

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

Tuesday, February 19, 2019, 1:00 p.m.
Bi-State Regional Commission Conference Room
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Vern Winter, Chair, Rock Island	Mr. Scott Noyd, Rock Island County
Mr. Nick Gottwalt, Carbon Cliff	Ms. Alissa Sallows, East Moline
Mr. Rodd Schick, Moline	Ms. Annette Ernst, Coal Valley
Ms. Louisa Ewert, Sec./Treas., Rock Island Co.	Ms. Caryn Unsicker, Silvis

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Curtis Morrow, Andalusia	Mr. Dave Pannell, Milan
Ms. Michelle Reyes, Hampton	Mr. Bruce Peterson, Port Byron
Ms. Patsy Fidler, Cordova	Ms. Missy Housenga, Rapids City
Mr. Mike Waldron, Moline	Mr. Mike Bealer, Coal Valley

OTHERS PRESENT

Ms. Sarah Gardner, Bi-State	Mr. Dave Collier, Rural Twp
Mr. Joe Skaff, Republic	Mr. Jeff Netzel, Republic
Mr. Eric Davis, Midland Davis	Mr. Dave Lambrect, East Moline

1. Approval of Minutes of the January 15, 2019 Rock Island County Waste Management Agency Board Meeting. Mr. Winter chaired the meeting and directed the Board to the January 15, 2019 minutes for review. Ms. Unsicker motioned to approve the minutes, and Ms. Sallows 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 February 19, 2019 Accounts Payable Statement in the amount of \$34,087.33. She noted that \$5,794.69 of the amount payable to Republic are the processing fees from July through December 2018, as discussed in the previous meeting. Mr. Winter asked for a motion to accept the monthly bills. Ms. Sallows moved to approve the bills as presented and Ms. Unsicker seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion carried by unanimous approval of the Board.

Ms. Gardner presented the January 31, 2019 Financial Reports. She noted that expenses for the government tire program were running high due to a large number of tires brought in during January, but were still within budgeted amounts for the time being. Mr. Winter asked for a motion to accept the Financial Reports and to place them on file. Ms. Ernst so moved and Mr. Noyd seconded. The motion carried by unanimous approval of the Board.

The January 31, 2019 Rock Island County RICWMA Financial Report Summary (Cash Basis) is as follows:

RECEIPTS – FY 2019

Millennium Waste (Waste Connection)	\$	249,826.36
Republic Services	\$	89,174.56
Interest	\$	5,797.18
TOTAL	\$	344,798.10

Prior Years Receipts	\$	9,454,193.07
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DISBURSEMENT – FY 2019	\$	(\$380,896.45)
Prior Years Disbursements	\$	(8,997,161.94)

CURRENT BALANCES

Pool	\$	420,000.00
Checkbook	\$	932.78
TOTAL	\$	420,932.78

Accounts Payable February 19, 2019	\$	34,087.33
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Cash Balances as of February 19, 2019	\$	387,623.97
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3. Agency Program Reports. Mr. Winter asked Ms. Gardner to review the January 2019 reports for the benefit of the Board as follows:

Residential White Goods and Used Tires Collection Program: There were 199 used tires and 78 white good units collected. There were 11 total no-shows.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Program: There were 87 Rock Island County residents who disposed of HHW items at Scott County’s HHM facilities.

Electronic Waste Collection Program: 16,286 pounds of e-waste were brought to Scott County’s electronics facility by 240 Rock Island County residents. This is an average of about 68 pounds per resident.

RICWMA Member Government Tire Disposal Program: Local communities of Rock Island County disposed of 12.68 tons of tires at the Waste Commission of Scott County landfill location.

Regional Drop-Off Recycling Program: A total of 71.30 tons of recyclable material was collected at the drop-off sites. This consisted of 13.06 tons of cardboard and 58.24 tons of comingled materials. There were 68 comingled container pulls and 20 cardboard contain pulls at an average weight of 0.65 tons/pull for cardboard and 0.86 tons/pull for comingled materials.

RICWMA Website Statistics: The RICWMA website had 334 unique visitors and 644 page views.

4. Other Business.

Proposed addendum to recycling contract with Republic: Mr. Joe Skaff of Republic presented to the Board a proposed addendum to the current recycling contract. The addendum codifies the current arrangement remitting to RICWMA any amount over \$35/ton Republic receives on the sale of cardboard material collected in the drop-off recycling cardboard bins each month. The addendum also proposes to pass through a variable per-tonnage processing fee charged by the Waste Commission of Scott County on comingled containers from Republic to RICWMA. Ms. Gardner reported that in the last six months, this fee has averaged about \$16/ton. In January, 58 tons of comingled material were collected from RICWMA drop-off sites, which would suggest an average increase of roughly \$1000/month in additional charges, though it is tough to estimate with just one month of data combined with the variability of the recycling commodities market. Ms. Gardner also reported discussing the fees that would be assessed with Kathy Morris of the Waste Commission of Scott County. Ms. Morris stated that given ongoing low commodities prices in the recycling market, it is not unreasonable for Republic to request a change to the contract. However, she discussed an equalization agreement the Waste Commission has proposed to partners within the solid waste planning boundaries to effectively waive these fees in the short term and then recover the difference in operating costs in the future as commodities prices recover. This agreement has also be offered to Republic for RICWMA’s material. Such an agreement would need to be signed by RICWMA as well, as it would include a provision that RICWMA would be responsible for paying the difference upon termination of the contract with Republic or rolling the agreement forward into the new contract with the next hauler. Mr. Skaff stated that Republic was reluctant to sign this agreement because it had the potential to leave RICWMA responsible for many thousands of dollars of back-fees at the contract’s end. Mr. Winter said it sounded like a case of “pay now or pay later,” and said he did not believe the recycling markets were going to recover following the China ban. Ms. Gardner said that it was her understanding from the conversation with Ms. Morris that if the markets did not recover, a lower fee would first be introduced to prevent a large debt amassing. She also said Ms. Morris offered to meet with the RICWMA Executive Board and representatives of Republic before the March meeting to discuss this agreement further. Ms. Gardner suggested the site coordinators should be present for that meeting as well. Mr. Schick said he thought that would be a good idea, as it would allow RICMWA board members and site coordinators to have the full information before making a decision. He moved to table the discussion to allow for a meeting with Republic, the Waste Commission of Scott County, and RICMWA stakeholders. Mr. Noyd seconded. The motion carried with unanimous approval of the Board.

Proposal to extend RICWMA services to Arsenal Island. Ms. Gardner informed the Board that Moline, which is working on an agreement to begin collecting waste on Arsenal Island, has requested RIWMA also extend HHM, e-waste, appliance, tire, and drop-off site recycling services to the roughly 80 households on the island. Ms. Gardner noted that these households will be contributing to the tipping fees paid at the local landfills that support these programs, so it is fair that they be able to participate in them. She stated that the small number of households on the Arsenal

mean the added costs will likely not add significantly to the normal operating costs for RICMWA. Ms. Gardner further noted the mayors of the Illinois Quad Cities have expressed their support to Denise Bulat of the Bi-State Regional Commission for extending these services as a way to help keep operating costs at the Arsenal lower and support the continued operation of the Arsenal, which is the largest employer in the Quad Cities. Mr. Schick observed that similar to other military installations, there is not a lot of discarded material lying around for long periods of time at the Arsenal, and concurred that the cost of extending these services to Arsenal residents would not be burdensome. Mr. Noyd moved to extend RICWMA programs to Arsenal residents and Ms. Sallows seconded. The motion carried with unanimous approval of the Board.

Proposed changes to the RICWMA by-laws. Mr. Winter called for a vote on the proposed by-law revisions, having discussed the updates at the previous meeting and had a full week to review the current written draft. Mr. Schick moved to adopt the revised by-laws and Ms. Sallows seconded. Mr. Winter asked if there was any discussion, and hearing none, asked for a vote. The motion carried with unanimous approval of the Board.

Other Activities.

Drop-off site update. Ms. Gardner reported to the Board that one of the students involved in the survey project at the RICWMA drop-off sites in the previous term has asked to continue the work as part of his senior project. He will be organizing additional students to conduct more surveys and will be reporting to the Board on his findings at the end of this term. Ms. Gardner will be working with the student and his advisor on the project, and has asked that a question be added to the survey asking about the public perception of the new comingled containers at the drop-off site. She noted this is a good opportunity to continue education efforts with residents using those sites. She also informed the Board based on this project she was invited to give a guest lecture at Augustana College on recycling in Rock Island County as part of their Earth Week activities.

CERA update. Ms. Gardner reported attending a pre-opt in meeting for the Illinois CERA program for electronic recycling. At the meeting, several counties that had opted into the program last year shared ongoing frustrations, including increased costs to their programs and reduced numbers and types of electronics recycled as a result of being unable to continue their relationships with local recyclers. The manufacturers participating in the program have expressed a desire to only work with recyclers with a national presence. In addition, Bryce Stalcup of the Waste Commission of Scott County informed Ms. Gardner that the commission has tried to be added to the list of recyclers but has had difficulty getting a response. Ms. Gardner will be meeting with Mr. Stalcup and Ms. Morris to discuss possible participation strategies in March. She has informed the Illinois EPA in the meantime of the RICWMA Board's decision to continue to take a wait-and-see approach to opting in, in hopes that some of the current hurdles with the program can be resolved. IEPA has said they would like to see all counties participating, but agree that RICWMA is able to recycle more at a lower cost under the current arrangement with Scott County and remain supportive of that course of action.

5. Comments from the Public. Eric Davis of Midland Davis introduced himself to the Board and said he was attending the meeting based on the proposed addendum to the contract with Republic. He asked if this triggered a re-bidding process and expressed Midland Davis' interest in submitting a bid if so. Mr. Winter stated that the current contract with Republic runs through 2023. Ms. Gardner noted that the contract does include a provision that allows Republic and RICWMA to periodically

adjust the rates provided in the agreement based on increases to Republic's operating costs. Dave Collier of Rural Township informed the Board that there had been problems in the previous month with the doors on the drop-off recycling containers in Milan freezing shut and asked if holes could be drilled in the railing that would allow water to drain. This would help prevent the doors from getting stuck open or closed. Joe Skaff of Republic said he would raise the question with Republic's operations staff and said he thought they would be able to make that adjustment.

6. Adjournment. Having no further business to conduct at this time, Mr. Winter asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ernst moved to adjourn and Ms. Unsicker seconded. The motion passed, and the meeting adjourned by consensus of the Board at 1:36 p.m.