



HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY
MINUTES
Friday, December 3, 2021, 10:30 a.m. Via Zoom

Members or Alternates Present

Bethel, Matt Knickerbocker	7
Bridgewater, Curtis Read	1
Brookfield, Steve Dunn	6
Danbury, Patrick Johnston	31
Kent, Jean Speck	1
New Fairfield, Pat Del Monaco	5
New Milford, Pete Bass	11
Newtown, Herb Rosenthal	11
Redding, Julia Pemberton	4
Ridgefield, Rudolph Marconi	10
Roxbury, Barbara Henry	1
Sherman, Don Lowe	1
Weston, Samantha Nestor	4
Wilton, Christopher Burney	7

100

Others Present:

Sheldon Conn, Brookfield
Fred Hurley, Newtown Alternate
Sandra Cointreau, Roxbury
Glenn Nanavaty, HRRR Auditor
April Regan, All American Waste
Jennifer Heaton-Jones, HRRR
Jennifer Baum, HRRR

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order via zoom by Chairman M. Knickerbocker at 10:30 a.m. with a quorum of 89 votes present from thirteen towns. M. Knickerbocker led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. P. Bass entered the meeting at 10:35 during the Chairman's comments bringing the quorum to 100 votes from all fourteen municipalities.

Public Comment: No public comment

Chairman and Members' Comment:

The Chairman welcomed new members of the HRRR, T. Carr, P. Johnston, and S. Nestor.

The Chairman announced the Danbury Chamber of Commerce will host the annual Previdi Award Luncheon on December 10, 2021. Board Members who wish to attend should inform J. Heaton-Jones.

The Chairman addressed the issue of the municipal solid waste overflow at the Danbury Transfer Station which is a direct result of the long wait lines at the Bridgeport WTE Plant and the numerous unscheduled outages.

Director's and Tonnage Report:

J. Heaton-Jones reviewed highlights from the written Directors Report and tonnage reports (Attachment A).

- J. Heaton-Jones reviewed MSW and recycling tonnage as of October 31, 2021.
- MSW tonnage FY to date is running at 105% and 100% compared to the same month last year.
- Recycling tonnage FY to date is running at 96% and 134% compared to the same month last year.
- E-waste tonnage is running at 93% compared to the same time last year.
- Glass collected from March 1, 2019, to Nov. 24, 2021 - 698.23 tons

Administrative Approvals:

Minutes: Motion by H. Rosenthal second by S. Dunn, to approve the minutes of November 2, 2021 (Attachment B). **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 100 votes in favor.

Financial Statements: J. Heaton-Jones reviewed the financial statements through November 30, 2021 (Attachment C). **Motion** by D. Lowe, second by J. Pemberton, to approve the financial statements through November 30, 2021 (Attachment C), as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 100 votes in favor.

Old Business:

6a.) Budget - Revised

The Director explained there was an error in the approved revised 2021-22 Fiscal Budget (Attachment D1-2) from the September 30th meeting. The revised budget was approved to reflect the acceptance of the USDA grant. While the correct category amount was indicated, the total revenue and expenses were not accurately calculated. The revised 2021-22 Fiscal Budget (Attachment D3-4) accurately reflects the totals. The total revenue for grants is \$125,657 and total overall revenue is \$795,157. The contingency was reduced to \$18,000, grants/special projects was increased to \$89,657. The Total Expenditures for the budget equals \$790,084.83, with a total net revenue of \$5071.75. **Motion** by H. Rosenthal and D. Lowe to approve the HRRR revised 2021-22 Fiscal Budget as presented in Attachment D3-4. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 100 votes in favor.

New Business:

7a.) 2020-2021 FY HRRR Audit (Attachment E)

G. Nanavaty reviewed the HRRR 2020-2021 fiscal year audit. G. Nanavaty stated there were no issues with the audit. Every document requested was provided and no adjustments were required. G. Nanavaty stated the organization is functioning well and recommended that the board continue to function in the same manner. The full audit can be reviewed from the HRRR website at www.hrrr.org. **Motion** by P. Bass, second by J. Pemberton, to approve the 2020-2021 FY Audit (Attachment E), as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 100 votes in favor.

7b.) Resolution to Support Packaging EPR (Attachment F)

Motion by R. Marconi, second by P. Del Monaco, to approve the resolution to support Packaging EPR (Attachment F), as presented.

The Chairman stated the HRRRA has been supportive of EPR initiatives over the years to address the issues of waste management. The Resolution acknowledges EPR for packaging as a means to make manufacturers responsible for the packaging they create. The resolution can be signed by the authority or as individual municipalities. The Chairman opened the floor for questions and comments.

P. Johnston, on behalf of the City of Danbury, requested the vote on the approval of the resolution be tabled to allow the new administration additional time to review the resolution.

Motion by P. Johnston, second by P. Bass to table the resolution to support packaging EPR.

The Chairman requested a roll call.

The Executive Director shared there are 14 towns present with 100 votes.

Vote: The motion to table the resolution to support packaging EPR **failed**; with 4 towns and 44 votes in support of tabling the resolution.

Voting in favor: BW, DA, NM, SH

Voting against: BE, BK, KE, NF, NE, RE, RI, RX, WE, WI

Motion by R. Marconi, second by P. Del Monaco, to approve the resolution to support Packaging EPR (Attachment F), as presented.

Vote: The motion passed; with 11 towns and 57 votes in favor of the resolution to support packaging EPR and 1 abstention from the Town of New Milford.

Voting in favor: BE, BW, BK, KE, NF, NE, RE, RI, RX, WE, WI

Voting against: DA, SH

City of Danbury and Town of Sherman request to be removed from the resolution.

7c.) Hauler Registration Policy (Attachment G)

J. Heaton-Jones reviewed the changes to the Hauler registration Policy. The changes appear in blue font.

Motion by H. Rosenthal, second by S. Dunn to approve the Hauler Registration Policy (Attachment G), as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously**; with 100 votes in favor.

7d.) Household Hazardous Waste Events 2022 (Attachment H)

The Chairman presented the Household Hazardous Waste Schedule with municipality commitments for the year of 2022.

J. Heaton-Jones requested town officials to support the Household Hazardous Waste Events as committed. If municipalities are not able to commit, possible solutions may be the HRRRA can potentially hire help and bill fees to municipalities or reduce the number of events.

Motion by D. Lowe, second by S. Dunn to approve the 2022 Household Hazardous Waste Event schedule (Attachment H), as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously**; with 100 votes in favor.

7e.) HRRRA Authority Meeting Dates for 2022 (Attachment I)

The Chairman presented the Full Authority meeting schedule for the year of 2022.

Motion by R. Marconi, second by S. Dunn to approve the HRRRA Authority Meeting Dates for 2022 (Attachment I), as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 100 votes in favor.

7f.) “Miniatures” Surcharge Fund to Municipalities April 2022 (Attachment J)

J. Heaton-Jones announced that the modernized bottle bill, includes a 5-cent surcharge on “miniatures” effective October 2021. On April 1, 2022, and every 6 months after, payment will be made to every municipality in which miniatures are sold. The funds are intended to be used to reduce the generation of solid waste or reduce the impact of litter caused by miniatures. Municipalities should begin considering how they will spend the funds to support the intention of the bill. The Director will add this to the February HRRRA meeting to discuss in more detail.

7g.) HRRRA 2022 Legislative Agenda (Attachment K)

The Chairman presented the HRRRA 2022 Legislative Agenda as a working document.

Motion by D. Lowe, second by P. Del Monaco to approve the HRRRA 2022 Legislative Agenda (Attachment K), as presented. **Vote: The motion passed;** with 69 votes in favor, with 1 abstention from P. Johnston (DA).

Adjournment

Motion by P. Bass, second by D. Lowe, to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 a.m. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 100 votes in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Baum

**A full recording of the December 3, 2021, HRRRA Full Authority meeting is posted on the HRRRA website.
<https://hrra.org/meetings-minutes-and-audits/>*