

**Policies & Procurement Committee
November 8, 2007 Meeting**

Draft Minutes

Members Present: Raymond O'Brien, Committee Chairman
Theodore Martland
James Miron (Present by telephone)

CRRA Staff Present: Tom Kirk, President
Peter Egan, Director of Environmental Affairs & Development
Laurie Hunt, Director of Legal Services
Paul Nonnenmacher, Director of Public Affairs
Moira Kenney, Secretary to the Board/Paralegal

Chairman O'Brien called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and noted that there was a quorum. Chairman O'Brien requested that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance whereupon the Pledge was recited. Noting that there were no members of the public present for comment, Chairman O'Brien stated that the regular meeting would commence.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2007 COMMITTEE MEETING

Chairman O'Brien requested a motion to accept the minutes of the October 15, 2007 Policies & Procurement Committee meeting. The motion made by Vice-Chairman Martland was seconded by Director Miron.

The minutes as presented were approved unanimously.

2. REVIEW AND RECOMMEND FOR BOARD APPROVAL RESOLUTION REGARDING PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES

Chairman O'Brien requested a motion regarding the above-captioned item. Director Miron made the following motion:

RESOLVED: That the President of CRRA be authorized to enter into a contract with Strategic Persuasion Group LLC for Public Relations Services substantially as discussed and presented at this meeting. Further, that the President is hereby authorized to approve a Request for Services with Strategic Persuasion Group LLC for services associated with a landfill siting initiative substantially as discussed and presented at this meeting.

Vice-Chairman Martland seconded the motion.

Vice-Chairman Martland asked why the cost for Public Relations Services was so high. Mr. Nonnenmacher explained the \$130,000 cost for the Public Relations Services had already been approved by the Board for another firm. He explained the original firm was contracted for

the expertise of one man in particular, Mr. William Neagus. Mr. Neagus left Cubitt Jacobs & Prosek Communications (hereinafter referred to as “CJ &P”) in September to start his own firm, Strategic Persuasion Group LLC (hereinafter referred to as “SPG”). He explained that no additional funds would be spent, only moved to SPG.

Director Miron stated that he felt the money was well spent due to the enormous benefit and expertise offered by a Public Relations Service. Vice-Chairman Martland asked if Mr. Neagus’s expertise warranted a move to a new firm. Mr. Kirk explained that Mr. Neagus has an excellent understanding and experience in, the “not in my back yard” issue (hereinafter referred to as “NIMBY”) which CRRA anticipated encountering as it began the process of siting and developing a new ash landfill in Connecticut. Mr. Nonnenmacher explained that CRRA uses both CJ&P and Pita Communications for Public Relations Services and would keep CJ&P in its stable. He stated another reason to contract SPG was that taking on a new firm would involve getting the new firm up to speed on work that has already been in the works for several years, when Mr. Neagus is already heavily involved in several new projects such as the Web-Site and other marketing aspects.

Director Miron asked if there were any legal repercussions from CJ&P if CRRA were to switch their business to SPG. Mr. Nonnenmacher explained that Mr. Neagus had amicably parted with CJ&P and their management was willing to make efforts to ensure a smooth transition for CRRA. Mr. Nonnenmacher explained the original Request for Services would need to be terminated.

Director O’Brien asked that the Request for Service termination be included in the write-up and also requested that Mr. Neagus’s resume be included as well.

The motion previously made and seconded was approved unanimously.

3. **REVIEW AND RECOMMEND FOR BOARD APPROVAL RESOLUTION REGARDING SOLID WASTE CONSULTING SERVICES TO SUPPORT PROCUREMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL SERVICES FOR PROCESS RESIDUE, NON-PROCESSIBLE WASTE, AND BYPASS WASTE**

Chairman O’Brien requested a motion regarding the above-captioned item. Vice-Chairman Martland made the following motion:

RESOLVED: That the President is hereby authorized to enter into a request for Services with Alternative Resources, Inc. for solid waste consulting services to support procurement of transportation and disposal services for process residue, non-processible waste and bypass waste, substantially as discussed and presented at this meeting.

The motion was seconded by Director Miron.

The motion previously made and seconded was approved unanimously.

4. **REVIEW AND RECOMMEND FOR BOARD RATIFICATION RESOLUTION REGARDING EMERGENCY PROCUREMENTS CONTRACTS.**

Chairman O'Brien requested a motion regarding the above-captioned item. Director Miron made the following motion:

RESOLVED: That the Authority Board of Directors ratifies the emergency purchase as substantially presented and discussed at this meeting.

The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Martland.

Director Miron asked what an electric magnetic drum was. Mr. Kirk explained that it was an electro magnet that sits over the conveyor belt which magnetically removes items of metal before they enter the shredder. He explained that six months ago there was an unusually large explosion in the shredder. Investigation into the explosion's causes showed that the electro magnetic drum wasn't working properly, and had allowed a small propane container to get into the shredder. There was no significant damage and the equipment handled the explosion, but the drum needed to be replaced to avoid further incident.

Director Miron asked why Walker Magnetics was chosen. Mr. Kirk and Chairman O'Brien explained Walker Magnetics was the original vendor and had provided dependable service in the past. Mr. Kirk stated that more information on the timing and necessity of the replacement will be provided at the November 29, 2007, Board Meeting.

5. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO CRRA TELEPHONIC MEETING POLICY

Chairman O'Brien stated that it has been increasingly difficult to have enough Directors' present to satisfy quorum requirements at the CRRA Board of Director's meetings. Chairman O'Brien suggested that the rule that six Director's be present physically to begin the meeting should stand, but as an alternative a supermajority made up of both physically present Directors and those present on the telephone would also satisfy the quorum requirement. He stated in this manner the public would be assured nothing was being decided by small number of Director's.

Director Miron suggested that video conferencing should be considered an alterative to physical attendance. Mr. Kirk suggested that video conferencing be available to Directors at the Stratford facility. Chairman O'Brien and the CRRA staff agreed that video conferencing should satisfy the physical attendance of the quorum requirement. The Committee also agreed the technology could also offer the public another avenue of communicating with the Board, and adds to CRRA's commitment to complete transparency of the Board's actions.

Ms. Hunt stated that the changes would be ready for the board meeting on November 29, 2007 but would not be ready to be voted on. She also stated that the notices to the Secretary of the State would need to note the changes of public availability.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Kirk stated that CRRA had received notice from the Supreme Court that they have declined to provide a stay of the transfer of the \$35.9 million to the plaintiff's attorney. There is

no action required on CRRA's part but we expect the attorney will be contacting the Treasurer to move the money over. He explained the move would put a big hole in the budget but CRRA will plan accordingly.

Director Miron asked where the money will be moved. Mr. Kirk stated he believed it would be placed in the attorney's escrow account. Director Miron stated that lawyer's trust accounts are only supposed to be for short term parking and he would suggest that CRRA's lawyers ask for the funds to be moved into an interest bearing account, if the period of stay in the escrow account is lengthy.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss, Chairman O'Brien requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion made by Vice-Chairman Martland and seconded by Director Miron was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Moira Kenney
Secretary to the Board/Paralegal