

**KANKAKEE RIVER METROPOLITAN AGENCY**  
**MINUTES**  
**September 28, 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  
Alderman David Crawford, 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 Schepler, Asst. Superintendent, Operations

**Other:**

Dan Small, Strand Associates  
Mayor Michael Watson, Alternate, Village of Bradley  
Ryan McGinnis, City of Kankakee  
Tara Latx, Alternate, Village of Bourbonnais  
Terry Memenga, Alternate, Village of Bourbonnais

Chairman, Mayor Curtis called the meeting to order.

I. **Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken. All Board members were present, except for Dir Robert Romo.

II. **Public Comment**

None

III. **Approval of Board Minutes August 24, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting**

Motion to approve the August 24, 2023, Regular Board Meeting minutes was made by: Dir. Hunter and seconded by Vice Chairman Schore. All board members present voted in favor of, Dir Robert Romo absent. Motion Carried.

IV. **Reports**

A. **Operations & Maintenance Report**

**Dir Robert Romo joined the meeting.**

**Monthly Report**

Art presented the MOR. Art stated the plant has been performing well for the past three months.

**Alternate Mayor Michael Watson joined the meeting.**

Dir Hunter asked for an updated on the Covid testing performed on the plant. Melanie responded, stating, that program is continuous, they take a portion of our daily effluent sample. In doing so, they provide us with graphs and numbers regarding the studies and Covid seems to be stable. They also started screening for effluent of ALB (Aquatic Life Benchmark), RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus), and Monkey Pox. Melanie stated she can provide a copy of the report in next month's MOR, and it is also kept in the bulletin board. Dir Romo stated since BOD and

NH3 is down due to CSL Pretreatment Program and not taken Newton County, he would like to take another look at the expansion. He also stresses his concern about having to FOIA information that is provided to KRMA. There was rebuttal of opinions on the separation of City of Kankakee and KRMA. Dir Hunter asked Dir Romo to clarify his data on BOD and NH3 and the justification for not expanding the plant. Dir Romo responded. Art added, numbers can change very quickly with flow, with us having low flow plays a big part. There was more discussion regarding the expansion for additional capacity and industrial pretreating. Art added that in wastewater treatment, you do not want to get behind, you want to look forward due to growth within the communities and you must be prepared and able to treat the wastewater.

**B. Executive Director Report**

1. Water, Gas & Electric Use/Cost

Exec. Dir. Dave Tyson presented the yearly utility usage. He stated electricity is slightly higher due to generator still being down. Dustin informed everyone, parts did come in and they are installed, now we are just running test.

2. Hauled In Waste Summary

Exec. Dir. Tyson stated hauled in waste is consistent from the last few months, since we have not taken any waste from Newton County. Exec Dir Tyson informed the board They have tried to reach out to Newton County to inform that we are able to take one load from them per day. We have not heard back from them yet. Hauled in waste is down this for the month of September, not sure if we are going to get a million gallons next month. Dir Hunter asked is there a reason it is down. Art replied, weather does play a big part. When you get a lot of rain you will see an increase and with dry weather you will see those numbers drop.

3. Operations Report

Exec Dir Dave Tyson stated our generator will back up soon. The RFPs for the 401(k) is due back by October 12, 2023. Exec Dir Tyson introduce Michelle Howard, KRMA's new Administrative Assistant. He also offers a copy of KRMA's new Organizational Chart. Exec Dir Tyson also informed the board that they also been contact with the new plant in Manteno, IL to see if Aqua going to pretreat. Dir Hunter asked with KRMA's management team and board members go to other facility and see how they run their plant. Exec Dir Tyson stated they would be interested in doing so. Exec Dir Tyson gave the board member the prospective 2024 Agenda and Board Meeting dates for review.

**C. Financial Report**

1. Reports

Carmen Huizenga presented the financial statements, stating the cash position is up slightly from August of last year. Statement of Revenue/Expenses/Changes of Net Position, hauled in waste is down via budget. IT and software expense is over budget due to the SCADA Equipment. Operation and Maintenance chemicals is over budget for the month, however, not for the YTD. Repairs of maintenance equipment your inline with YTD budget. Electric bill is over budget. Also, your change of net position YTD is over budget.

2. Hauled In Waste Report

None

3. Flows Graphs

Carmen Huizenga stated we only 4 months in the year, we will continue to keep tracking the flows on the graph.

**D. Communications**

None

**V. Old Business**

**A. Bradley Property**

1. Timeline for Sale of Bradley Property

None

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

None

**VI. New Business**

**A. Draft Audit Report**

Carmen Huizenga presented the Draft Audit Report, informing the board what is omit from the draft. Chairman Curtis asked if the board member can be emailed a final Audit Report. Vice Chairman Schore stated on page 16 there is an error regarding percentage of ownership. He asked for the wording to be changed from intended to initial.

**B. Motion to Approve Assistant Superintendent Salary**

Motion to Approve Assistant Superintendent Salary was made by Dir Hunter and seconded by Dir Romo. All board members present voted in favor of. Motion Carried.

**VII. Executive Session**

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

None

**VIII. Next Meeting**

Next Regular Board Meeting- **Thursday, October 26, 2023 (9:00 A.M. at KRMA Board Room)**

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