

Policies & Procurement Committee
Oct. 17, 2013
Regular Telephonic Meeting Draft Minutes

Members Present by phone: Committee Chairman John Adams
 Vice-Chairman Richard Barlow
 Ralph Eno
 Joe MacDougald

CRRA Staff Present: Tom Kirk, President
 Mark Daley, CFO
 Peter Egan, Director of Environmental Affairs
 Laurie Hunt, Director of Legal Services
 Roger Guzowski, Contracts and Procurement Manager
 Moira Kenney, HR Specialist/Board Administrator

Committee Chairman Adams called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present.

Committee Chairman Adams noted there were no members of the public present which cared to speak during public comment, and said the regular meeting would commence.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPT. 12, 2013, REGULAR POLICIES & PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Chairman Adams requested a motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Sept. 12, 2013, Policies & Procurement Committee meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Vice-Chairman Barlow and seconded by Director Eno.

The motion to approve the minutes as amended and discussed was approved by roll call. Director Eno abstained as he was not present at the last meeting.

2. REVIEW AND RECOMMEND RESOLUTION REGARDING REMOVAL OF SEDIMENT FROM THE COAL POND AT THE SOUTH MEADOWS SITE

Committee Chairman Adams requested a motion on the above referenced item. The motion was made by Vice-Chairman Barlow and seconded by Director MacDougald.

WHEREAS: CRRA intends to issue a purchase order to NAES Corporation to remove accumulated sediment from the coal pond at CRRA's South Meadows site; and

WHEREAS: Funds necessary to pay expenses associated with the removal of accumulated sediment from the coal pond at the CRRA South Meadows site have been accrued in the Mid-Connecticut Operating Account; be it

RESOLVED: that payment of this expense shall be funded from the Mid-Connecticut Operating Account, substantially as presented and discussed at this meeting.

Mr. Egan said this resolution is to authorize the use of funds from the Mid-Conn operating account to conduct an activity later this year using CRRA's operator NAES (which otherwise conducts activities under the Connecticut Solid Waste System). He said there is an area next to the power block facility at the South Meadows Resource Recovery Facility historically constructed to store coal (as the Project burned coal for the first 20 years).

Mr. Egan said CRRA has not burned coal since 2004 however the coal storage area (informally known as the coal pond) is still present and contains a small amount of coal. He said this area is used primarily to collect storm water run-off as well as run off from inside the building including the ash load-out building. Mr. Egan said the water which accumulates in the pond is in turn recycled back into the facilities to use as scrubber make-up water to slake the dry lime purchased by NAES into a liquid material which can then be injected into the flue gas to neutralize acid gases.

Mr. Egan said over the years the water which is conveyed by gravity to the pond contains a small amount of suspended solids, and the solids have settled out over the last ten years and need to be removed. He said prior to the close of the Mid-Conn Project management accrued money from that project in order to fund this activity.

Mr. Egan said the activity will involve removing the sediment in a manner which does not damage the integrity of the liner, de-water it (which will take several months) then convey it across the roadway to the ash load out building where it will then be transported to the Wheelabrator landfill in Putnam, CT as it is essentially all ash.

Mr. Kirk said any future maintenance associated with the coal pond would be a budgeted expense under the operations of the plant. He said it will continue to be used as drainage for contact water and a source of processed water for the flue gas system.

Director Eno asked why NAES is undertaking the responsibility of this task versus CRRA directly, and if there are additional costs associated with this process. Mr. Egan said it is appropriate for NAES to manage this job as it is a maintenance activity associated with the plant and NAES is in a better position than CRRA to procure for outside services. He said this is the structure of the business model CRRA has with NAES. Mr. Egan said there is no mark-up for the service and management has reviewed the quotes from the outside contractors with NAES.

Director Eno asked if Clean Harbors will assume generator status of this material once it is dried out and deposited into the landfill. Mr. Egan said Clean Harbors is not the generator of this material. He explained CRRA is the generator of all solid hazardous waste at the South Meadows site under the contract with NAES, including the ash which is non-hazardous.

Director MacDougald asked if an evaluation of the contents of the pond will be done and if there is an ongoing environmental expense for the monitoring of the pond. Mr. Egan said there is no coal ash in the pond but there is municipal waste combustor ash residue which becomes suspended or entrained in water which drains from the ash load out building.

Mr. Egan said that CRRA developed a sampling and analysis plan and took fourteen samples from around the pond to test for what is called the eight RCRA metals to demonstrate the material is not hazardous waste (which it is not). He said in addition a couple of samples were tested for additional TCLP constituents all of which are organic compounds. Mr. Egan said essentially there are no other characteristics of hazardous waste or organic compounds.

Director MacDougald asked when the testing was done and if additional funds will be required for clean-up. Mr. Egan said the testing was done this past August and over time there will be a slow build-up of sediment. He said CRRA will have its operator clean the pond more frequently in the future and do analytical as necessary. Mr. Egan said there will be an ongoing cost to maintain this pond which will be included in the annual operating budgets.

Vice-Chairman Barlow asked how much coal is stockpiled on site. Mr. Egan replied approximately 1,000-2,000 tons of old coal which may not have much, if any, value. He said management looked into trying to sell it about five to six years ago and did not get a lot of interest. Mr. Kirk said if there is a change in the commodities market management would certainly look into selling it however it can always be put into the boiler for the BTU's if that is not the case.

The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

INFORMATIONAL

Committee Chairman Adams said the Informational Section had been thoroughly reviewed and there were no comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Committee Chairman Adams requested a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss trade secrets. The motion made by Director Eno and seconded by Vice-Chairman Barlow was approved unanimously. Committee Chairman Adams requested that the following people remain for the Executive Session, in addition to the Committee members:

Tom Kirk
Mark Daley
Laurie Hunt
Peter Egan

The Executive Session commenced at 11:18 a.m. and ended at 11:43 a.m. Committee Chairman Adams noted that no votes were taken.

The meeting was reconvened at 11:43 a.m., the door was opened, and the Board secretary and all members of the public were invited back in for the continuation of public session.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chairman Adams requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion made by Director Eno and seconded by Vice-Chairman Barlow was approved unanimously by roll call.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Moira Kenney
HR Specialist/Board Administrator