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**HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, April 17, 2014, 10:30 a.m.**

**Brookfield Town Hall, Room 133**

**Members or Alternates Present and Voting**

Brookfield, Bill Tinsley	7
Danbury, Joel Urice	36
New Fairfield, Mike Gill	6
New Milford, Suzanne Von Holt	12
Newtown, Herb Rosenthal	12
Redding, Larry Kulowiec	4
Ridgefield, Rudy Marconi	11
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**Other Present:**

Tom Tibolla, Brookfield Alternate  
Ryan Bingham, Winters Brothers  
Susan Chapman, New Fairfield Alternate  
Eric Frederickson, All American Waste  
Lynn Waller, Public  
Unknown guest

**Members Not Present**

Bethel, Bridgewater, Kent, and Sherman

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gill at 10:36 a.m. with a quorum of 88 votes present from seven municipalities.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Chairman's and Members' Comments**

M. Gill noted that without objection, to be more convenient for the public in attendance, item 6e on the agenda, the update on the permit intervention with DEEP, would be moved to the end of the agenda since the Authority will enter executive session for that item and no votes will be taken when the Authority returns from executive session.

**Director's Report**

The Director's Report was inadvertently skipped in the meeting. C. Reedy passed out updated Recycling Tonnage reports with data through March 31st.

**Administrative Approvals**

- a. **Minutes - Motion** by J. Urice, second by S. Von Holt, to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2013 meeting as presented. **Vote:** All in favor, except L. Kulowiec abstained (Vote tally: 84 in favor, 4 abstained)

- b. **Financial Statements - Motion** by H. Rosenthal, second by J. Urice, to approve the HRRRA financial statements through March 31, 2014 as presented. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 88 in favor.)

R. Marconi asked if MSW tonnage was down enough that the put or pay clause of the WSDA could become an issue during the next year. C. Reedy said that four municipalities fell below their individual put or pay tonnage for the last fiscal year and that the total in the region was down to approximately 125,000 tons for last calendar year, or only 108% of the 115,000 tons minimum guarantee. MSW tonnage into the Ridgefield transfer station has fallen by about 50% compared to last year at the same time due to County Waste taking Ridgefield MSW to New York state for disposal and All American Waste taking Ridgefield MSW to the Danbury transfer station for disposal. Other tonnage is leaking from the system to the CRRA transfer station in Watertown due to their spot market pricing. R. Marconi noted that Ridgefield and Newtown always have the option of implementing flow control for all MSW originating within their borders since the HRRRA transfer stations in each town are municipally owned.

- c. **Additional Appropriation - Motion** by M. Gill, second by H. Rosenthal to approve an additional appropriation of \$20,000 from fund balance to the Professional Services line for legal fees as recommended by the Executive Committee. **Vote:** All in favor (Vote tally: 88 in favor.)

### Old Business

- a. **Bridgewater Organics Pilot Update** - J. Iannucci noted that the Ribbon Cutting for the Bridgewater Organics Pilot Program was a great success and garnered lots of favorable press in the NewsTimes, Republican American, Voices and Spectrum as well as the article in Biocycle Magazine. She thanked those HRRRA members who were able to attend including R. Marconi, S. Chapman, M. Knickerbocker, L. Kulowiec, C. Cope and C. Read. To date the program has been in operation for two weeks and approximately 700 pounds of organics have been collected each week. She gave a shout out to Eric Frederickson and All American Waste for their assistance and cooperation, without which the program would not be possible.
- b. **Poster Contest Update** - J. Iannucci reminded members to attend the 7th Annual Earth Day Recycling Poster Contest Award Ceremony to be held on Wednesday, April 23rd, 5:30 pm, Union Savings Bank at North Street in order to award prizes to the students from their community. This year more than 2500 students participated in the poster contest across the region, a 22% increase from last year. J. Iannucci showed members a slide show of the regional winners' posters and swore everyone to secrecy since the results are not made public until the actual Award Ceremony. This year's poster contest sponsors included All American Waste, Winters Brothers, Wheelabrator and Union Savings Bank.
- c. **Bay State Textiles Update** - At the request of M. Gill, C. Reedy contacted Paul Curry from Bay State Textiles to find out when the company would start to collect material in the region. According to an e-mail received from Mr. Curry, Bay State will deliver collection containers to those municipalities in the region that have signed a contract with them by the end of April. Those municipalities include Bethel, Kent, New Fairfield and possibly Bridgewater and Newtown. Brookfield is still looking into a location for the collection container(s). Bay State pays municipalities based on the tonnage collected in each container.

- d. **Battery Stewardship Update** - C. Reedy reported that the Product Stewardship Institute has organized a national dialogue meeting on battery stewardship for June 11 and 12, 2014 to be held at DEEP headquarters in Hartford. Sponsors for the meeting include HRRRA and Winters Brothers from this region. (All American Waste is sponsoring the national carpet stewardship dialogue being held in Hartford in May.) Participants expected to attend include primary battery manufacturers (such as Duracell headquartered in Bethel), rechargeable battery manufacturers, the toy industry, medical device industry, battery recyclers, EPA Region 1 officials and state and local government officials from Connecticut, Vermont, Minnesota, California, Washington, Oregon, Illinois and perhaps more. Both C. Reedy and J. Iannucci will attend and have been involved in getting the battery manufacturers to agree to attend the meeting, in setting up the agenda, etc.
- e. **DEEP VRF Permit Application Intervention Update** - This was moved to the last item on the agenda at the Chairman's discretion and without objection by the membership.

### New Business

- a. **HRRRA Permit Fee Increase - Motion** by R. Marconi, second by J. Urice, to raise the HRRRA permit fees for the 2014-15 permit year from \$125 to \$150 per vehicle as recommended by the Executive Committee. C. Reedy noted that three years ago the Executive Committee voted to keep raising the HRRRA permit fee by \$25 per year until the fee reached \$250 per vehicle. **Vote:** All in favor (Vote tally: 88 in favor.)
- b. **Discussions with Wheelabrator on New Agreement** - M. Gill asked to table this item to a later date since he didn't have adequate information about what the possible proposal from Wheelabrator might be. R. Marconi suggested that if there came a need for new negotiations with Wheelabrator that a negotiating committee be appointed by the Authority.
- c. **Meeting with Deputy Commissioner McCleary** - At his request a meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 22nd, 12:30 p.m., in the Science Building on the WCSU downtown campus between HRRRA municipal officials and the Deputy Commissioner to discuss solid waste issues of concern to municipalities as well as the state's long term solid waste goals and plans. Some topics that HRRRA members may want to raise with the Commissioner include the challenges of adopting PAYT in a 100% private subscription service system, how the state proposes to change CRRA, the wording in SB 27 about regionalizing solid waste services in the state, and the challenges to the HRRRA system from DEEP permitting additional transfer stations in the region.
- d. **Nominating Committee** - Chairman Gill appointed L. Kulowiec, J. Urice and S. Von Holt as the Nominating Committee for 2014 and charged them with coming back to the annual meeting in June with a slate of officers to be elected for HRRRA for the 2014-15 FY. All three graciously accepted this high honor.

**Old Business - e. From Above - Motion** by M. Gill to go into executive session at 11:45 a.m. for the purpose of updating the members on the Authority's intervention in the DEEP permit process for a VRF for MSW Associates and invite in all HRRRA members and alternates as well as the Director and Assistant Director, second by J. Urice. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 88 in favor.) No votes were taken after the Authority came out of executive session except the following:

**Adjournment: Motion** by R. Marconi, second by J. Urice, to adjourn the meeting at 11:59a.m. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 88 in favor.)