



H·R·R·A  
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**HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, April 16, 2009, 10:30 a.m.**

**Room 133, Brookfield Town Hall**

Members or Alternates Present and Voting:

Bethel, Robert Burke	8
Brookfield, Joni Park	7
Danbury, Joel Urice	35
New Fairfield, Mike Gill	6
New Milford, Suzanne Von Holt	13
Newtown, Herbert Rosenthal	12
Redding, Larry Kulowiec	4
Ridgefield, Rudolph Marconi	11
Sherman, Andrea O'Connor	<u>2</u>
	98

Others Present:

Ed Hayes, Sherman Alternate  
Cheryl Reedy, HRRR Director  
Bob Metzler, HRRR Counsel  
Dave Dunleavy, RTI  
Lynn Waller, Public

Members Not Present

Bridgewater, William Stuart  
Kent, Dolores Schiesel

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gill at 10:37 a.m. with a quorum of 98 votes present from nine towns.

Public Comment

- Dave Dunleavy said that RTI was trying to get together all the reports requested by HRRR. Some reports were not done in the past but RTI will make its best efforts in the future to comply with the reports required by the contract, although he noted that it wasn't going to be perfect.
- Lynn Waller said that she was very disappointed to see the reports of Bethel making changes in its transfer station to accept additional waste and that she would prefer to see the region work together through the White Street transfer station. She said she had spoken to First Selectman Burke so her comments would not come as a surprise to him.

Chairman's and Members' Comments

- Chairman Gill welcomed Redding's new alternate, Larry Kulowiec, who is the new Transfer Station Manager for the Town. He also reported receiving a call from Terry Brotherton of RTI saying he wanted to meet with HRRR to resolve the contract issues in the notices of default brought to his attention by HRRR.

- J. Urice reported that the Nominating Committee had not yet had a meeting and asked the Director to poll the current officers to determine their willingness to serve another term.

### Director's Report

C. Reedy highlighted the following from the written Director's Reports:

- MSW tonnage and recycling tonnage continue to decline due to the economy and revenue from recycling sales is only at 15% of prior year's revenue year to date.
- The State has postponed implementation of the e-waste program until sometime between October 2009 and March 2010.
- There was a 20% increase in the number of students participating in the recycling poster contest this year compared with last, for a total of 1800 students from eight communities. Every participating town has at least one regional winner. The regional award ceremony will be Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers in Danbury City Hall. Municipal CEOs should either be present or arrange for someone to represent them to hand out the awards from their community.

### Consent Action Items

- Minutes of February 19, 2009* – **Motion** by A. O'Connor, second by S. Von Holt, to approve the minutes of February 19, 2009 as presented. **Vote:** All in favor except R. Burke who abstained because he was not present.
- Financial Statements to March 31, 2009* – **Motion** by A. O'Connor, second by R. Burke, to approve the financial statements through March 31, 2009 as presented. **Vote:** All in favor.
- Transfer* – **Motion** by J. Park, second by R. Burke, to approve the transfer of \$500 from Travel/Mileage Reimbursement to Staffing to cover the cost of a larger than expected increase in medical insurance rates effective March 1<sup>st</sup>. **Vote:** All in favor. M. Gill asked the Director to investigate purchasing medical insurance through the State of CT.
- HRRRA Approved Depositories* – **Motion** by R. Burke, second by J. Park, to add the Savings Bank of Danbury, Newtown Savings Bank, and Orange ING to the list of approved depositories for HRRRA funds in order to improve interest income. **Vote:** All in favor.

### Town of Bethel Transfer Station

Based on an article in the NewsTimes the HRRRA Director sent the Town of Bethel a letter reminding the Town of its contractual obligations to HRRRA for MSW and recycling. Since then the Director and First Selectman have spoken and a copy of Bethel's RFP for expansion of its transfer station provided to HRRRA. The RFP only asks for assistance in expanding Bethel's transfer station permit for bulky waste/C&D tonnage. R. Burke stated for the record that Bethel intends to honor its contracts with HRRRA and that the proposed expansion is only for C&D. The newspaper article was wrong, he said. The town's transfer station is operating at a \$200,000 per year loss and First Selectman Burke said he had an obligation to make the town whole and recoup the loss in increased revenue.

### Old Business:

- Petition to U.S. Attorney General* – The petition was filed after the last meeting and to date there has been no response. The Director and Attorney Casagrande for the City of Danbury have been working with the Chief of Staff at Sen. Lieberman's office to determine if there is some place in the decision process during which HRRRA and Danbury counsel can meet or talk with a representative of Attorney General Holder. Sen. Lieberman's office has been most helpful.
- Update on Danbury Acquisition of Transfer Station* – J. Urice reported that the City received a good response to its RFQ for private partners for the transfer station bid. The City feels good about the progress to date, he said, and things are progressing well.
- RTI Contract Default Issues* – **Motion** by J. Urice, second by H. Rosenthal, to go into executive session at 11:09 a.m. to discuss the pending contract default issues with RTI and to invite into the

executive session all HRRRA members and alternates, the HRRRA Director and HRRRA legal counsel. **Vote:** All in favor. The HRRRA came out of executive session at 11:44 a.m. No business was conducted in the executive session. **Motion** by A. O'Connor, second by H. Rosenthal, that the HRRRA continues to believe there are serious contract defaults by RTI and authorizes its staff and legal counsel to pursue remedies for such defaults. **Vote:** All in favor.

Adjournment

**Motion** by R. Burke, second by J. Urice, to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m. **Vote:** No one opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl D. Reedy  
HRRRA Director