

# OKRA Board Meeting Minutes

Friday August 15, 2014  
11:00 a.m. –12:40 p.m.  
The M.e.t. Tulsa & FuzeBox

## I. Welcome –Traci Phillips

In attendance: Ilda Hershey, Michael Patton, Traci Phillips.

Via Fuzebox: Jim Bologna, Ian Groshong, Tracy Horst, Daniel McCune, Robert Pickens, Garmon Smith.

## II. Approval of Minutes – Traci Phillips

Traci asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes.

Ilda motioned to approve with addendum items that she submitted to Sara Ivey afterward.

Michael seconded. Motion passed.

## III. Committee Reports

A. Membership Committee – Ilda Hershey, Chairman. Ilda reported that members are listed in the July OKRA newsletter. New members since then include those on today's Finance summary. After the conference she will tally the revenue and number of members per category.

B. Finance – Michael Patton, Treasurer

### 1. Treasurer's Report

Financials were for the eleven-week period from April 1 to August 15, 2014. Income included several corporate memberships [editor's note: should be June 1-August 14.]

- o The income for the period was \$1,676.00 and expenses for the period were \$193.95.
- o We show a positive \$1,482.05 for the period.
- o Our ending balance is \$23,700.74

C. Nominations Committee – Tracy Horst

The committee has not found a good time to meet yet.

## IV. Work Groups

A. Advocacy – Daniel McCune

Daniel attended one Advocacy meeting when Amanda Marcott Thottunkal was chair. He is very interested in advocacy and has experience advocating at the Oklahoma State Capitol. Traci welcomed him to OKRA and thanked him for taking on a leadership role. He asked what OKRA wants to advocate so he could have some direction.

1. Ilda stated that efforts should be twofold: Awareness and policy change.
  - o Increase legislator awareness of OKRA and our efforts; position OKRA as a resource regarding the business of recycling. We did this once with a happy hour reception, however, it is difficult to attract legislators to off-site events.
  - o Exhibit – Jim suggested an OKRA exhibit at the Capitol to showcase Oklahoma businesses that use or process recycled content and employment in the Oklahoma recycling sector. Have fact sheets to give away and cake or cookies.

- Policy Changes – Michael suggested tax incentives for companies that use recycled material feedstock. Ilda recommended we also return to glass policy.
  - 2. Ilda will send any former workgroup member emails to both Daniel & Jim. Daniel will also springboard from ideas that Amanda had proposed formerly.
  - 3. Michael stated OKRA has funding for a reception, exhibit, handouts, food & beverage – whatever the workgroup needs should be outlined in a budget proposal.
- B. Education – Ian Groshong
1. Recycling Award for Schools - Ian nominated Stillwater Highland Park Elementary for the next award. It was built last year to LEED specifications. They compost, recycle, garden, etc. Ilda motioned to approve the nomination and Michael seconded. Motion passed. Ilda will send the URL for our webpage with former award recipients to Ian so he can use those examples to draft a short summary of the school's waste reduction efforts. Ian will send info to Michael to cut the award checks and will take photos for local news coverage when he makes the award to the school. Ilda will also follow up with Michael and Garmon on the status of their award presentations to the Owasso & Roth schools, respectively
  2. PSA Contest – Ian has received previous forms from Ilda and is updating them, as well as the flyer. He proposed the theme, “The Amazing Race 2 Zero Waste,” which was accepted. Ian will post a notice to the OKRA listserv (over 600 subscribers) to request PSA committee help to promote the contest and judge entries. He will specifically ask if anyone has email lists of H.S. science teachers or eco-club advisors.
- C. Market Development – Tracy Horst and Joey Dunlap – Co-chairs
1. No report.
- D. Materials Exchange – Michael Patton, Chair
1. No report.
- E. Communication/Outreach
1. Facebook – Tracy stated we have 541 likes. Everyone appreciates those who have been posting. Michael said there has been a nice mix of information.
  2. Website – Ilda reported that she had recently updated the Events page and PSA page and reminded everyone that Workgroup descriptions and chairs are listed at the bottom of the Get Involved page. Let her know of any updates to be made on any pages.
  3. Newsletter – Trudi Logan recently published one. No new deadline yet.
  4. E-Mail Inquiries – Ilda said we had 4 since 5/30 (slow over summer).
  5. 2014 Conference – Ilda reviewed the draft program agenda and discussion ensued. It was recommended to remove Covanta Energy's session given the recycling and composting focus of this conference. Covanta in Tulsa is not recovering fibers, plastics, glass or organic material from incineration. Although we recognize the benefit of producing energy from waste, OKRA does not consider these materials as waste.
    - i. Ilda will email a revised draft agenda to the conference planning committee and those board & council members who have shown an interest in conference plans. She will continue to confirm speakers.
    - ii. It was decided to make the two tours concurrent for logistical reasons.
    - iii. Registration should be available online before the end of the month.
    - iv. Board/Council will be called upon to help with promotions.
    - v. We are only at about 2/3 of our sponsorship goal, so please continue to solicit.

- vi. Michael said NRC is planning a national conference in April, 2015. He will let them know it will not conflict with our conference which takes place in Oct.

V. Old Business

- A. Status of by-law revisions (Garmon Smith) - No change.
- B. 501(c)(3) status (Michael Patton)
  - a. The attorney working on our paperwork had a few questions that Michael answered. Michael expects our status to be confirmed soon.
- C. Partnering with DEQ to provide new recycler list and map (Traci) – No update until we hear further from Lynn who was going to talk with Fenton Rood about the possibility of OSU extension doing this.
- D. Work Group descriptions & expectations (Michael & Diana) – No update [editor's note: descriptions are already listed here: <http://www.recycleok.org/okra/get-involved/>].

VI. New Business

1. Resource Recovery Conference Report

- o Michael wants to report on OKRA activities at the Resource Recycling Conference in New Orleans in September. Let him know of any direction or needs that OKRA may have, for instance, would it be beneficial to have a state recycling certification program? Check other state recycling organizations to see what they are doing, but keep in mind that most have paid staff or a paid executive director.

VII. Next meeting date, location & time

Friday, October 3, 2014, 11:00-1:00 via Fuzebox.

VIII. Adjournment - 12:40pm