

KANKAKEE RIVER METROPOLITAN AGENCY
MINUTES
May 23, 2024 – 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 Larry Osenga, City of Kankakee
Alderman Danita Swanson, 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
Bryan Kennedy, Interim Asst. Superintendent
Melanie Gossett, Technical Services Personnel

Other:

Tara Latz, Financial Director, Village of Bourbonnais
Dan Small, Strand Associates
Terry Memenga, Alternate, Village of Bourbonnais
Ryan McGinnis, City of Kankakee

Chairman, Mayor Curtis called the meeting to order.

I. **Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken. All Board members were present.

II. **Election of Officers for FY 2024-2025**

- A. **Chairperson** (Currently Mayor Christopher Curtis) - There were no other nominations. Motion for Mayor Christopher Curtis to remain the Chairman for KRMA Board was made by Vice-Chairman Schore and seconded by Dir Hunter. All board members present voted in favor of, except Chairman Curtis voted abstained.
- B. **Vice-Chairperson** (Currently Mayor Paul Schore) There were no other nominations. Motion for Mayor Paul Schore to remain the Vice-Chairman for KRMA Board was made by Dir Hunter and seconded by Dir Osenga. All board members present voted in favor of, except Vice-Chairman Schore voted abstained.
- C. **Secretary** (Currently Mayor Brian Stump)- There were no other nominations. Motion for Mayor Brian Stump to remain the Secretary for KRMA Board was made by Vice-Chairman Schore and seconded by Dir Swanson. All board members present voted in favor of, except Secretary Stump voted abstained.

III. **Public Comment**

None

IV. **Approval of Board Minutes May 23, 2024 – Regular Board Meeting**

Motion to approve the May 23, 2024, Regular Board Meeting minutes was made by: Dir Osenga and seconded by Secretary Stump. All board members that were present voted in favor of. Motion Carried.

V. **Reports**

A. **Operations & Maintenance Report**

Monthly Report

Art informed the board that our Summer Helper Robert Billings and Connor Curtis both of Kankakee have started work. He also gave recognition to Richard Tyson (RJ) for showing initiative and achieving his Class 1 licenses within being employed for approximately 2 ½ years. He compliments the Interim Assistant Superintendent and his team for keeping the plant maintained and running smoothly. Art explained what helped caused the TSS gauge to be in the red. He also said there is no substantial concern about the plant treatment, however we still need to move forward with the equipment upgrades to continue to treat the plant effectively. Dir Hunter asked about the meeting with Rohm Hass and USEPA. Art replied, we should have a formal report within sixty to ninety days. He informed the board that Ryan McGinnis and Melanie Gossett met with USEPA for three days here on at the KRMA site and on them existing they said things look good. Dir Romo asked TSS something we can get a violation for and how do we get that number down. Art replied, yes, we can get a violation for TSS. However, you can get TSS, Total Solids, from the streets, for example leaves are considered as TSS. We can get TSS numbers down with microorganisms. Exec Dir Tyson also said that the TSS numbers are going down. Exec Dir Tyson also said the Gauges in the MOR represent the flow coming into the plant not leaving the plant. There was more discussion regarding TSS, what it all entails, what causes the peaks, and why it measured on an average. Art added you must have the proper food to mass to manage the plant.

B. **Executive Director Report**

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

Exec. Dir. Dave Tyson presented yearly utility usage. He stated everything is in order and where we anticipate them to be.

2. **Hauled In Waste Summary**

Exec. Dir. Tyson said hauled in waste has been steady and the majority is coming from Liberty.

3. **Operations Report**

Exec Dir Dave Tyson also gave acknowledgement regarding the excellent job that Bryan Kennedy is doing.

C. **Financial Report**

1. **Reports**

Karen presented the financial statements; Statement of Net Position show our cash balance is still hold steady. Statement of Revenue and Expense we are slightly above our budget. Change in net position for the month and fiscal still above our total budgeted net income.

2. **Hauled In Waste Report**

None

3. **Flows Graphs**

None

D. **Communications**

1. **Illinois Chamber of Commerce**

Exec Dir Tyson informed the membership for the Illinois Chamber of Commerce range from four thousand to twenty-five thousand dollars yearly: they offer grant writing and lobbyist. Exec Dir Tyson informed the board that KRMA is not apart of any of the Chamber because it is like the municipalities will be paying twice.

VI. **Old Business**

A. **Update on Engineering for Phase 1, Phase 2, Phase 3**

Dan Small with Strand Associates stated that Phase 1 is in progress and Phase 2 will start in September.

B. **Employee Grievance**

No update

C. **401(k) Conversion Status**

Exec Dir Tyson stated the conversion is moving along. We were able to get the proper documentation showing that KRMA is eligible for 401(k). We have a meeting set up on Tuesday, July 25, 2024, for the employees and to set up all their accounts.

D. **Status on Sludge Hauling Contract with Synargo**

Attorney Neal informed the board that there was some provision that was concerning, "Title to the sludge the remove" from KRMA. Our permit does not allow us to agree to this. Therefore, the contract was revised to meet our permit. There were more questions, discussion, and hypothetical possibilities regarding sludge removal. Motion to enter contract once legal changes have been made with Synargo was made by Vice Chairman Schore and seconded by Dir Hunter. All board members that were present voted in favor of. Motion carried.

VII. **New Business**

A. **Approval of Budget Ordinance No. 2020-01 for Fiscal Year – (May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025)**

Karen Benson presented the Fiscal Year Budget for May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025. Motion to Approval of Budget Ordinance No. 2020-01 for Fiscal Year – (May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025) was made by Dir Osenga and seconded by Dir Hunter. All board members that were present voted in favor of. Motion carried.

B. **New Hires**

Exec Dir Tyson stated we had 27 of the 40 that showed up for the O & M Test. 7 of the 27 passed. We would like to offer two now and one more once Bryan decides to take the Assistant Superintendent position permanently. We offer 90 days training with a 6-month probationary period. They both have signed the residency addendum.

C. **Resolution for Removing Alerus as the Custodian of the KRMA 401(K) Plan, and appointing Matrix Trust Company as the Successor Custodian for the Plan Effective on June 6, 2024**

Attorney Neal informed the board that this resolution is removing Alerus as the custodian of KRMA 401(k) and appointing Matrix Trust Company as the 401(k) custodian. Motion to accept the Resolution for Removing Alerus as the Custodian of the KRMA 401(K) Plan, and appointing Matrix Trust Company as the Successor Custodian for the Plan Effective on June 6, 2024, was made by Dir Romo and seconded by Dir Hunter. All board members that were present voted in favor of. Motion carried.

VIII. **Executive Session**

Personnel & Probable or Imminent Litigation

None

IX. **Next Meeting**

Next Regular Board Meeting- **Thursday, May 23, 2024 (9:00 A.M. at KRMA Board Room)**

Motion to Adjourn was made by: Vice Chairman Schore and seconded by Dir Swanson. Motion Carried.