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## HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY

**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 21, 2011, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Brookfield Town Hall, Room 209**

### MINUTES

Due to a scheduling conflict discovered at the time of the meeting, Chairman Mike Gill called the meeting to order in Room 209 rather than the posted Room 133 at 10:36 a.m. Members in attendance at that time were M. Gill, A. O'Connor, H. Rosenthal, and R. Marconi. M. Boughton entered the meeting at approximately 11:00 a.m. during agenda item 2. Staff attending was C. Reedy, Director and J. Iannucci, Administrative Assistant. Members of the public attending at some point during the meeting included D. Dunleavy, S. Hastings, G. Antonacci and F. Antonacci.

#### Change Order of Agenda Items

**Motion** by M. Gill, second by A. O'Connor, to move agenda item 2, staff performance evaluations, and agenda item 7, RTI agreement negotiations, to the top of the agenda, to go into executive session on both agenda items, and to invite into the executive session the HRRA staff for part of the discussion. **Vote:** All in favor. (M. Boughton was not yet in attendance and did not vote on this motion.)

The Executive Committee entered into executive session at 10:40 a.m. HRRA staff was dismissed from the executive session at 10:50 a.m. and invited back in at 11:20 a.m. The Executive Committee came out of executive session at 11:30 a.m.

#### Approval of Minutes

**Motion** by A. O'Connor, second by M. Boughton, to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of June 24, 2010 as presented. **Vote:** All in favor.

#### Staff Evaluations

Evaluations were discussed with C. Reedy and J. Iannucci in executive session. H. Rosenthal noted for the record that the Executive Committee was very pleased with the performance of both employees in the past year. **Motion** by A. O'Connor, second by H. Rosenthal, to approve the performance goals and the compensation level discussed with the Director for FY 11-12. **Vote:** Four in favor and M. Boughton abstaining. **Motion** by A. O'Connor, second by H. Rosenthal, to accept the Director's recommendation that Jen Iannucci be considered to have successfully completed her probationary period as of May 29, 2011 and thus is entitled, at that time, to receive the compensation level promised at hiring for successful completion of same. **Vote:** Four in favor and M. Boughton abstaining.

### **Changes to HRRR Personnel Policy**

**Motion** by A. O'Connor, second by R. Marconi, acting in the Executive Committee's capacity as the Personnel Committee, to approve the Director's recommended changes to the HRRR Personnel Policy Sections 2 and 14 to provide paid time off to part-time employees working between 15 and 19 hours per week equal to the hours in one regularly scheduled work week.

**Vote:** M. Gill, R. Marconi, H. Rosenthal, and A. O'Connor in favor; M. Boughton opposed. M. Boughton expressed the view that personnel policy should not be changed as a result of situations presented by individual employees.

### **Modification of Vanguard Agreement**

H. Rosenthal noted that the purpose of the Vanguard investment was to generate income to fill the revenue gap created by the lack of interest income from checking and savings as well as from STIF. **Motion** by H. Rosenthal, second by R. Marconi, to authorize the Director to modify the Authority's Vanguard account to stop the reinvestment of dividends and instead regularly transfer any money earned into the Authority's checking account. **Vote:** All in favor.

### **FY 2011-12 Budget**

**Motion** by R. Marconi, second by A. O'Connor, to recommend to the full Authority a FY 2011-12 draft budget substantially similar to that reviewed by the Executive Committee but with modifications discussed at the meeting and updates received prior to the HRRR Annual Meeting.

**Vote:** All in favor. The Executive Committee asked the Director to take a close look at making changes in the health insurance policy due to the high cost to the Authority. H. Rosenthal offered his assistance as Treasurer to help the Director develop and review options.

### **HRRR Permit and Municipal Registration Renewal Date Change**

Effective July 31, 2011, PA 10-87 requires solid waste collectors to annually report to each municipality the first destination of all solid waste, including MSW, recyclables, bulky waste, C&D, etc., collected from that municipality and to report not only the first destination but also the tonnage of all such solid waste if the first destination is out of state or to a non-permitted in state facility, e.g. the railroad facility in Hawleyville. C. Reedy suggested that HRRR collect such reports on behalf of member municipalities as part of the annual permitting and registration process. That would give municipalities some leverage to insure compliance by all collectors.

To follow that course of action, the permit renewal year should run from August 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup> each year. **Motion** by A. O'Connor, second by H. Rosenthal, to change the HRRR permit and municipal registration year to start on August 1<sup>st</sup> rather than July 1<sup>st</sup> each year starting in 2011.

**Vote:** All in favor. The Executive Committee asked the Director to poll the member municipalities about interest in setting a uniform municipal registration fee, perhaps a per vehicle fee.

### **RTI Agreement Amendment to Accommodate Single Stream Recycling**

Discussion on the negotiations for an amendment to the RTI contract to accommodate single stream recycling took place during the executive session. **Motion** by A. O'Connor, second by H. Rosenthal, to authorize the HRRR Chairman to sign an Amendment to the RTI Agreement and any other necessary documents that are substantially the same as discussed with the Executive Committee. **Vote:** All in favor. The key elements of the Amendment discussed include:

- Effective date of May 1, 2011 through end of agreement on February 2, 2013
- Winters Bros to pay HRRR \$5,000 per month for 12 months starting May 1, 2011 for a total of \$60,000
- HRRR to transfer ownership to Winters Bros. of all HRRR-owned equipment at RTI

- Winters Bros to pay HRRRA \$7/ton for all recycling from HRRRA towns delivered to RTI from May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012.
- Winters Bros to pay HRRRA \$10/ton for all recycling from HRRRA towns delivered to RTI from May 1, 2012 to February 2, 2013
- Effective May 1, 2011, the tip fee will be lowered at RTI from \$39/ton to \$28.50/ton
- Tip fee will be reviewed for possible change on May 1, 2012 with the mutual agreement of Winters Bros and HRRRA
- \$7/ton surcharge for tons delivered from Redding and Ridgefield will be eliminated
- HRRRA's claims against RTI and RTI's claims against HRRRA will be settled

### **Proposed WTE Sales Tax Exemption Elimination and Financial Impact on HRRRA**

#### **Municipalities**

Chairman Gill and C. Reedy met with House leadership from the HRRRA region to explain that the elimination of the sales tax exemption for waste-to-energy (WTE) purchases proposed in Sec. 47 of SB 1007 would cost the municipalities in the HRRRA region approximately \$200,000 per year, according to Wheelabrator. They also noted that the exemption for CRRA-owned WTE purchases would not be eliminated. C. Reedy delivered the same message to Rep. Pat Widlitz, one of the Co-Chairs of the Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee, as well as Sen. Andrew Roraback, Senate Ranking Member on the same Committee. Unfortunately the problematic language still exists in the budget compromise agreement reached between the Democrats and the Governor on April 20th. Based on feedback from HRRRA members, the discussions with state legislators on this issue always emphasized that the HRRRA members are in strong support of the additional revenue options provided for municipalities in SB 1007. This sales tax exemption elimination would affect municipalities using the Bristol, Bridgeport and Wallingford WTE facilities

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion** by A. O'Connor, second by M. Boughton, to adjourn the executive committee meeting at 12:05 p.m. **Vote:** All in favor.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,

Cheryl D. Reedy  
HRRRA Director