



## **HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY**

### **MINUTES**

**Thursday, January 23, 2025 10:30 a.m.**

**Newtown Municipal Center, Conference Room**

**3 Primrose Street, Newtown CT 06470**

#### **Members or Alternates Present**

Bethel, Dan Carter	8
Brookfield, Steve Dunn	7
Danbury, Roberto Alves	32
Kent, Marty Lindenmayer	1
New Fairfield, Pat Del Monaco	5
New Milford, Suzanne Von Holt	11
Newtown, Herb Rosenthal	10
Redding, Julia Pemberton	3
Roxbury, Barbara Henry	1
Wilton, Matthew Knickerbocker	<u>7</u>
	<b>85</b>

#### **Others Present:**

8	Jeff Capeci, First Selectman, Newtown
7	R. Laigle, All American Waste
32	Glenn Nanavaty, Auditor
1	B. Molloy, Newtown Resident / BOF member
5	J. Nova, City of Danbury Mayors Office
11	Jennifer Heaton-Jones, HRRRA
10	Jennifer Baum, HRRRA

#### **Members Absent:**

Bridgewater, Ridgefield, Sherman, Weston

#### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman M. Knickerbocker at 10:36 a.m. with 85 votes present from 10 towns.

#### **Public Comment:**

No Public Comment

#### **Chairman and Members' Comment:**

The Chairman welcomed the HRRRA members to the new year and reminded members that the authority held a vote in 2024 to change the HRRRA by-laws to one town, one vote. However, that vote will not be effective until each town updates their municipal charter.

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### **HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY**

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BRIDGEWATER | BETHEL | BROOKFIELD | DANBURY | KENT | NEW FAIRFIELD | NEW MILFORD  
NEWTOWN | REDDING | RIDGEFIELD | ROXBURY | SHERMAN | WESTON | WILTON

### **Director's and Tonnage Report:**

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

- The director is in communication with Legal Council to draft sample language for municipalities to use in their local ordinances to align member towns with enforcement language and updated by-law language.
- The HRRR has ordered 20 metroSTOR containers (organics/food scrap collection satellite containers) that are expected to arrive in March. The metroSTOR containers will be placed strategically throughout the HRRR region to collect food scraps.

The Chairman announced that the CT Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management (CCSMM) has reconvened.

### **Administrative Approvals:**

**a.) Minutes: Motion** by D. Carter second by R. Alves, to approve the minutes of July 25, 2024, (Attachment B). **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 85 votes in favor.

**b.) Financial Statements:** J. Heaton-Jones reviewed the financial statements through December 31, 2024 (Attachment C). **Motion** by M. Lindenmayer, second by J. Pemberton, to approve the financial statements through December 31, 2024, as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 85 votes in favor.

### **Old Business:**

#### **6a.) Beyond 2029 Subcommittee Update**

The Chairman shared an update on the Beyond 2029 Subcommittee:

- The subcommittee met on January 22, 2025.
- R. Marconi was elected as the chair of the subcommittee.
- The subcommittee requires additional data to proceed with formulating a proposal and will invite industry experts to share perspectives on industry trends.
- Meeting dates and minutes will be posted.

### **New Business:**

#### **7a.) 2023-24 FY HRRR audit (Attachment D – p.33)**

G. Nanavaty reviewed the HRRR 2023-2024 fiscal year audit. G. Nanavaty stated there were no issues with the audit and commended the executive committee for being involved with all transactions and recommended the board continue to function in the same manner.

B. Henry and the Chairman acknowledged the Director for diligent financials.

**Motion** by D. Carter, second by R. Alves, to approve the 2023-2024 FY Audit (Attachment D), as presented. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 85 votes in favor.

**7b.) 2025 Meeting Dates (Attachment E – p.65)**

**Motion** by M. Lindenmayer, second by B. Henry to approve the HRRRA 2025 meeting dates as presented. Vote: **The motion passed unanimously**; with 85 votes in favor

**7c.) 2025 HHW Dates (Attachment F – p.66)**

**Motion** by P. Del Monaco, second by M. Lindenmayer to approve the 2025 HHW dates and worker schedule as presented. Vote: **The motion passed unanimously**; with 85 votes in favor

B. Henry inquired what the numbers in the HHW schedule refer to next to each municipality listed. J. Heaton-Jones provided a detailed explanation of the HHW schedule and the importance of municipal staff attending the events as scheduled. The numbers pertain to the number of workers each town is assigned.

**7d.) HRRRA 2025 Legislative agenda (Attachment A – p.9)**

J. Heaton-Jones reviewed the 2025 legislative agenda. A discussion ensued regarding the current proposed bills.

The Chairman proposed tabling a vote on the 2025 Legislative agenda to the next HRRRA meeting when more detail is available.

HRRRA members are in consensus to allow additional time to follow the progress of the proposed bills.

**7e.) Proposal – HRRRA lobbyist for 2025 year**

J. Heaton-Jones shared the HRRRA received proposals from two lobbyists.

A discussion ensued on the benefits of the HRRRA hiring a lobbyist for the calendar year 2025. Members appointed D. Carter to be the Director's adviser to review the proposals and determine the best fit for the Authority.

**Motion** by M. Lindenmayer, second by H. Rosenthal to allow the HRRRA Director to negotiate up to \$20,000 to employ a lobbyist. Vote: **The motion passed unanimously**; with 85 votes in favor.

**7f.) Review and discuss Hauler letter – complaint (Attachment G – p.67)**

M. Knickerbocker shared the HRRRA received an anonymous complaint from a hauler that addresses concerns and allegations pertaining to violations of state and federal laws at the Danbury Transfer Station, operated by Interstate Waste Services also known as Oak Ridge, located at 307 White Street, Danbury CT.

S. Dunn acknowledged the concerns should be addressed, however as they pertain to state and federal laws, the HRRRA should advise the person on who to address the concerns with at the state and federal level.

The Chairman stated because the allegations are beyond the ability of HRRRA to enforce the person should contact the Connecticut Office of the Attorney General.

J. Heaton-Jones confirmed the HRRRA staff will send an email to all haulers informing them that complaints pertaining state and federal violations should be addressed to the Attorney General's office.

**Adjournment**

**Motion** by M. Lindenmayer, second by D. Carter, to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 a.m. **Vote: The motion passed unanimously;** with 85 votes in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Baum