



HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY

MINUTES

Friday, December 13, 2019, 10:00 a.m.

**The Amber Room Colonnade
1 Stacey Road, Danbury, CT 06811**

<u>Members or Alternates Present</u>		<u>Others Present:</u>
Brookfield, Steve Dunn	7	Dan Rosenthal, Newtown
Danbury, Joel Urice	36	Suzanne Von Holt, New Milford
Kent, Jean Speck	1	Patti Oberg, All American Waste
New Fairfield, Pat DelMonaco	6	Mike Powers, All American Waste
New Milford, Pete Bass	12	Joe Sardone, Oak Ridge
Newtown, Herb Rosenthal	12	Glenn Nanavaty, Nanavaty & Nanavaty
Redding, Julia Pemberton	4	Chris Nelson, CT DEEP
Ridgefield, Rudolph Marconi	11	Kristin Brown, Zero Waste
Sherman, Don Lowe	2	
	91	

Members Absent

Bridgewater
Bethel

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman S. Dunn at 10:04 a.m. with a quorum of 89 votes present from eight towns. S. Dunn led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. P. Bass and D. Lowe entered the meeting at 10:30am under item 4 increasing the quorum to 91 votes and nine towns.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Chairman and Members' Comments: No comments shared by the V. Chairman. H. Rosenthal expressed his continued frustration with the large trucks heading to Bridgeport from Oak Ridge. The HRRR regional agreement states the 100 foot trailers will not use Route 25/Main Street Newtown. He asked that something be done about the violation in contract.

Directors Report

Executive Director J. Heaton-Jones highlighted that MSW tonnage is at 101% compared to the same time last year and recycling tonnage is at 62% to the same time last year. The glass pilot phase I has collected 122.4 tons of glass since March 1st from the towns of Bethel, Redding and Ridgefield.

The Director announced that T. Carlson resigned from the HRRR and the Executive Committee is in the process of deciding to hire a fulltime employee to replace her or to create two part time positions.

The Director gave an update on the reconstruction of the Hartford MIRA plant.

Administrative Approvals:

- a.) **Minutes - Motion** by J. Urice second by H. Rosenthal to approve the minutes of October 16, 2019 (Attachment A) **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 91 votes in favor

- b.) **Financial Statements - Motion** by J. Urice, second by S. Von Holt, to approve the financial statements through November 30, 2019 (attachment C), as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 91 votes in favor.

Old Business:

- a.) **Recycling market update** - The Director reviewed the current market conditions, highlighting attachment D7. The recycling markets have continued decline. The only material with recent improvement was HDPE.

- b.) **Glass program update** – The Director shared that Urban Mining Northeast is under construction and now plans to open in May of 2020. They are in negotiations with Oak Ridge to take both the HRRR source separated glass and MRF glass from the Shelton facility. HRRR will begin to set the plan into motion to launch a full regional glass program with a target of June 2020.

New Business:

- a.) **Review and possibly vote to accept the 2018-19 FY HRRR audit (Attachment E)** – G. Nanavaty presented the 2018-19 audit and financial highlights declaring the audit a clean opinion. **Motion** by D. Lowe, second by J. Urice to accept the 2018-19 FY HRRR audit. **The motion passed unanimously;** with 91 votes in favor

- c.) **Hauler Registration Policy for 2020-21** – The Director spoke with Legal Counsel regarding modifying the 2020-21 registration policy to reflect compliance with haulers participating in the separation of glass from the mixed stream. Haulers will be required in the new year to educate their customers that glass is no longer accepted in the mixed stream and that they also can not throw away the glass in their trash as it is a state mandated recyclable. Collectors may offer the separate collection of glass or direct their customers to take the material to a local drop-off location. Legal Counsel determined that because municipalities through state statute may create requirements and conditions in the guidelines of municipal registration and because legislation was passed to allow the separation of glass from the mixed stream at the curb the requirement in the annual registration would be legal. The Director has spoken to the Chairman and the hope is that Haulers will volunteer to participate and comply with the collection program without it being a registration issue. This policy will need to be voted on by the April HRRR meeting for the annual packets to be issued on time in May of 2020.

- d.) **Household Hazardous Waste events for 2020** – It was noted that the attachment for this agenda item was missing. The Director will be sure to add it and post it online. J. Heaton-Jones projected the attachment for the authority to see and reviewed the proposed dates for the 2020 HHW season. The proposed dates are May 2, June 6, September 5, October 3, November 7 and New Milford TBD. It was requested to change the September 5th date being it is Labor Day weekend. The Director explained that the summer dates were removed from the 2020 season due to extreme heat conditions experienced in 2019. The Director also expressed concern with event support and towns who are unable to send workers to events. It was then discussed to designate three events per town to reduce the burden. The Director will send out a draft schedule to be reviewed and agreed for the February meeting.

P. Bass asked if the Authority could investigate providing pharmaceutical take back at the HHW events. Members agreed with the idea and the Director will follow-up with what may be required in order to provide it as a service to the communities during the HHW events.

- b.) HRRRA Authority Meeting dates for 2020** - J. Heaton-Jones presented the 2020 HRRRA meeting dates with a request to change the December meeting from December 11th to December 4th and to set the meeting to be held at Brookfield Town Hall. Anyone wishing to attend the Danbury Chamber December Luncheon may do so on their own. **Motion** by S. Dunn, second by P. Bass to accept the 2020 Meeting dates with the December meeting being held on December 4th at Brookfield Town Hall. **The motion passed unanimously;** with 91 votes in favor

- c.) HRRRA 2020 Legislative Agenda** – J. Heaton-Jones presented two legislative items for the HRRRA to support in the 2020 session, the Bottle Bill and EPR for packaging. No other issues or items were raised by members. **Motion** by S. Dunn, second by H. Rosenthal to accept the 2020 proposed agenda items. **The motion passed unanimously;** with 91 votes in favor

- e.) CT DEEP & Zero Waste Presentation on PAYT** – K. Brown from Zero Waste presented a plan to implement a “Pay As You Throw” program in the HRRRA region. The presentation is attached to the minutes. It was well received by members with a desire to learn more about how it could work in the HRRRA region. J. Heaton-Jones shared that staff did conduct a SMART/PAYT study through a task force in 2012 and will share the summary.

Adjournment

Motion by H. Rosenthal, second by J. Urice, to adjourn the meeting at 11:53a.m. **The motion passed unanimously;** with 91 votes in favor

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer A. Heaton-Jones