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**Regional Recycling Task Force Meeting
Thursday, May 7, 2015, 10:30 a.m.
Room 209, Brookfield Town Hall**

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:41 a.m. Those present included, J. Hanson (RE), A. Miles (NE), S. Conn (BK), S. Von Holt (NM), J. Iannucci and C. Reedy (HRRA). Also in attendance was Joel Nickerson from Environmental Office Solutions.

Approval of minutes

Motion by A. Miles, second by J. Hanson, to approve the minutes of April 2, 2015, as presented. **Vote:** All in favor but S. Von Holt abstaining.

Environmental Office Solutions (EOS) Presentation

EOS is a printer cartridge recycling company out of East Hartford that has been in business since 1996 and has 8,000 clients worldwide. The company is R2 certified, ISO 14001 certified and ISO 9001 compliant. It takes 3 gallons of oil to create a printer cartridge from scratch. Since its inception, EOS has diverted 19 million pounds of printer cartridges from landfills. Towns, schools, businesses, non-profits, etc. can all recycle cartridges through EOS. It costs nothing and will generate income for the participant. On average school districts can earn about \$10,000 per year for recycling all their printer cartridges through EOS. Mr. Nickerson passed out brochures that contained a list of the price paid for various types of cartridges ranging from less than a dollar to \$20. EOS will provide a gaylord box for transfer stations that want one, but will also accept cartridges in any container the transfer station wants to use or has space for. To schedule a free pick up of cartridges by EOS, contact Joel Nickerson at 888-367-3076 x310 (toll free) or by e-mail at joelnickerson@eosusa.com. Additional information is available at www.eosusa.com.

2015 Municipal Recycling Goals

- J. Hanson reported that Redding's Recycling Goals for 2015 include:
 - Successful implementation of the Mattress Recycling Program
 - Work with Park City Green to recycle old books that were previously included in single stream recycling
 - Make recycling more convenient for residents by improving traffic flow at the transfer/recycling center
 - More outreach to educate residents about recycling opportunities in Redding.
 - Increase efficiency of recycling in all municipal buildings

- A. Miles reported that Newtown's Recycling Goals for 2015 include:
 - Starting an organics diversion program

MRC Contracts

Redding has taken in 3-5 mattresses since the start of the mattress stewardship program on May 1st. Newtown has taken in approximately 10 since May 1st. Park City Green came to Newtown's Earth Day celebration and collected mattresses and books. J. Iannucci passed out Collection Guidelines for the mattress program produced by the Mattress Recycling Council as well as a brochure on recognizing and attacking bed bugs at transfer stations prepared by the CT Agricultural Experiment Station.

Legislative Update

C. Reedy reported that the tire bill was turned into a study of beneficial uses for tires, crumb rubber, etc. which will be done for DEEP this summer using interns from Yale. That information will help to pass tire stewardship legislation next year. HRRRA, the CT PSC, PSI, DEEP and battery manufacturers continue to work to pass an all battery stewardship bill during the current session. Rep. Arconti from Danbury is leading the effort for the Environment Committee. He promises to schedule a meeting to find agreement on consensus language with all stakeholders in the near future. The session ends in early June so time is short.

NERC Conference Review

J. Iannucci and C. Reedy attended the Northeast Recycling Council's (NERC's) spring conference the first week in April in Wilmington, DE. The first day was devoted to panels on product stewardship and extended producer responsibility with the panels weighted more toward the anti-stewardship point of view. The anti group argued that product stewardship does not produce results, is not successful in Europe (even though it's touted as such), has not changed packaging design, is not fair to business, only costs consumers more, etc. The second day was devoted to a panel on dirty MRFs, i.e., facilities that sort recycling and organics from the MSW waste stream without any prior separation. Most on that panel opposed such facilities saying they produced inferior recycling commodities that had limited value. However, the antis on this panel were all representatives of commodity brokers. The one pro dirty MRF person was a vendor who was operating such a facility in Alabama for a municipality with good recycling results and with commodity sales at a high price. He did say, however, that towns with good single or dual stream recycling programs should stick with those and use dirty MRFs for those areas without mature recycling programs or for hard to recycle areas such as multi-family dwellings. J. Iannucci noted that she could not get over how dirty diapers and cat litter from a dirty MRF could contaminate paper that might later be used for packaging food products. C. Reedy noted that CT DEEP staff are very opposed to even considering dirty MRFs. Anyone wanting to know more about the NERC conference can check out the presentations online at [NERC Spring Conference 2015](#)

WOW Guide for Kids

J. Iannucci passed out draft copies of the new WOW Guide for Kids she has been working on and asked RRTF members to get back to her with comments and other feedback on what should be added, changed, deleted, etc. Once completed the booklets will be good to hand out at transfer stations, school recycling programs, Earth Day activities, etc.

DEEP Grant Program for Towns

DEEP announced last week that they will be rolling out several new grant programs for municipalities in the next few weeks through CT Recycle. Most of the programs will allow for rolling applications and not be limited to a particular time of year. Grants would be awarded for up to \$20,000 and could be used for items such as the rolling recycling totes that Newtown wants to purchase to replace its current small green bins. HRRRA will notify RRTF members as soon as more information is available on these grant programs. Members were alerted that sometimes this kind of information comes to their towns from DEEP directed to the First Selectman and/or the local recycling contact. Members were urged to check the DEEP website to determine if those contacts need to be changed.

DEEP Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy (CMMS) Process

DEEP is revising the Solid Waste Management Plan this summer, starting with giving it a new name, CMMS. Eventually there will be a public hearing and a public comment period for the strategy. HRRAs staff will be keeping a close eye on the process as there may be several strategies considered that would significantly affect the status quo, include mandates on municipalities or cost municipalities money. This will be an ongoing item on the agenda as the plan develops over the next few months. More information is available by clicking on CMMS above.

Municipal Illegal Dumping Training - May 28th

DEEP offers this training every 5 to 10 years. It is especially tailored toward code enforcement officers, police, sanitarians and any other municipal employees dealing with litter or illegal dumping problems and wanting to find effective enforcement tools. Information on how to sign up for the training is below.

Illegal Dumping Enforcement Procedures Workshop

Where: Gina McCarthy Auditorium, DEEP, 79 Elm Street, Hartford

When: Thursday, May 28, 2015

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12 NOON

For questions and to RSVP, contact Edith Pestana 860-424-3044 or edith.pestana@ct.gov

Agencies presenting and the topics to be covered include:

- DEEP Law Enforcement - Procedure/ Definition of Litter
- Office of the Attorney General - Civil Penalties, Completing Forfeiture of Vehicle Form
- Office of the Chief State's Attorney - Assistance in Prosecuting Illegal Dumping and a Criminal Case
- Supervisory Assistance State's Attorney - Statewide Housing Matters
- Special Agent USEPA, Criminal Division Unit - Evidence EPA Seeks to Prosecute
- DEEP, Materials Management and Compliance Assurance - Dumping on Private Property

Items to be Raised by Members

- J. Iannucci reminded members that it is bin lending season and asked that those municipalities with bins confirm that they know where there bins are. Anyone needing a refresher in how to use Google calendar to reserve bins for groups in their town, please come and see Jen.
- J. Iannucci has made lawn signs, two per participating town, advertising the May 16th HHW collection in Newtown. She has contacted the First Selectmen or Mayor about where the signs in each town should be located. The signs will be available next Monday and J. Iannucci will get them to each participating town.
- S. Von Holt noted that allowing the use of shredded tire aggregate for septic fill has been removed from the Health Code by the state.
- S. Von Holt asked when the Ridgefield organics collection program would start. J. Iannucci said the program was currently in the town survey phase, and that collection would likely start around November 15th for America Recycles Day.

Adjournment

Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Minutes taken by Cheryl Reedy, HRRAs Assistant Director.