



H·R·R·A  
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**HRRA Regular Meeting**  
**Friday, April 20, 2007**  
**10:30 a.m., Brookfield Town Hall**

Members Present and Votes

Paul Szatkowski, Bethel	8
Joni Park, Brookfield	7
Joel Urice, Danbury	35
Dolores Schiesel, Kent	1
Mike Gill, New Fairfield	6
Suzanne Von Holt, New Milford	13
Herb Rosenthal, Newtown	12
Andrea O'Connor, Sherman	2
<b>Total Votes</b>	<b>84</b>

Members Absent

Bill Stuart, Bridgewater  
Natalie Ketcham, Redding  
Rudy Marconi, Ridgefield

Guests

Lynn Waller, Public  
Fred Hurley, Newtown Alternate  
Rob Pedersen, WESI  
Dave Dunleavy, RTI  
Dan Arciola, RTI  
Paul Nonnemacher, CRRA  
Roseanne LoStocco, LoStocco Svcs.  
David Demme, R. W. Beck  
Robert Metzler, TCA  
Myron Hirschman, Garick  
John Frangoulis, Empire Waste

Chairman Mike Gill called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. with a quorum of 84 votes present from 8 municipalities.

Public Comment

- Myron Hirschman from New Milford Farms, a Garick Subsidiary, introduced himself to the members and passed out information on the composting operation that is set to soon re-open at the former Nestle site in New Milford. The facility will accept green, agricultural and food waste, turn it into compost, and sell to major vendors such as Home Depot, Lowe's, etc. The tip fee for brush and yard waste will be \$30 per ton with a \$10 minimum. In response to a question from Chairman Gill, Mr. Hirschman said he will be able to provide tonnage numbers by town to HRRA every year for use on the annual municipal DEP reports.
- Roseanne LoStocco asked about the railroad C&D transfer station operating in Hawleyville as well as the proposed transfer station on Plumtrees Road in Danbury. Neither HRRA nor Newtown nor DEP can regulate the railroad transfer station because of current federal law. HRRA has asked its Congressional delegation to support pending legislation taking federal

authority for such regulation from the Surface Transportation Board and returning it to state and local solid waste jurisdiction.

- J. Urice and L. Waller updated the Authority on the progress of the applicant for the Plumtrees Road transfer station through the local approval process. The Danbury Environmental Impact Commission approved the application. The applicant has not yet applied for a permit from the Planning Commission. According to J. Urice, Mayor Boughton opposes the location of a transfer station on Plumtrees Road based on concerns about public health, welfare and safety.

### **Chairman's and Members' Comments**

- Chairman Gill appointed Andrea O'Connor, Jerry Murphy and Suzanne Von Holt as the Nominating Committee. They will report at the June annual meeting and propose a slate of candidates willing to serve as officers of the Authority for the coming year.

### **Director's Report**

- **Legislative Update** – The hauler licensing proposal from Gov. Rell was not favorably reported out of committee. HRRRA testified against the proposal and the CT Solid Waste Management Association testified and lobbied against it as well. Haulers from this region were ably represented by Pat Caruso and Joe LoStocco. There is some concern that the proposal may come back at the end of the session as a budget implementer not allowing an up or down vote on just the hauler licensing proposal. The Authority asked the Director to prepare a letter to the Governor expressing HRRRA's opposition to the hauler licensing proposed legislation to be signed by all the member Chief Elected Officials. The expanded bottle bill was favorably reported out of the Environment Committee. HRRRA did not testify in opposition during the public hearing because the bill at that time contained a provision for the escheats from the new bottles to be paid to DEP and DEP to make 80% of those revenues available for recycling education to municipalities and recycling regions. However, when the bill was voted on in Environment after the public hearing, that section of the bill was removed from the proposed legislation without explanation. CRRRA has now come out against the bill, although originally in support, as well as CCM and COST. HRRRA is urging local legislators to vote against the expanded bottle bill unless the recycling regions are made whole for the loss of revenue from having plastic bottles removed from the curbside recycling stream.
- **Recycling Public Education Program** – CDHM designed and prepared billboard advertising to encourage the recycling of fiber (newspapers, magazines and cardboard) and plastics. Several of those billboards have already appeared throughout the region and that will continue through June. The same photo and print copy is being run as advertisements in the Danbury NewsTimes and has generated response from the public with phone calls to the HRRRA office. HRRRA prepared a new recycling brochure (passed out at the meeting) explaining curbside recycling procedures for residents. These will be passed out at public events, through hauler invoices and through Town Halls. A Newspaper-in-Education program on recycling sponsored by HRRRA and the NewsTimes will be introduced in this Sunday's paper to coincide with Earth Day. This program will reach more than 2,000 students in at least one school in most HRRRA communities.
- **Municipal Facility Recycling** – In June 2006 the Authority made its number one priority for the coming year that all member municipalities would set the example for recycling in the region by complying with and improving upon mandatory recycling. Since no member

- municipality except Ridgefield had time during the past ten months to meet with the Director to review recycling in their municipal facilities, Chief Elected Officials have been asked to appointment two representatives from their municipality to serve on a Regional Recycling Task Force (RRTF) to accomplish the same goal. To that end, the Director developed a Municipal Recycling Checklist, outlining all required and desired recycling goals for municipal facilities, including schools and playing fields. (Copies of the Checklist were provided to members at the meeting.) The role of the RRTF will be to determine the baseline recycling in each community and then set a plan for how to achieve all items on the Checklist within the next year.

### **Consent Action Items**

1. **Minutes - Motion** by J. Urice, second by J. Park to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2007 meeting as presented. **Vote:** All in favor. (F. Hurley cast the Newtown votes on this question since he was at the January meeting and H. Rosenthal was not.)
2. **Financial Statements - Motion** by J. Urice, second by A. O'Connor to approve the financial statements through March 31, 2007 as presented. **Vote:** All in favor.
3. **2007-08 RTI Tip Fee – Motion** by H. Rosenthal, second by J. Urice to set the RTI tip fee for 2007-08 at \$39.00 per ton, a \$.49 per ton increase. **Vote:** All in favor.
4. **Personnel Committee Report** – H. Rosenthal reported that the Executive Committee acting as the Personnel Committee met prior to the start of the meeting to review the Director's performance during the last year and the goals and objectives set for the coming year. The Committee recommends a 3% salary increase for the Director in the 2007-08 fiscal year and would recommend a higher amount based on meritorious performance if the budget would allow. J. Urice commented that Mayor Boughton is happy with the Director's performance even though he was unable to attend the Personnel Committee meeting. **Motion** by P. Szatkowski, second by D. Schiesel, to approve the Personnel Committee's report and salary recommendation for the Director as presented. **Vote:** All in favor.
5. **Budget Transfer – Motion** by A. O'Connor, second by H. Rosenthal to approve a transfer of \$3,400 from the HHWDD Regional line, \$1,100 from the Insurance line, and \$1,500 from the Staffing line to the Education line, for a total of \$6,000, as recommended by the Executive Committee. **Vote:** All in favor. These additional funds will be used to have recycling posters printed for all schools in the region and an easy recycling guide sticker for homeowners to be distributed by haulers.

### **Old Business**

1. **Hauler Permit Fees** – Motion by H. Rosenthal, second by A. O'Connor, to retain the current annual HRRRA hauler permit fee at \$65 per vehicle for the 07-08 fiscal year, but to double the fee to \$130 per vehicle for renewal applications submitted after July 1<sup>st</sup> in any year, and to half the fee to \$32.50 per vehicle for new permit applications or new vehicles added to an existing permit when the application is submitted between January 1 and April 30 in any year. **Vote:** All in favor.
2. **Municipal Use of Glass Aggregate** – RTI provided additional samples of glass aggregate that has no current market at this meeting that was of much better quality than the sample presented at the last meeting. F. Hurley, DPW Director from Newtown reported that the problem with municipalities using such aggregate in road base

construction or as fill in drainage projects is that the DOT Specifications under which municipalities do such work specifically forbids the use of glass aggregate, even though DEP encourages such use. It is a bureaucratic battle between DEP and DOT, similar to the difference of opinion between the two agencies on the use of road sweepings. According to Mr. Hurley, in order for the glass aggregate to be cost effective for municipalities to use, a minimal amount of handling and transportation of the material is required and an exemption must be granted from DOT for such usage. F. Hurley recommended that HRRRA take the lead in organizing HVCEO and all regional planning agencies, CCM, COST and all regional resource recovery authorities to jointly ask DOT and DEP to work together to devise standards for acceptable municipal use of glass aggregate and road sweepings. P. Nonnenmacher offered that CRRRA would be willing to work with HRRRA on this issue. H. Rosenthal noted that there is a new DOT Commissioner who might be more amenable to change than his predecessor. He will try to put the issue on the agenda of a CCM meeting. C. Reedy was directed to draft a letter to go to the RPAs, RRAs, CCM and COST on behalf of the Authority.

### **New Business**

1. **IPC 2011 Contract Expiration Planning** – David Demme, HRRRA consultant from R. W. Beck, made a presentation to the Authority on the broad options available for HRRRA to consider when the RTI contract expires in 2011. Mr. Demme suggested that the contract expiration was an opportunity to rethink and make any desired changes in the regional recycling program such as collecting additional materials curbside, changing recyclables processing from dual stream to single stream, creating a regional recycling system with greater governmental involvement, etc. Authority members reviewed the *Questions/Issues to Consider for HRRRA Recycling Program* included in their agenda packet and provided the following consensus answers to some of the questions posed there.

**Question 1** - HRRRA does not want to simply replicate its current recycling program but wishes to make improvements in that program.

**Question 3** – As to whether municipalities are willing to become more involved in the recycling program in order to make improvements in regional recycling, J. Urice reported that Danbury has no interest in municipal involvement in recycling. D. Schiesel felt that all options should be on the table for consideration. H. Rosenthal agreed that the Authority should look at the whole spectrum of options. M. Gill thought that while all options should be considered, some could likely be rejected quickly.

**Question 5** – The Executive Committee should give direction to the consultant for any necessary additional work. Along with the Executive Committee, other interested HRRRA members and alternates and stakeholders such as the public and hauler may need to be involved in fashioning the available options into a proposal for the Authority to eventually vote on. J. Urice recommended that the process stay under the tight control of HRRRA. P. Szatkowski favored a hybrid of an Ad Hoc HRRRA Committee in which haulers are included. D. Schiesel favored a combination of an AD Hoc HRRRA Committee and Stakeholders' group.

**Question 6** – The Authority is willing to explore the pros and cons of working with BRRFOC or another authority on the procurement process.

**Question 7** – There were no suggestions of other information that HRRA would like to have its consultant study in order to make a better informed decision. J. Urice said that most consultant services waste funds.

The Executive Committee will meet prior to the Annual Meeting in June and set a course to move forward with planning for the RTI contract expiration in 2011.

**Motion** by H. Rosenthal, second by D. Schiesel to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. **Vote:** All in favor.