



HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Friday, December 7, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
Danbury Crowne Plaza, 2nd Floor Onyx Room
18 Old Ridgebury Road, Danbury, CT 06810

Members or Alternates Present

Bethel, Matthew Knickerbocker	8
Brookfield, Sheldon Conn	7
Danbury, Joel Urice	36
Kent, Bruce Adams	1
New Fairfield, Susan Chapman	6
New Milford, Suzanne Von Holt	12
Newtown, Herbert Rosenthal	12
Redding, Jeff Hansen	4
Sherman, Don Lowe	2
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Others Present:

Dan Rosenthal, First Selectman Newtown
Bill Aduleit, Oak Ridge
Jodie Barnell-Dresher, Oak Ridge
Glenn Nanavaty, Nanavaty, Nanavaty & Davenport
Katrina Koerting, Danbury News Times

Members Absent:

Bridgewater
Ridgefield

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman M. Knickerbocker at 10:00 a.m. with a quorum of 86 votes present from eight towns. M. Knickerbocker led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. D. Lowe arrived at 10:59am during the discussion of the glass pilot program and before a vote was taken bringing the quorum present to 88 votes with nine towns.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Chairman and Members' Comments:

Vice Chairman M. Knickerbocker acknowledged leading the meeting in Chairman's absence. No other members made any comments.

Director's Report:

J. Heaton-Jones highlighted the following items from her written report:

- MSW tonnage year to date is running at **116%** compared to same time last year.
- Recycling tonnage is running at **121%** compared to the same time last year. The Director noted that All American waste has stopped bringing mixed recycling to the Danbury transfer station. The average monthly loss is 350-400 tons with an approximate \$3000 a month loss to the Authority's public education revenue.
- E-waste tonnage is at **100%** compared to the same time last year.

- There were 13 public education programs conducted since the last HRRRA meeting which included 3 schools, 28 classrooms and 589 students. HRRRA staff, T. Carlson, also met with school officials and their administration to implement cafeteria and classroom recycling at Shelter Rock Elementary and Pembroke Elementary in Danbury and Center School in Brookfield.
- At Danbury HHW event, a survey was conducted soliciting feedback on residential participation for the glass pilot. Data captured was included in the meeting packet.
- J. Heaton-Jones traveled to Morris County, New Jersey, to visit there permanent HHW site. The operation is serviced by MXI Environmental Services who also is the HRRRA vendor and located 109 miles from Brookfield. The facility has offered to accept hazardous material from resident and commercial generators from HRRRA communities. The charge would be \$1.25 per pound and require the generator to list all the material and quantities they are planning to dispose of before they arrive. Material would be weighed and checked against previously submitted list from generated. Payment would be made by check or credit card.
- The 2019 Recycling Billboard contest is launching. The Director emphasized the importance of having the support from each Chief Elected Official. Now more than ever it is essential we reach the students within our communities to educate the importance of recycling right. Public Education must become a priority for the HRRRA and its members. If residents are not informed and educated on waste reduction and recycling they can not do the right thing and improve their disposal habits.
- J. Heaton-Jones identified towns that have not yet returned the Form of Municipal Agreement (Bridgewater, Bethel, Danbury and Redding). The document must be returned to HRRRA as soon as possible to be included in the regional contract as Appendix D.
- J. Heaton-Jones reminded the full Authority of the 2019 Meetings dates emphasizing the change in date and date: 4th Monday of the months for February, April, June and September.

At this point, Vice Chairman, M. Knickerbocker asked for a motion to move New Business item 7b next on the agenda. **Motion** by J. Urice, second by S. Von Holt, to move item 7b Review and possible vote on 2017-18 FY HRRRA audit as next item on agenda. **Vote:** All in favor. (86 yes votes.)

G. Nananaty reviewed 2017-18 HRRRA audit and financial highlights declaring the audit a clean opinion. **Motion** by J. Urice, second by H. Rosenthal to accept the 2017-18 FY HRRRA audit. **Vote:** All in favor. (86 yes votes.)

Administrative Approvals:

a) Meeting notes, September 24, 2018

There was a collective agreement the document from the September 24, 2018 meeting which did not have a quorum and therefore no official business was conducted, would not be considered minutes. The document will be referred to as "notes". J. Heaton-Jones stated to maintain full transparency of Authority actions, the notes will remain posted on the website. M. Knickerbocker requested the document should be identify as "notes" and not minutes due to lack of quorum.

b) Financial Statements:

The Director reviewed the financials. **Motion** by J. Urice, second by H. Rosenthal to accept the Financial Statements through November 30, 2018 as presented. **Vote:** All in favor. (86 yes votes.)

Old Business:

- a) Recycling Markets Update:** The Director reviewed the market reports attached to the agenda packet.

- b) **Request from Oak Ridge Waste & Recycling to Increase Recycling Tip Fee:** After detail discussion on current market conditions and the quality of the material coming into the transfer station. Members asked the representative from Oak Ridge (B. Aduleit) to explain the increase from \$55 a ton to \$65 a ton. **Motion** by J. Urice, second by H. Rosenthal to grant Oak Ridge Waste & Recycling an increase from \$55 a ton to \$65 for mixed recycling. **Vote:** All in favor. (86 yes votes.)
- c) **Glass Pilot Program Update:** The HRRRA Director reviewed the details of the glass pilot program and the importance of finding local solutions to a national and global issue on contamination and its impact to the quality of the mixed recycling stream. The Director encouraged the Authority to support the pilot program to remove glass from the mixed stream. The CT DEEP will still need to approve the pilot before residents are told to no longer put it in their curbside bin. They may volunteer to bring the glass to their local transfer station to source separate the material until it is approved by CT DEEP. To date the towns of Bethel, Danbury, Kent, Redding, Ridgefield and Newtown have already requested containers. The towns that do not have transfer stations may also request a container for a municipal location once the pilot is approved by CT DEEP. Oak Ridge has sent a draft agreement to the Executive Committee to review. The proposal includes a \$35/ton tip fee (for clean glass) for private haulers who wish to offer the service to their customers. **Motion** by J. Urice, second by S. Conn to endorse the participation of all HRRRA members in a Glass Pilot Program upon review and approval of a formal agreement with Oak Ridge by the Executive Committee **Vote:** All in favor. (88 yes votes.)

New Business:

- a) **Hauler Registration Policy:** J. Heaton-Jones informed the Authority of the difficulties getting hauler compliance with municipal registration once they are already past the July 31, 4pm deadline. Presenting updates to the current policy review by legal counsel, J. Heaton-Jones requested a 1.5% compounding monthly charge be added to existing late fees due until the hauler is paid in full. The policy formalizes the 30-day window for new haulers to register if identified doing business at any time during the fiscal year. Additionally, HRRRA will collect any processing fees or returned check fees incurred in processing a registration. **Motion** by H. Rosenthal, second by S. Chapman to accept the revised hauler registration policy as presented. **Vote:** All in favor. (88 yes votes.)
- b) **Moved to earlier in the agenda.**
- c) **HRRRA 2018 Legislative Agenda:** The Director reviewed four legislative items that will likely be presented during the 2019 legislative session. **Motion** by S. Chapman, second by S. Von Holt to endorse the slate of items that include, modernization of the bottle deposit law, EPR for packaging, and a state ban on single use bags. In addition to staying informed on possible legislation on the issue of microfibers. **Vote:** All in favor. (88 yes votes.)

Adjournment:

On a motion by S. Chapman, second H. Rosenthal, the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m. **Vote:** All in favor of adjournment. (88 yes votes.)

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Carlson
Administrative Assistant