



H·R·R·A
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HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 16, 2012

First Floor Conference Room 133

Brookfield Town Hall

Members or Alternates Present and Voting:

Bethel, Matt Knickerbocker	8
Brookfield, Bill Davidson	7
Danbury, Joel Urice	36
Kent, Dolores Schiesel	1
New Fairfield, Mike Gill	6
Newtown, Herb Rosenthal	12
Redding, Larry Kulowiec	4
	74

Others Present:

Lynn Waller, Public
Maryellen Rockwell, Winters Bros. CT
Tom Tibolla, Brookfield Alternate
Glenn Lockhart, Wheelabrator
Jen Iannucci, HRRR Admin. Asst.
Cheryl Reedy, HRRR Director

Members Not Present

W. Stuart, Bridgewater
P. Murphy, New Milford
R. Marconi, Ridgefield
R. Byrnes, Sherman

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gill at 10:32 a.m. with a quorum of 66 votes present from eight municipalities. M. Knickerbocker entered the meeting at 10:40 a.m., during Chairman's comment and prior to any votes being cast, bring the quorum present to 74 votes from nine municipalities. W. Davidson left the meeting at 11:20 a.m. during discussion of agenda item 7(a), Old Business Policy for municipalities that have not provided a penalty for late hauler registrations. T. Tibolla took his place and became the voting member from Brookfield for all votes taken on agenda item 7 and later.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Chairman's and Members' Comments

- Chairman's Comments - M. Gill reported that the Authority's debit card had been compromised with almost \$3,000 worth of unauthorized charges. J. Iannucci discovered the problem while doing the monthly bank reconciliation. M. Gill and J. Iannucci worked together to report the problem to the bank, deadline the debit card and contact some of the vendors who received unauthorized payments. J. Iannucci noted that when the card is replaced it will have a \$300 per day limit on cash withdrawals

and a \$1,500 per day limit on card charges. (M. Knickerbocker entered at this point in the meeting.) HRRRA's checking account will be made whole either by refunds or by the bank. H. Rosenthal suggested that the Authority try again to qualify for a credit card.

- Members' Comments – L. Kulowiec noted the passing of Natalie Ketcham's husband Dave. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, February 18th at 11:00 a.m. at Tarrywile Mansion. HRRRA sent a card to First Selectman Ketcham and made a contribution in Mr. Ketcham's memory to their chosen charity.

Director's Report

- From the written Director's Report C. Reedy pointed out the MSW and recycling tonnage reports, both showing positive trends.
- C. Reedy reported a serious concern that had come to her attention through the Bristol Resource Recovery Facility staff about a proposed change in policy at DEEP limiting out-of-state disposal options at CRRRA's urging as it intervenes in all transfer station permit modifications/approvals in order to try to fill capacity at its MidConnecticut waste to energy plant. She recommends that HRRRA weigh in on this controversy to support BRRFOC. The policy change can affect the HRRRA/Wheelabrator agreement, the City of Danbury's revenue stream as a host community, the Winters Bros DEEP permit modification, and the options available for disposal when the Wheelabrator contract terminates in 2019. Such a change in policy should be done through a public, due process rather than back door through the permit approval process at DEEP.
- **Motion** by D. Schiesel, second by J. Urice, to add to the agenda DEEP proposed MSW transfer station permit language. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 74 votes in favor.)
- **Motion** by H. Rosenthal, second by M. Gill, to authorize the Director to prepare and send a letter to the Governor and the CT DEEP with copies to the HRRRA state legislative delegation and the CT Attorney General objecting to DEEP's proposed change, at CRRRA's urging, to all new as well as existing MSW transfer station permits prohibiting disposal of MSW at out of state landfills and RRFs. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 74 votes in favor.)

Administrative Approvals

- a. **Motion** by J. Urice, second by M. Knickerbocker, to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2011 HRRRA meeting as presented. **Vote:** All voting in favor, except W. Davidson and D. Schiesel abstaining. (Vote tally: 66 in favor; 8 abstain.)
- b. **Motion** by M. Gill, second by H. Rosenthal, to approve the HRRRA financial statements through January 31, 2012 as presented. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 74 in favor.)
- c. **Motion** by M. Gill, second by D. Schiesel, to approve an additional appropriation of \$15,000 from unbudgeted grants/donations to the public education line to use for the poster and video contest expenses. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 74 in favor.)

New Business:

a. *Regional Solid Waste Proposals for CT OPM Regional Performance Incentive Program-*

- i) **Motion** by D. Schiesel, second by H. Rosenthal, to set up a Task Force consisting of municipal representatives, haulers, the public, and a DEEP representative to investigate the pros and cons of implementing a SMART (Saving Money and Reducing Trash) program for residential MSW collection with a preliminary report on progress to the Authority in September 2012. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 74 votes in favor.) M. Gill, D. Schiesel, J. Urice and H. Rosenthal all stressed that the Task Force must keep an open mind and investigate the pros and cons of SMART without any preconceived notion of whether such a program would or would not be appropriate for the Housatonic Region.
- ii) *HHW Permanent Facility* – **Motion** by W. Davidson, second by M. Gill, to authorize staff to work with HVCEO to prepare a proposal for the CT OPM Regional Performance Incentive Program due by December 31, 2012 to update the 1996 study done for the City of Danbury and HVCEO on a permanent HHW facility in the region. **Vote:** All in favor except D. Schiesel abstaining since Kent participates with its COG not with HRRRA for HHW collection. (Vote tally: 73 votes in favor. 1 abstaining.)

W. Davidson left the meeting at this point and T. Tibolla became the voting member for Brookfield through the end of the meeting.

Old Business:

- a. *Municipal Policies for Late Hauler Registration*– *Motion* by D. Schiesel, second by M. Knickerbocker to approve the HRRRA Policy on Unregistered Solid Waste Collectors dated February 16, 2012, as presented. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 74 votes in favor.) C. Reedy noted that Newtown authorized HRRRA to collect and keep double fees for late registrants after the agenda packet was sent out. M. Knickerbocker noted that Bethel similarly approved the same policy the prior evening.
- b. *RFQ for Regional Recycling Services*- **Motion** by J. Urice, second by M. Gill, to authorize the staff to send out the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority, Request for Qualifications, Single Stream Recycling Receiving and Processing, dated February 16, 2012 to interested vendors and publicly advertise the RFQ as proposed with the following changes: Ridgefield added to list of regional towns participating in the RFQ and all dates moved forward by at least 2 weeks to give vendors more time to respond. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 74 votes in favor.)
- c. *Renewal of MXI HHW Contract* - With insurance requirements reviewed by CIRMA since the last meeting, **motion** by J. Urice, second by D. Schiesel, to authorize the Chairman to sign the Two Year Extension of Two-Year Household Hazardous Waste Agreement between the participating municipalities and MXI Environmental Services. **Vote:** All in favor except D. Schiesel abstaining since Kent is not a participating municipality in the agreement. (Vote tally: 73 votes in favor. 1 abstaining.)

Photo: Due to low attendance the scheduled photo for the website was not taken at the end of the meeting.

Adjournment: **Motion** by J. Urice, second by M. Knickerbocker, to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

Vote: All in favor. (Vote tally: 74 in favor.)