



HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY

MINUTES

Monday, September 28, 2020, 10:30 a.m.

Via Zoom

Members or Alternates Present

Bethel, Matt Knickerbocker	8
Bridgewater, Curtis Read	1
Brookfield, Steve Dunn	7
Danbury, Joel Urice	34
Kent, Jean Speck	1
New Fairfield, Pat Del Monaco	6
Newtown, Fred Hurley	12
New Milford, Suzanne Von Holt	12
Redding, Jeff Hansen	4
Ridgefield, Rudolph Marconi	10
Weston, Chris Spalding	4
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	99

Others Present:

8	Sheldon Conn, Brookfield Alternate
1	Jonathan Luiz, Town of Weston
7	John Decker, Oak Ridge Waste & Recycling
34	Eric Fredericksen, All American Waste
1	Lynn Waller, Public
6	Jennifer Baum, HRRRA
12	J. Heaton-Jones, HRRRA

Members Absent

Sherman

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order via zoom by Chairman M. Knickerbocker at 10:35 a.m. with a quorum of 99 votes present from eleven towns. M. Knickerbocker led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment: No public comment

Chairman and Members' Comments:

The Chairman provided a brief status report on the CT Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management, a project started by CT DEEP Commissioner, Katie Dykes. M. Knickerbocker is co-chairing the program along with Laura Francis, First Selectmen of Durham. M. Knickerbocker thanked J. Heaton-Jones for her involvement and acknowledged J. Heaton-Jones as being recognized in the state of Connecticut as one of the foremost authorities on waste management and recycling and sustainability. M. Knickerbocker is pleased to have J. Heaton-Jones representing the HRRRA region on this initiative. There are about 68 towns participating. Meetings will begin the second week of October. M. Knickerbocker thanked all HRRRA members who have signed up to participate.

M. Knickerbocker added J. Heaton-Jones is collaborating with CCM on a series of workshops focused on understanding the solid waste and recycling system in Connecticut.

Director's and Tonnage Report – J. Heaton-Jones reviewed highlights from the written Directors Report and tonnage reports (Attachment A).

- Hauler Registration & Permitting – J. Heaton Jones expressed challenges faced with registration and permits. There were a handful of haulers who did not register on time, some fighting insurance policies, and some who refuse to submit applications. J. Heaton-Jones recommended adding a future agenda item to review how to handle non-compliant haulers.
- CT Product Stewardship Council – J. Heaton-Jones is currently chairing the CT PSC. The fuel cylinder EPR bill that was introduced last session will be re-introduced in the 2021 and the CT PSC will explore EPR for packaging.
- Next HRRRA Meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 4, 2020.
- J. Heaton-Jones reviewed MSW and Recycling tonnage as of August 31, 2020

R. Marconi requested clarification on the glass data.

Administrative Approvals:

Minutes: Motion by S. Dunn, second by H. Rosenthal, to approve the minutes of June 22, 2020 (Attachment B).

Vote: The motion passed unanimously; with 99 votes in favor

Financial Statements: Motion by J. Urice, second by R. Marconi, to approve the financial statements through August 31, 2020 (Attachment C), as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 99 votes in favor.

Old Business:

Recycling market update – J. Heaton-Jones gave a brief market update. Corrugated cardboard is up from July to August moving from \$55 per ton to \$57 per ton, on average, for Northeast market. Sorted residential paper is up slightly, sorted office paper is up, mixed paper is up. In other commodities, plastic (natural high-density polyethylene) from curbside collections was up 22% in August, trading at an average of \$.44 per pound compared to \$.36 in July and \$.20 one year prior. National average for sorted aluminum cans is up to \$39.81 from \$39.19. Data is collected from recyclingmarkets.net.

R. Marconi requested that the recycling market updates be included in the agenda packet.

J. Urice commented to ask what events are improving recycling values. J Heaton-Jones suggested the trends are related to COVID and an increase in online purchases. In addition, to increased domestic markets.

Glass program update:

An agreement between the HRRRA and Oak Ridge has been completed to include collection, transportation, and disposal tip fees. Bridgewater and Newtown are now also collecting glass separately. The program continues to be running smoothly in Redding, Ridgefield and Bethel.

Urban Mining finally has power to their facility and will begin running test in the coming weeks. As HRRRA moves forward with their agreement with Oak Ridge, press releases will run with Hearst Media to prepare residents for the new program. Glass collection bins will be distributed to all HRRRA Transfer Stations.

Budget 2020-21

Motion by R. Marconi, second by S. Dunn, to adjust the 2020-21 budget (Attachment D) as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 99 votes in favor.

By-Laws:

Motion by M. Knickerbocker, second by J. Speck, to table the By-Laws agenda item. The By-Laws sub-committee will meet and draft a proposal and the Full Authority will schedule a special meeting to discuss just the By-Laws.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously; with 99 votes in favor.

New Business:

Building regional programs to address material management issues

J. Heaton Jones suggested the region research providing more regional agreements beyond MSW and Recycling. The transfer stations all use different vendors for collection and service. The HRRRA should leverage the number of member municipalities to create stronger contracts for other items such as motor oil, antifreeze, tires, scrap metal etc. In addition to purchasing equipment such as tub grinders for brush that could be shared among municipalities. No motion was taken. Executive Director agreed to work with transfer station operators to research and develop a program to present at the next HRRRA meeting on December 4, 2020.

Regional Solid Waste & Recycling Agreement, Amendment to Appendix E

Motion by M. Knickerbocker, second by R. Marconi, to enter into executive session inviting all board members and alternates, including HRRRA staff, J. Heaton-Jones, J. Baum, and J. Decker from Oak Ridge Waste and Recycling, for the purpose to review the Regional Solid Waste & Recycling Agreement, Amendment to Appendix E. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 99 votes in favor.

The Executive Committee entered executive session at 11:18 a.m. and came out of executive session at 11:49 a.m.

Motion by J. Speck, second by J. Urice, to approve the Regional Solid Waste & Recycling Agreement, Amendment to Appendix E as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 99 votes in favor.

Motion by J. Speck, second by C. Spalding, to Approve the Glass pilot program agreement as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 99 votes in favor.

Adjournment

Motion by S. Dunn, second by R. Marconi, to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. **The motion passed unanimously;** with 99 votes in favor

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Baum