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**HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, February 26, 2015, 10:30 a.m.**

**Room 209, Brookfield Town Hall**

**Members or Alternates Present and Voting**

Bethel, Matthew Knickerbocker	8
Brookfield, Sheldon Conn	7
Danbury, Joel Urice	36
New Fairfield, Mike Gill	6
New Milford, Suzanne Von Holt	12
Newtown, Herb Rosenthal	12
Redding, Jeff Hanson	4
Ridgefield, Rudy Marconi	11
Sherman, Ruth Byrnes	2
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	<b>98</b>

**Other Present:**

Ryan Bingham, Winters Brothers  
Eric Frederickson, All American Waste  
Ken Vallera, All American Waste  
Lynn Waller, Public  
Glenn Lockhart, Wheelabrator  
Dean Esposito, Danbury Mayor's Office  
Jen Iannucci, HRRRA Director  
Cheryl Reedy, HRRRA Assistant Director

**Members Not Present**

Bridgewater and Kent

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gill at 10:32 a.m. with a quorum of 98 votes present from nine municipalities.

**Public Comment**

Lynn Waller commented that she would like to see HRRRA continue as an organization after the existing MSW contract expires in 2019.

**Chairman's and Members' Comments** - Chairman Mike Gill had the following comments:

- Welcome back to Sherman Alternate, Ruth Byrnes, after an extended absence. Welcome aboard to Redding's new HRRRA Representative Jeff Hanson and Brookfield's new Alternate Sheldon Conn.
- Gov. Malloy will be the featured speaker at the Danbury Chamber's Eggs & Issues Breakfast on March 24th, 7:30 - 9:30 a.m., at the Amber Room. Any HRRRA member who wants to attend should contact J. Iannucci to make a reservation.
- Chairman Gill, Vice Chairman Marconi and HRRRA staff held a conference call with V. Langone, G. Lockhart and R. Pedersen from Wheelabrator to resolve issues involved in the Parent Company Agreement as well as the Put or Pay section of the WSDA. Based on that V. Langone sent a letter to Wheelabrator senior management with his recommendations for resolving these issues, but has not yet received a response.

- M. Gill, R. Marconi and HRRRA staff met to discuss the options for HRRRA and its member communities going forward after June 30, 2019. Those options include extending the Wheelabrator contract or going out with an RFP. Whatever decision is made in the best interest of the municipalities will have to go back to be approved in the legislative bodies of all members. H. Rosenthal noted that while the Wheelabrator contract had a term limit, there was no term limit on a municipality's membership in HRRRA.
- Lee Sawyer from DEEP, who attended the December meeting, would like to come back and meet with HRRRA members for a working meeting to get input into the State's revision of the Solid Waste Management Plan, now called the Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy. The meeting will be arranged with the HRRRA Executive Committee, then announced to all members who will be welcome to attend. J. Iannucci will be sending out a Doodle Poll to the Executive Committee members in order to schedule.

**Director's Report** - J. Iannucci reported the following:

- MSW tonnage is running at 91% YTD compared to the same time last year and recycling at 103%.
- Posters for the poster contest are due at the end of this week. 11,500 templates were distributed to local schools and towns in the last two months. The award ceremony will take place on Earth Day, April 22, 2015, again at Union Savings Bank on North Street. Municipal Chief Elected Officials are encouraged to attend or send a representative to make sure the students from their towns are appropriately recognized. Thank you to this year's sponsors All American Waste, Winters Bros., Union Savings Bank, Wheelabrator, MXI, PaintCare, Welsh Sanitation and NewTech Recycling.
- J. Iannucci attended a two day dialogue at DEEP in January on how to address illegal dumping of tires and the cost to municipalities through tire stewardship legislation. There is currently a tire stewardship bill pending in the legislature and towns that support it should let their state representatives know.
- HRRRA staff facilitated another haulers' meeting in February to discuss weigh ticket issues raised by haulers, renovations at Winters Bros., the 2015 MSW tip fee, and the sale of Wheelabrator.
- HRRRA staff spent a lot of time during the past month researching the flow of HRRRA MSW out of the region. Data has been collected from DEEP, MIRA and City Carting, and staff is waiting on additional information.
- J. Iannucci testified in person and submitted the testimony signed by all the HRRRA municipal CEOs on behalf of HB 5405, the bill that would require developers of new solid waste facilities to seek municipal approvals before applying to DEEP for a permit.
- A curbside, residential organics collection program in conjunction with Winters Bros. is set to start in Ridgefield on April 1, 2015 following in the footsteps of the successful pilot with All American Waste in Bridgewater last year. Other communities that might be interested in residential, curbside organics collection are encourage to contact J. Iannucci for assistance in getting started.

**Administrative Approvals**

- a. **Motion** by M. Knickerbocker, second by J. Urice, to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2014 meeting as presented. **Vote:** All voting in favor. M. Knickerbocker, J. Hanson, R. Marconi and R. Byrnes abstained. (Vote tally: 73 in favor. 25 abstaining.)
- b. **Motion** by R. Marconi, second by M. Knickerbocker, to approve the HRRRA financial statements through January 31, 2015 as presented. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 98 in favor.)

- c. **Motion** by M. Gill, second by J. Urice, to approve the transfer of \$1,450 from Public Education to Miscellaneous (Service Fees) in the HRRRA budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 in order to cover the unbudgeted annual subscription to RISI needed for the recycling contract. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 98 in favor.)

### Old Business

- a. **Update on MSW Associates VRF DEEP permit intervention** – J. Iannucci reported that the Hearing Officer asked all parties for clarification of the definition of transfer station versus volume reduction facility (VRF). That clarification was due at the end of last week. The Hearing Officer has yet to issue a draft decision. Briefs, responses and other filings in the case continue to be copied to HRRRA staff and attorney who are watching to insure that the agreement between HRRRA and MSW Associates is included in the final decision.
- b. **Update on Wheelabrator Sale to Energy Capital Partners and Parent Company Agreement** - Update given under Chairman's comments. If there is no response from Wheelabrator's senior management to the Parent Agreement/Put or Pay deliberations within two to three weeks, the Chairman intends to ask legal counsel to send another letter to Waste Management and Wheelabrator about the Parent Company Agreement.

### New Business

- a. **2015 Legislative Session Update** -
- HB 5405 - J. Iannucci testified on this legislation (which would require municipal land use approvals for new solid waste facilities before a permit application can be made to DEEP) on behalf of all HRRRA municipal CEOs and submitted their signed testimony to the Environment Committee on February 13th. Thank you to Rep. David Arconti for introducing this bill. The Environment Committee has voted to make this a committee bill and draft it.
  - HB 5243, 5244 and 5336 - These bills that would repeal or revise the paint stewardship program were all referred to the Environment Committee where it is believed they will die. None have been scheduled for a public hearing. Thank you to Sen. Clark Chapin, Ranking Member on Environment, for working with HRRRA to insure that the current paint stewardship program remains in operation as is.
  - SB 869 - J. Iannucci testified in support of this tire stewardship bill on February 13th on behalf of the CT Product Stewardship Council. Any municipality that supports the legislation, which will cut municipal costs to deal with dumped tires, should contact their state legislators and urge support.
  - Miscellaneous other bills introduced that HRRRA is tracking this session include several requiring lock boxes for prescription medication disposal be accessible to CT residents, bills to expand the types of bottles covered under the bottle bill and to increase the deposit from \$.05 to \$.10, as well as bills to either ban plastic bags outright or require stores to charge customers for plastic bags. Brookfield, Bethel, Redding, Ridgefield and New Milford all reported already having locked drop boxes for unwanted prescription medication in their police department's lobby.

**Adjournment: Motion** by M. Knickerbocker, second by R. Marconi, to adjourn the meeting at 11:06 a.m. **Vote:** All in favor. (Vote tally: 98 in favor.)