why our hydraulic flows decreased approximately 14% from 2022 to 2023 and do we get five million gallons of water per day? Karen stated that the numbers are pulled out of the yearly flow report. Art followed up with stating due to the municipalities doing repairs to their sewer collection system the flows have decreased.

V. **Reports**

A. **Operations & Maintenance Report**

Monthly Report

Art presented the MOR. Art stated since the municipalities is working on their collection system it has decreased in the average daily flow. Due to the decrease in daily flow, you will see a drop in the BOD, however, it will increase our TSS. Dir Romo asked, what is TSS. Art replied debris pushed off the street. Art gave acknowledgment to the municipalities for repairing their collection system. Exec Dir Tyson asked that the municipalities include any work they do in their CMOM. Dir Hunter asked what impact Gotion new plant in Manteno will have on KRMA. Exec Dir Tyson stated that they have been talking to them, and Gotion will only affect KRMA if Manteno is unable to manage their waste. There was more discussion regarding the Manteno's potential manufacture. Dir Romo stressed some concerns and asked some questions about testing reports he requested from the lab: 20% of BOD is coming from SWD, who responsible for accepting this, what process are we taking to monitor them, and is there any penalization for the strength of their loads. Exec Dir Tyson stated they met with SWD. They are looking at ways to lower BOD before sending it to us or bringing it directly to our plant and allowing it to sit in our holding tank. SWD permit does not require them to pretreat. Exec Dir Tyson also stated the report by the City's lab was an error, it had some problems with it. It is not 20%. Dir Hunter asked what about ammonia? Ammonia is not coming from SWD. Dir Romo also stated KRMA's not testing for ammonia. Where is the ammonia coming from and why aren't we testing for ammonia? Art stated he requested that we test for ammonia. Dir Hunter asked Melanie is there anything on Covid? Melanie responded, the report is in the board packet, and it shows it is trending upward. There was discussion regarding loans and grants for expansion and repairs, since Aqua owns part of the Village of Bourbonnais collection system. Art informed the board that Biobot would also like for us to test for drugs in water and after more discussion with Biobot we will need approval from the board.

B. **Executive Director Report**

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

Exec. Dir. Dave Tyson presented the yearly utility usage. He stated the utilities are right inline. The generator has been backed up and running for a month.

2. **Hauled In Waste Summary**

Exec. Dir. Tyson stated hauled in waste is down from last month. It looks as if this number will be more consistent moving forward. Therefore, Exec Dir Tyson asked Karen to review and see how this is going to affect our budget. We have reached out to Newton County; however, we have not received any response. We also talked to other haulers to see if they can come directly to KRMA. Art followed up on the increase in our BOD through SWD, stating, SWD takes in surfactants, which are sodium alkylbenzene sulfonates, sodium stearate (soap), and potassium alcohol sulfates. and Verdant take surfactants which are very high on BOD. We take it; however, we bleed it slowly.

3. **Operations Report**

Exec Dir Dave Tyson acknowledges Superintendent Arthur Strother 38 years of service with KRMA.

C. **Financial Report**

1. **Reports**

Karen presented the financial statements, stating the statement of net position is steady and consistent. Statement of Revenue/Expenses/Changes of Net Position, she references the annual percentage column showing where we are at five months within the fiscal year.

2. **Hauled In Waste Report**

Karen presented the hauled in waste analysis, showing the projected hauled in waste income, showing the revenue will show a decrease for this year and next year therefore, the contribution will increase.

3. **Flows Graphs**

Karen presented the flows report giving more detailed information on how the auditor pulled their numbers regarding the flows.

D. **Communications**

None

VI. **Old Business**

A. **Bradley Property**

Mayor Watson stated the dialog is in the court of City of Kankakee and/or KRMA. The Village of Bradley raised issues and they want them addressed.

1. **Timeline for Sale of Bradley Property**

None

B. **Kimley-Horn/Bradley Report**

Dir Romo informed the board that Kimley-Horn's Phase II has been put on hold until we finish Phase I issues.

VII. **New Business**

A. **Approval of Audit Report**

Motion to approve the Audit Report was made by Dir Swanson and seconded by Dir Romo. All board members and alternates David Crawford present voted in favor and Chairman Christopher Curtis, Dir Brian Stump and Dir Larry Osenga absent. Motion Carries.

B. **Review and Discussion of RFPs for 401(k) for KRMA Employees**

Exec Dir Tyson presented the RFPs for the 401(k). The RFPs have been given to Karen for review and the Union Rep. Exec Dir Tyson stated that Faber Financials cost is the lowest.

C. **Review and Consideration of 2024 Agenda and Board Meeting Dates**

Motion to approve the Agenda and Board Meeting Dates was made by Dir Swanson and seconded by Dir Hunter. All board members and alternates David Crawford present voted in favor and Chairman Christopher Curtis, Dir Brian Stump and Dir Larry Osenga absent. Motion Carries.

VIII. **Executive Session**

A. **Personnel & Probable or Imminent Litigation**

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

Roll call was taken, and all board members were present and Alternate David Crawford sitting in for Dir Larry Osenga, except Chairman Christopher Curtis, Dir Brian Stump and Dir Larry Osenga absent.

The Board went into Executive Session.

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

Motion to return to Open Session was made by Dir. Crawford and seconded by Dir Romo. Motion carried.

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

IX. **Next Meeting**

Next Regular Board Meeting- **Thursday, November 16, 2023 (9:00 A.M. at KRMA Board Room)**

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