



HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 22, 2019, 10:30 a.m.

Room 133 Brookfield Town Hall

100 Pocono Road, Brookfield, CT 06804

Members or Alternates Present

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| Bethel, Richard Straiton | 8 |
| Brookfield, Steve Dunn | 7 |
| Danbury, Joel Urice | 36 |
| Kent, Bruce Adams | 1 |
| New Milford, Suzanne Von Holt | 12 |
| Newtown, Herbert Rosenthal | 12 |
| Redding, Julia Pemberton | 4 |
| Ridgefield, Rudolph Marconi | 11 |
| Sherman, Don Lowe | 2 |

93

Others Present:

| |
|-------------------------|
| Fred Hurley, Newtown |
| Doug Arndt, Bethel |
| Ken Vallera, AAW |
| Bill Aduleit, Oak Ridge |
| Lynn Waller |

Members Absent

Bridgewater
New Fairfield

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman R. Marconi at 10:37 a.m. with a quorum of 93 votes present from nine towns. R. Marconi led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

H. Rosenthal requested additional item to be placed on agenda as item 7(b) Appointment of HRRRA Nominating Committee and moving current item 7(b) to 7(c).

Motion by H. Rosenthal, second by S. Dunn, to add agenda item for establishing the 2019-2020 Nominating Committee. **Vote:** All in favor. (93 yes votes.)

Public Comment:

Lynn Waller addressed the group and requested permission to include mention of a propane tank vendor in her cable program; and asked J. Heaton-Jones to come onto the program to educate about What's IN, What's OUT recycling program. J. Heaton-Jones to speak directly with L. Waller after the meeting to coordinate.

Chairman and Members' Comments:

H. Rosenthal commented haulers operating large trucks in Newtown are not following prescribed routes to avoid Main Street. Haulers are responsible for continual education of drivers and especially new hires to follow guidelines for operating vehicles.

R. Marconi requested update from Executive Director for status of current legislative agenda. J. Heaton-Jones will provide details at next meeting in June, 2019.

H. Rosenthal inquired what are possible actions municipalities may take to correct haulers currently removing recyclable tonnage from the region. J. Heaton-Jones identified a municipalities power to franchise hauling operations within their towns as one option.

Director's Report:

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

- The MSW and recycling tonnage reports through March 31st are attached.
- MSW tonnage year to date is running at **102%** compared to the same time last year.
- Recycling tonnage is running at **59%** compared to the same time last year. The significant drop is due to All American Waste continuing to pull all curbside recycling out of the region to their own facility.
- E-waste tonnage is running at **83%** compared to the same time last year.
- There were 3 public education programs conducted since the last HRRRA meeting which included 2 schools, 8 classrooms and 166 students.
 - Redding - Redding Elementary School
 - Danbury - South Street Elementary School.
- The Executive Committee has held several meetings since the last HRRRA meeting to discuss the request from Oak Ridge to increase the MSW tip fee.
- T. Carlson has been tracking and following up on several new haulers in the region. Many have been difficult to work with and refuse to comply. CT DEEP is involved in the process.
- The Billboard Award Ceremony is Wednesday, April 24th at 5:30pm at Union Savings Bank in Danbury.
- The next HRRRA meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 24th at Brookfield Town Hall.

Administrative Approvals:

a) Minutes of February 25, 2019 Meeting

Motion by D. Lowe, second by S. Dunn to accept the minutes as presented.

Vote: All in favor. (93 yes votes.)

b) Financial Statements through March 31, 2019

The Director reviewed the financials noting the short fall in recycling tonnage will impact recycling revenue potentially offset by the MSW tonnage. **Motion** by H. Rosenthal, second by S. Dunn to accept the Financial Statements through March 30, 2019 as presented. **Vote:** All in favor. (93 yes votes.)

Old Business:

a) Recycling Markets Update: The Director pointed out that a summary of current market conditions are highlighted in attachment D1. Industry consensus is there are viable domestic markets however the problem is distance from source to processor. Many MRFs across the country are responding to the market conditions by upgrading optics and expanding robotics. Two obstacles to the economics of the markets in the region are the distances to processors and contamination.

b) Glass Pilot Program Update: J. Heaton-Jones shared early results of Bethel, Redding and Ridgefield 90 day glass pilot programs. 27 tons of glass has been removed from the mixed stream, accounting for an estimated 30% reduction in mixed recycling tonnage for the pilot towns. The three towns provide a cross sampling of collection protocols and public interaction. J. Heaton-Jones provided photos of the materials collected that were sent to Strategic Materials for initial feedback on acceptability. No loads have been rejected thus far. B. Aduleit commented it is still too early to see a broad impact on MRF operations from the pilot program.

J. Heaton-Jones advised the Authority of preparing a plan B for an alternate processor should the pilot move forward to include all 11 municipalities. Pace Glass mentioned as a viable option due to allowance in contamination.

R. Marconi asked Director to keep the Authority informed as to the status of the CT DEEP application. At the present time, CT DEEP has not responded to HRRR application for conducting a pilot program for glass removal from the mixed stream.

New Business:

a) Household Hazardous Waste financial support to host communities:

The HRRR Director proposed reviewed cost sharing burden for HRRR sponsored events. Municipalities will confirm no later than May 30, 2019, if they are hosting

an event this year. J. Heaton-Jones to send spreadsheet of expense recap to all members.

b) Selection of HRRR Nominating Committee:

Motion by S. Dunn, second by R. Straiton to appoint H. Rosenthal, J. Urice and S. Von Holt to the nominating committee. **Vote:** All in favor.
J. Urice sought interested parties for open roles for Secretary, Treasurer and Vice Treasurer.

c) Oak Ridge Request to increase the tip fee July 1, 2019:

Motion by S. Dunn, second by R. Straiton, to go into executive session for the purpose to discuss the Regional Solid Waste and Recycling System Agreement Contract between HRRR and Oak Ridge, and Oak Ridge's request to increase the MSW tip fee as well as to invite the Executive Director, and F. Hurley. **Vote:** All in favor. (93 yes votes.) The Authority entered executive session at 11:39 a.m. The Authority came out of executive session at 12:12 a.m. The Authority returned to public session at 12:12 a.m. and there were no votes taken.

Adjournment:

J. Urice departed after vote to go into Executive Session. **Motion** by S. Dunn, second R. Straiton, the meeting was adjourned at 12:13 a.m. **Vote:** All in favor of adjournment. (57 yes votes.)

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Carlson
Administrative Assistant