



Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board

126 N. Salina St., 100 Clinton Square, Suite 200, Syracuse, New York 13202 • Tel. (315) 422-8276 • Fax: (315) 422-9051

Kathleen A. Rapp, Chair

David V. Bottar, Executive Director

CNY RPDB Meeting

October 16, 2013

12:00 noon–1:30 p.m.

126 North Salina Street
Syracuse, New York
(Lower Level Conference Room)

Chairwoman, Kathleen Rapp, Presiding

AGENDA

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| 1. | Call to Order | Kathleen Rapp |
| 2. | Approval of Day's Agenda and
Minutes from the June 19, 2013 Meeting | Kathleen Rapp |
| 3. | Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark Donnelly, Executive Director | Mark Donnelly |
| 4. | Executive Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CNY Regional Sustainability Plan• Port of Oswego TIGER Grant• Solarize CNY Initiative• CNY REDC – NYS CFA Round 3 Applications | David Bottar |
| 5. | Old/New Business | Kathleen Rapp |
| 6. | Adjournment | Kathleen Rapp |



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MINUTES

Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board Board of Directors Meeting October 16, 2013

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Cynthia Aikman, Daniel Dineen, Shawn Doyle, Linda Hartsock, Marilyn Higgins, Scott Ingmire, Don Jordan, Stephen Lynch, Mary Ann Messinger, James Murphy, Paul Pinckney, James Rafte, Kathleen Rapp, Morris Sorbello, L. Michel Treadwell, David Turner, Paul Vickery, and Keith Welch.

Guests: Deanna Boudov, Assemblyman Stirpe's office; Mark Donnelly, guest OCRRA; John Ferguson, Assemblyman Magnarelli's office; Andrew Radin, guest OCRRA; Angelo Roefaro, Senator Schumer's office; Alex Walsh, Senator DeFrancisco's office;

Staff: David Bottar, Kathleen Bertuch, Chris Carrick, Samuel Gordon, Bruce Keplinger, David Kubek, Karen Novak, Debbie Paciga, Brian Pincelli, Michael Rosanio, Anne Saltman, and Amanda Sopchak

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Kathleen Rapp called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm at the offices of the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board and indicated that a quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA AND MINUTES

A motion was introduced and seconded to accept the agenda and minutes as presented; the motion was approved unanimously.

3. PRESENTATION

Mark Donnelly, Executive Director of the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (OCRRA), was introduced and asked to provide information regarding the operations of OCRRA. Mr. Donnelly began his power point presentation by noting that OCRRA was established in 1990

by the NYS Legislature as a public benefit corporation. Mr. Donnelly noted that OCRRA is governed by a 14 member board of directors appointed by elected county and city officials. It was noted that OCCRA provides solid waste management services to 32 town and villages in Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse. It was indicated that program services offered by OCCRA include recycling and composting, toxic materials reduction program, construction and demolition debris recovery, operation of a waste-to-energy facility, and limited landfill activities. Mr. Donnelly noted that OCCRA's operations are entirely funded by user fees, revenue generated from the sale of electricity generated from the waste-to-energy facility, and the sale of metal scrap. Mr. Donnelly noted that the agency's 2013 budget includes revenue projections of \$33,052,000, operating expenditures of \$24,151,000, and debt service of \$9,195,000. It was noted that 70.19% of the revenue is realized from tipping fees and 19.67% is from electricity sales. The primary expense to the agency of \$14,274,000 comes from the operation of the waste to energy facility, transfer operations at \$2,581,500, and personal services at \$4,146,500.

As part of his presentation, Mr. Donnelly noted that in 2012 OCCRA was recognized by the Solid Waste Association of North America with the Gold Excellence Award for operations of the Waste-to-Energy facility and received one of only five Advocacy Awards for Sustainability from GreeningUSA. Regarding the WTE facility, which is operated in partnership with Convanta Energy, Mr. Donnelly noted the facility processes approximately 990 tons of municipal solid waste per day into 39 megawatts of renewable energy – enough to power approximately 30,000 homes. It was noted that since operations began the WTE has converted 5.7 million tons of waste into 3.6 million megawatts of electricity, recovered and recycled 173,000 tons of metal, and reduced 5.7 million tons of green house gas emissions.

Mr. Donnelly indicated that OCRRA currently operates two solid waste transfer stations in the county including the Rock Cut Road and Ley Creek Transfer stations. Regarding the agency's recycling program, Mr. Donnelly noted that OCRRA has distributed nearly 1 million blue bins for recycling since 1990 and that in 2012 sixty-one (61%) of the trash generated on Onondaga County is recycled, resulting in a savings of approximately \$14 million in avoided disposal costs for residents and businesses in Onondaga County. Mr. Donnelly noted that agency has used its recycling program as the basis for a comprehensive household hazardous waste reduction program that includes a mercury thermometer exchange service, battery and fluorescent bulb recycling, and an earth day litter cleanup program.

As part of its recycling program, Mr. Donnelly noted that OCCRA is engaged in managing a comprehensive composting program for yard waste and food scraps. It was noted that OCRRA food scrap composting operation located at the Amboy Compost site is one of the largest operations in Upstate New York. Mr. Donnelly noted that OCCRA has established a goal to compost 10,000 tons of commercial and institutional food scraps annually generating 30,000 cubic yards of compost. Early participants in the program include Syracuse University, Wegmans, University Hospital, Destiny USA, Marcellus Schools, Pastabilities, Ramada Inn, and Paul deLima.

Andrew Radin, Recycling Director at OCRRA, discussed OCRRA's concept of EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility). Mr. Radin noted that society produces a lot of trash and the problem with the current system is the manufacturer is totally separated from the end of life management of our products and there is no incentive to design more environmentally sensitive forms of packaging. Mr. Radin noted that OCRRA is trying to advance EPR concepts with companies in Central New York and asked for the board support with this initiative.

To conclude their presentation, Mr. Donnelly provided information regarding an inter-municipal waste partnership agreement that is being explored between Onondaga and Cortland County. Mr. Donnelly noted the basic concept being reviewed involves the transport of 90,000 tons of ash from the WTE facility to the Cortland County landfill and OCCRA backhauling 25,000 tons of Cortland County solid waste to the WTE facility. It was noted that the potential benefits of this arrangement include increase revenues and minimizing future capital land fill cost in Cortland County and reduced ash residue transportation and disposal costs along with increases in electricity revenue for Onondaga County. Mr. Donnelly noted that the technical aspects of this proposal are currently being explored by both counties and no final decision on this proposal is expected for several months.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

David Bottar initiated the director's report by noting that the agency's work on the CNY Regional Sustainability Plan was completed in June 2013. Mr. Bottar noted that since the plan was completed staff has engaged in several speaking opportunities to promote the plan including at a meeting of the Upstate Chapter Green Building Council and at a conference sponsored by the SU Center of Excellence. It was noted that additional speaking engagements to promote the plan will be pursued in 2013 and 2014.

To help advance the recommendations incorporated into the plan, Mr. Bottar noted that staff helped prepare several funding applications on behalf of the agency and in cooperation with communities across the five-county region. As part of this effort it was noted that the Port of Oswego received a major federal Department of Transportation TIGER grant in the amount of \$1.5 million to support a \$3.2 million project focusing primarily on rail and road improvements infrastructure improvements at the Port.

As part of its grants assistance work, Mr. Bottar noted that staff helped prepare several applications for NYSERDA Cleaner Greener funds for the NYS Consolidated Funding Application round in August including proposal for the Onondaga County Loop-the-Lake trail, the COR's Syracuse Inner Harbor mixed-use commercial development, the City of Oneida's rail-to-trail project, Village of Hamilton's natural gas distribution system, a proposal from Madison County to establish a regional plastics-to-oil recycling facility, and a project to upgrade OCCRA's recycling facilities center. Other applications advanced by the agency for NYS CFA funding in August included a regional municipal comprehensive planning program and green infrastructure program, a hydroelectric facility in the City of Auburn, and a complete streets planning study along the Route 104 corridor in the City of Oswego. Funding decision for these applications will be made by the State in December 2013.

Regarding the CNY Regional Sustainability Plan, Marilyn Higgins noted that the Near Westside Initiative in the City of Syracuse has applied for NYS CFA funding to support the development of several sustainable projects in the community including an energy efficient laundromat, geothermal resources to service residential housing units and a community built police station, and LED street lighting.

Mr. Bottar continued his remarks by noting that staff was invited to attend a recent ribbon cutting ceremony in the Village of Skaneateles for the first Net Zero municipality building in New York State. Also referenced was a grant the agency has received from the US Department of Energy and

the National Association of Regional Council's to advance the deployment of solar energy facilities in Central New York.

Regarding program activities, Shawn Doyle commented on the completion of work to renovate the Kallet Theatre's and the soft opening which recently took place for this facility in Pulaski. Mr. Doyle thanked staff for their work on securing funds and managing the grant programs which were used by the Village and local developer Vince Lobdell to complete the project. Mr. Doyle noted that a grand opening for the Kallet Theater will be held on November 16th.

Mr. Bottar concluded his report by noting the next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for November 20th and the Annual Meeting is set for December 10th at the Doubletree Hotel in Dewitt with Dr. Neil Murphy, President of SUNY College of Environmental College and Forestry, as the keynote speaker.

5. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was no information presented or discussed under old or new business.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was introduced and seconded to adjourn the meeting; the motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Rafte, Secretary