

MIRA Dissolution Authority Finance Committee  
November 1, 2023  
Meeting Minutes

A Regular Meeting of the Finance Committee of the MIRA Dissolution Authority was held on November 1, 2023. Present via video or audio conferencing were:

Committee Present: Paul Harrington (Committee Chairperson)  
Bill Beccaro (arrived after approval of minutes)  
Matt Dayton  
Dave Steuber

Other Directors Attending: Joseph DeNicola

Authority Staff Present: Mark Daley, President and CFO  
Roger Guzowski, Supply Chain Manager  
Cheryl Kaminsky, Comptroller  
Tom Gaffey, Director of Recycling and Enforcement  
Chris Shepard, Environmental Compliance Manager

A video recording of the full meeting is available at <https://www.ctmira.org/board-documents/mira-dissolution-authority-board-documents/mira-dissolution-authority-finance-meetings>. Summary meeting minutes follow.

Committee Chairperson Harrington called the meeting to order at 9:30a.m. Following a roll call of the Committee Members and Authority Staff present, Chairperson Harrington invited members of the public to address the Committee. As there was no public comment, he proceeded with the agenda.

**1. REVIEW AND APPROVIE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 18, 2023 MEETING**

The motion to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2023 meeting of the Finance Committee was raised by Director Dayton and seconded by Director Steuber. Roger Guzowski raised an administrative correction with apologies for spelling Director Dayton’s name wrong. There were no other corrections to the minutes. The minutes were approved by roll call:

	Raised	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Paul Harrington, Committee Chair			X		
Bill Beccaro					Not yet arrived
Matt Dayton	X		X		
Dave Steuber		X	X		

Director Beccaro joined the meeting prior to the next agenda item.

## **2. DISCUSSION REGARDING STAKEHOLDER INTERESTS IN AUTHORITY RESERVES**

President and CFO Mark Daley shared a presentation and provided an overview of Stakeholder Interests in Authority Reserves including a background overview of the Authority's Base Enabling Legislation, Municipal Services Agreements, Host Community Agreements, Existing Financial Accommodations and Public Act 23-170.

Director Dayton referenced Section 11 of Public Act 23-170 and asked Mr. Daley if there are two conflicting viewpoints regarding Section 11 in relation to the tip fee stabilization. Mr. Daley indicated that he thinks there are. Mr. Daley summarized differences of opinion and interpretation as to whether Section 11 was intended to prevent the use of the tip fee stabilization or whether that section referred just to the return of excess reserves to the towns as had been done at the end of former CRR/MIRA projects such as the Bridgeport and Mid-Conn Projects. Mr. Daley further indicated that there is a basic premise that a law can't be passed to interfere with an existing contract and that if Section 11 is intended to refer to the tip fee stabilization, then it is not consistent with the Municipal Services Agreements of the remaining CSWS municipalities. Mr. Daley indicated that these differences of interpretation need to be hammered out in order to complete the budget process.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding next steps regarding the remaining CSWS municipalities and the Authority's budget given these differences in interpretation and opinion. During that discussion, in regard to getting clarification from the legislature regarding Section 11, Committee Chair Harrington brought up the challenge of aligning the schedules of the legislative session which doesn't start until the first week in February with the MIRA budget schedule and the need to push a budget out to the towns soon thereafter.

## **3. DISCUSSION REGARDING OVERVIEW OF THE AUTHORITY'S BUDGETING PROCESS**

The prior discussion regarding the tip fee stabilization continued and blended into a discussion and presentation regarding the Authority's budgeting process. During that discussion, Mr. Daley provided an overview of the budgeting process and informed the Committee that under the Municipal Service Agreements, MIRA is obligated to adopt a budget and tip fee by the end of February.

As part of continued discussion, the Committee discussed advanced communication to the remaining CSWS towns about the budget, the tip fee for FY25 and the issue regarding differences in interpretation of Section 11.

## **4. REVIEW OF DRAFT FISCAL YEAR 2025 AUTHORITY BUDGET**

With limited time remaining in the meeting, Mr. Daley offered that there had already been discussion of the Authority Budget as part of the prior discussion. Committee Chair Harrington suggested proceeding to the subsequent resolutions on the Agenda.

Before proceeding, Director Dayton asked if the Committee could be provided with a balance sheet so the Committee could get a full financial picture.

**5. DRAFT RESOLUTION REGARDING USE OF MID-CONN RESERVE FOR LEGAL SUPPORT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH SOUTH MEADOWS REMEDIATION UNDER THE EXIT STRATEGY™ CONTRACT**

After a brief background provided by Mr. Daley and Mr. Shepard about the draft resolution, the motion to advance the Draft Resolution Regarding Use Of Mid-Conn Reserve For Legal Support Costs Associated With South Meadows Remediation Under The Exit Strategy™ Contract was made by Director Beccaro and Seconded by Director Steuber.

**RESOLVED:** That the President is authorized to execute a Request for Services under the Authority’s Legal Services Agreement with Cohn Birnbaum & Shea P.C. for Fiscal Year 2024 legal support associated with the Exit Strategy™ Contract and the South Meadow Station remediation project, substantially as discussed and presented at this meeting; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That funds from the Mid CT. Post Project Closure reserve be utilized to pay for the costs of the legal services under the Request for Services with Cohn Birnbaum & Shea P.C.

The resolution was approved by roll call vote:

	Raised	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Paul Harrington, Committee Chair			X		
Bill Beccaro	X		X		
Matt Dayton			X		
Dave Steuber		X	X		

**6. DISCUSSION REGARDING APPAISAL PRICING**

Mr. Guzowski and Mr. Daley provided a very brief overview of the publically-solicited existing appraisal contract and quote received for the appraisal of several property division properties. There was consensus to proceed with appraisals of 211and 171 Murphy Road as well as the Watertown and Ellington transfer stations.

## 7. DRAFT RESOLUTION REGARDING RETURN OF UNUSED INVENTORY

After a brief background provided by Mr. Daley, the motion to advance the Draft Resolution Regarding Return of Unused Inventory to the full Board was raised by Director Dayton and Seconded by Director Beccaro.

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority hereby approves the modification of Section 5.12 of the Procurement Policies and Procedures reflected on Exhibit A attached hereto, and adopts the corresponding procedure included on Exhibit B hereto.

### Exhibit B

#### 5.12 Disposition of CRRRA Personal Property

If CRRRA, and now the MIRA Dissolution Authority under Public Act 23-170 (the "Authority"), desires to dispose of any piece of its personal property that has a fair market value of One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars or greater, the Authority shall dispose of any such piece of personal property through a Competitive Process that conforms to the intent of the Act and these Policies And Procedures. The foregoing notwithstanding, the Competitive Process shall not apply to the return of unused Authority equipment and parts inventories to the original suppliers thereof subject to reasonable restocking and/or freight charges providing for the removal of such inventories from Authority property. The terms of all such inventory returns shall be reported to and reviewed by the Authority's Finance Committee. Any cumulative returns to a single supplier exceeding \$50,000 shall further be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full Board of Directors. Such reviews and approvals shall be conducted with due consideration of the Authority's duties and responsibilities under Section 9 (a) (4) of Public Act 23-170 to wind down the Authority's operations and activities in an orderly and responsible manner, that may include, but is not limited to, the marketing and sale of the authority's surplus real and personal property.

The resolution was approved by roll call vote:

	Raised	Second	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Paul Harrington, Committee Chair			X		
Bill Beccaro		X	X		
Matt Dayton	X		X		
Dave Steuber			X		

After a very brief overview of the informational reports provided in the Committee package by Mr. Daley, Committee Chair Harrington asked if there were any closing comments. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:59am.

# ***ATTACHMENT 2***