

**Minutes of the
ROCK ISLAND COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT AGENCY
(RICWMA)**

Tuesday, June 19, 2018, 1:00 p.m.
Bi-State Regional Commission Conference Room
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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| Mr. Mike Bealer, Vice Chair, Coal Valley | Mr. Nick Gottwalt, Carbon Cliff |
| Mr. Rodd Schick, Moline | Ms. Alissa Sallows, East Moline |
| Mr. Mike Waldron, Moline | Ms. Caryn Unsicker, Silvis |
| Ms. Louisa Ewert, Sec./Treas., Rock Island Co. | Mr. Dave Lambert, East Moline |

MEMBERS ABSENT

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| Mr. Mike Bartels, Rock Island | Ms. Michelle Bergeson, Hampton |
| Mr. Dave Pannell, Milan | Ms. Missy Housenga, Rapids City |
| Ms. Patsy Fidler, Cordova | Mr. Scott Noyd, Rock Island County |
| Mr. Curtis Morrow, Andalusia | Mr. Bruce Peterson, Port Byron |
| Mr. Jim Grafton, Silvis | Mr. Vern Winter, Chair, Rock Island |

OTHERS PRESENT

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Ms. Sarah Gardner, Bi-State | Mr. Dave Collier, Citizen |
| Ms. Gena McCullough, Bi-State | Mr. Joseph Skaff, Republic Services |
| Ms. Ali Hayford, Republic Services | |

1. Approval of Minutes of the May 15, 2018 Rock Island County Waste Management Agency Board Meeting. Mr. Bealer chaired the meeting and directed the Board to the May 15, 2018 minutes for review. Mr. Waldron motioned to approve the minutes, and Mr. Gottwalt seconded. The motion carried by unanimous approval of the Board.
2. Financial Report. (Status of income/expenses and approval of bills for payment.)
Ms. Gardner presented the June 19, 2018 Accounts Payable Statement in the amount of \$39,191.54. Mr. Bealer asked for a motion to accept the monthly bills. Mr. Waldron moved to approve the bills as presented, and Ms. Unsicker seconded. The motion carried by unanimous approval of the Board.

Ms. Gardner presented the May 31, 2018 Financial Reports. She noted three line items that were near or above 90% expenditure of the budgeted amount – personnel/administrative support, household hazardous waste, and e-waste disposal. Ms. Gardner explained that the budgeted amount would likely cover all three items for the remaining month of the fiscal year, but suggested a budget revision for household hazardous waste just to be safe. Mr. Bealer asked for a motion to accept the Financial Reports and to place them on file. Ms.

Unsicker so moved, and Mr. Waldron seconded. The motion carried by unanimous approval of the Board.

The May 31, 2018 Rock Island County RICWMA Financial Report Summary (Cash Basis) is as follows:

RECEIPTS – FY 2018

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Millennium Waste (Waste Connection) | \$ | 378,042.03 |
| Republic Services | \$ | 179,433.94 |
| Interest | \$ | 5,157.75 |
| TOTAL | \$ | <u>562,633.72</u> |

| | | |
|----------------------|----|--------------|
| Prior Years Receipts | \$ | 8,867,801.11 |
|----------------------|----|--------------|

| | | |
|---------------------------|----|----------------|
| DISBURSEMENT – FY 2018 | \$ | (475,697.49) |
| Prior Years Disbursements | \$ | (8,482,272.91) |

CURRENT BALANCES

| | | |
|--------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Pool | \$ | 472,000.00 |
| Checkbook | \$ | 464.43 |
| TOTAL | \$ | <u>472,464.43</u> |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----|-----------|
| Accounts Payable June 19, 2018 | \$ | 39,191.54 |
|--------------------------------|----|-----------|

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|-----------------------------------|----|------------|
| Cash Balances as of June 19, 2018 | \$ | 434,090.60 |
|-----------------------------------|----|------------|

3. Agency Program Reports. Mr. Bealer asked Ms. Gardner to review the May 2018 reports for the benefit of the Board as follows:

Residential White Goods and Used Tires Collection Program: There were 446 used tires and 103 white good units collected. There were 23 no-shows.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Program: There were 294 Rock Island County residents who disposed of HHW items at Scott County's HHM facilities.

Electronic Waste Collection Program: There were 473 residents who disposed of 42,923 pounds of e-waste at Scott County's electronics facility. This is an average of about 91 pounds per resident.

RICWMA Member Government Tire Disposal Program: Local communities of Rock Island County disposed of 0.95 tons of tires at the Waste Commission of Scott County landfill location.

Regional Drop-Off Recycling Program: A total of 86.08 tons of fiber and non-fiber material was collected and processed. This consisted of 66.58 tons of fiber and 19.5 tons of non-fiber co-mingled materials. There were 59 fiber container pulls and 28 non-fiber contain pulls at an average weight of 1.13 tons/pull for fiber and 0.70 tons/pull for non-fiber.

RICWMA Website Statistics: The RICWMA website had 464 unique visitors and 1,074 page views.

4. Other Business.

Approval of Fiscal Year 2019 Contracts. Ms. Gardner presented the contracts to the board for consideration.

1. *Bi-State Regional Commission.* Ms. Gardner noted that compared to the FY18 contract, the planning director and planner rates decreased by \$2/hour in this contract; the word processing rate increased by \$2/hour; the graphics specialist rate increased by \$11; the financial specialist rate increased by \$3/hour; and there was no change in the intern rate. All of these costs have been accounted for in the proposed budget. Mr. Waldron moved to approve the contract, and Ms. Sallows seconded. The motion carried by unanimous approval of the Board.
2. *Waste Commission of Scott County Household Hazardous Material.* Ms. Gardner noted there were no changes to the fees as compared to FY18. The only change was the elimination of a requirement for residents to make an appointment in advance of bringing material to the facility to be recycled. Mr. Waldron moved to approve the contract, and Ms. Unsicker seconded. The motion carried by unanimous approval of the Board.
3. *Waste Commission of Scott County E-waste.* Ms. Gardner noted there were no changes to the contract as compared to FY18. Ms. Unsicker moved to approve the contract, and Mr. Gottwalt seconded. The motion carried by unanimous approval of the Board.

Addendum to the current contract with Republic Services. Mr. Skaff of Republic Services presented a request to the board to increase the amount paid by RICWMA for recycling of paper goods. He explained that the market for such material has taken a downturn in response to China no longer accepting imports of recyclable material. Whereas in the past Republic was able to sell mixed paper for \$50/ton, they are currently having to pay \$5/ton to have the material recycled. So far, this has allowed them to continue recycling the material rather than landfilling it, as other operations have opted to do. The proposed addendum to

the contract of \$35/ton is to cover the transportation and disposal costs of that material. Mr. Skaff stated it was not their intention to make a profit off of the increased fees. Ms. Unsicker asked for an explanation of the cause. Ms. Hayford of Republic explained that it is largely in response to the China ban on imports, though domestic mills are also getting more strict about contamination. In response, Republic has had to hire extra people on their sort line to remove non-recyclable material. Mr. Skaff added that they do not want to risk decreased participation in recycling that might result from putting the program on hold until the market recovered. Mr. Waldron asked whether the current contract with Republic allowed adjusting the rates and how long the current contract was in effect. Ms. Gardner stated the contract went into effect in 2016 and lasts for five years. It contains a clause allowing for an adjustment to the rates if agreed upon in writing by both Republic and RICWMA. Mr. Waldron asked if the rates would stay the same if the addendum was not approved. Ms. Gardner confirmed this. Mr. Skaff noted that, in that event, Republic also had the option to exercise a clause terminating service with written notice, which Ms. Gardner confirmed. Mr. Waldron asked if that would result in the termination of the drop-off recycling program while the individual communities continued their recycling activities, and Ms. Gardner said yes, that would be the case. Ms. Sallows asked if Republic had contingency plans in case the market did not recover. Ms. Hayford said yes, they had the ability to move the material to other mills in their network. Mr. Lambert asked if this matter will be revisited if the market recovers, and Mr. Skaff said yes. Ms. Unsicker moved to approve the proposed addendum to the contract with Republic Services, and Ms. Sallows seconded. Ms. Unsicker, Ms. Sallows, and Mr. Gottwalt voted aye, Mr. Waldron voted nay. The motion carried by simple majority.

Request for \$10,000 to purchase RFID readers and hardware for Moline. Mr. Schick formally requested \$10,000 to support the purchase of RFID technology for Moline as discussed in previous meetings by J.D. Schulte and Kathy Morris. The city has received two proposals to provide the equipment and services, which range in total cost from \$22,000 to \$50,150. The \$10,000 to aid this project is being requested in addition to the SWAG amount normally received by Moline, which is used to support other programs. Mr. Schick explained that the data gathered using this technology would also be available to RICWMA for its analytical use. Mr. Bealer asked if this would be a one-time request, and Mr. Schick said yes. Ms. Unsicker asked what the data collection would add to simple visual accounts of who is and isn't putting recycling carts out. Mr. Schick said he hoped it would mirror Scott County's program, and the RFID technology would allow for very precise data collection. It would enable collectors to photographically document instances of incorrect material being put in the bins, for example, which could help curb contamination and control costs. Violators would have to pay to have their service restored. Ms. Unsicker asked if there was data that showed the effectiveness of this approach, and Mr. Schick affirmed that there was. Mr. Bealer noted that Moline is allotted \$32,000 in SWAG funds each year, a third of which would cover this cost. He also noted that the carryover amount from FY18 for RICWMA will be \$42,000 less than the amount from FY17. Mr. Waldron moved to place this item on the agenda for next month for a vote, and Mr. Gottwalt seconded. The motion carried by unanimous approval of the Board.

Budget revision for FY18. Ms. Gardner reported speaking with RICWMA's auditor Kim Hoffman about the FY18 budget, and Ms. Hoffman advised that the chief concern would be

that the total expenditures for FY18 did not exceed the total budgeted amount for those expenditures. Ms. Gardner noted that more than \$97,000 of the current budget had not yet been spent, and she anticipated this would more than sufficient to cover RICWMA's remaining expenses for FY18, which average around \$30,000 monthly. Ms. Hoffman further recommend adjusting any line items where there might be a chance of exceeding the budgeted amount. Accordingly, Ms. Gardner recommended moving \$4,300 from the budgeted amount for drop-off recycling, which had about \$17,000 left to cover monthly expenses that have ranged from \$8,500-\$10,000, and adding that \$4,300 to the budgeted amount for household hazardous waste, which had \$6,000 left to cover monthly expenses that have ranged from \$4,000 to \$10,000. Mr. Waldron moved to approve the budget revision, and Ms. Unsicker seconded. The motion carried by unanimous approval of the Board.

Consideration of the proposed FY19 budget. Ms. Gardner presented an updated FY19 budget to the board, noting the only change from the budget discussed at the previous meeting was an increase in the budgeted amount for the drop-off recycling program to \$130,500 to cover the increase in fees proposed by Republic Services. Ms. Gardner explained she calculated this increase based on the total tonnage of both fiber and non-fiber material during the previous year. Although the increased fees currently only apply to fiber, she made this calculation in case Republic proposed a similar addendum later in the year increasing fees for co-mingled containers. Mr. Waldron moved to accept the proposed budget, and Mr. Gottwalt seconded. The motion carried by unanimous approval of the Board.

Nomination of the Chair and Vice-Chair. Mr. Waldron asked if Mr. Winter and Mr. Bealer had served the maximum consecutive years as Chair and Vice-Chair allowed in the by-laws, and Mr. Bealer said they had both served two years and were allowed three. Mr. Waldron moved to retain Mr. Winter as Chair and Mr. Bealer as Vice-Chair pending acceptance of the nomination by both. Ms. Unsicker seconded. A vote on the Chair and Vice-Chair was tabled for the following meeting when both could be present.

5. Other Activities.

Republic Services. Ms. Gardner reported meeting with Republic in advance of the board meeting to discuss the proposed fee increase. She also reported receiving a letter from the Upper Rock Island County Landfill in regard to a potential miscalculation for tipping fees from Q1 of 2015 through Q4 of 2017. The letter included a check for \$22,972.72. Ms. Gardner has reached out to the IL EPA to determine how to account for the amount, whether by amending previously filed tipping fee reports to the IL EPA or including it in the tipping fee report for CY 2018. She will proceed as advised once the agency makes a determination, but in the meantime they are reviewing the documents provided by Republic to determine if the state of Illinois was also underpaid.

Brochure update. Ms. Gardner said she has been working with the Bi-State graphics staff to update the current RICWMA brochure. They are working to create a document that utilizes more pictures and less text to be more easily understood by residents, including those for whom English is a second language. Ms. Gardner noted that as recycling fees increase, one way to help control costs will be to try to limit contamination, and she noted a similar approach taken by Scott County has been effective at helping reduce contamination.

Drop-off recycling sites. Ms. Gardner reported visiting all four drop-off sites. Two sites (Moline and East Moline) currently have the signage providing the alternate drop-off location addresses; Rock Island is in the process of getting the sign up. She noted that when calls come in to report full bins, she asks if residents would like an address for an alternate location; callers from Moline have said no, they have selected another site from the sign already and are simply reporting the full bin, so the signage does seem to be working where it is up. Ms. Gardner will continue to reach out to the Milan location about hanging up the sign.

Changes in the recycling industry as a result of the China ban on imported recyclable material. Ms. Gardner has signed up for a training at the end of the month that will address changes in the market resulting from the current change in China policy and expects to be better informed about this issue as a result. She will report any key takeaways to the Board at the next meeting.

6. Comments from the Public. Mr. Collier asked how much of the changes in China were political. Ms. McCullough said we couldn't know, but it seemed to be more of a policy change than a political change, suggesting China has decided no longer to serve as the garbage dump for the world. This seems to coincide with other policy changes in the country addressing environmental contamination.
7. Adjournment. Having no further business to conduct at this time, Mr. Bealer asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Waldron moved to adjourn, and Ms. Unsicker seconded. The motion passed, and the meeting adjourned by consensus of the Board at 1:55 p.m.