

Minutes of the June 9, 2021, Board Meeting of the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority Held at the Gales Ferry Office

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Joe Bragaw called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Joe Bragaw	East Lyme Representative	P	Michael Urgo	North Stonington Representative	A
Kevin Seery	East Lyme Alternate Representative	A	Don Hill	North Stonington Alternate Representative	A
Todd Babbitt	Griswold Representative	P	Patrick McLaughlin	Norwich Representative	A
Stacey Leitch	Groton Representative	P	Brian Long	Norwich Alternate Representative	P
Joe Lozier	Ledyard Representative	A	Sandra Allyn- Gauthier	Preston Representative	A
Steve Masalin	Ledyard Alternate Representative	P	Jim Corley	Preston Alternate Representative	Р
Ronald McDaniel	Montville Representative	P	Cheryl Blanchard	Sprague Representative	Р
Donald Bourdeau	Montville Alternate Representative	A	Joan Nagle	Sprague Alternate Representative	A
Brian Sear	New London Representative	Р	John Phetteplace	Stonington Representative & Board President	A
David DeNoia	New London Alternate Representative	A	Gary Schneider	Waterford Representative	Р
			Daniel Matheson	Waterford Alternative Representative	A

P = Present, C=Call In (Audio), A=Absent

Quorum present

Others: David Aldridge, SCRRRA Executive Director; Robin Cano, SCRRRA Administrator; Christopher Roman, SCRRRA Finance Manager; SCRRRA Legal Counsel Richard Barger & SCRRRA Consultant Jim Bolduc

3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

4. ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON MAY 12, 2021

Majority was in favor; none were opposed Ron McDaniel & Brian Long Abstained. (Motion by Todd Babbitt, 2nd by Gary Schneider)

FINANCE REPORTS

Mr. Aldridge reviewed April's finance report. (Motion by Ron McDaniel, 2nd by Stacey Leitch)

6. PRESIDENT'S / STAFF REPORTS

PROJECT:

I.Legislative Update

SB 1037 AN ACT CONCERNING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Dave Aldridge informed us that the bottle bill was passed in the Senate 33-1, and in the House 105-42, drink bottles for hard seltzer and hard cider, plant water, juice, juice drinks, tea, coffee, kombucha, plant-infused beverages, sports and energy drinks will have a 10-cent deposit which is up from 5 cents – beginning Jan 1, 2024. The bill also requires liquor wholesales to charge a 5 cents tax on 50 milliliter "nip" bottles with the intent of building a fund to support municipal clean-up efforts.

HB 6386 - AN ACT CONCERNING EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR TIRES, SMOKE DETECTORS AND GAS CYCLINDERS

Mr. Aldridge informed us that this bill has received significant industry push back and may be deferred.

HB 6502 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF CERTAIN POLYSTYRENE PRODUCTS, THE AVAILABILITY OF SINGLE-USE STRAWS, THE RELEASE OF CERTAIN BALLOONS AND THE COMPOSTABLE NATURE OF SINGLE USE PRODUCE BAGS

This bill has received significant industry push back and may be deferred.

II.Organics Update

Mr. Aldridge told us that we have delayed the start of the pilot test for three weeks while waiting for a generator to run the aeration and communications equipment. The generator is a loan from the City of New London saving us about \$7,000. Blue Earth organics is ready to deliver the necessary food waste. Mr. Aldridge has also been in discussion with Dominic Lepore of East Coast Material Management regarding the purchase of both mulch and compost. ECMM is a firm in Plainfield CT that specializes in organics distribution. They are currently distributing soils, mulch, ice melt and similar products to customers in the New England region. Their capabilities include screening, coloring, and bagging products for Walmart, Lowes, and other retailers in New England. Mr. Aldridge said that they are planning to meet again in a couple of weeks at our grinding site to look at our product. If this develops into a business relationship it would allow us to greatly simplify SCRRRA's focus to grinding and composting and allow us to operate in a much smaller footprint. Jim Bolduc has done some very good research on the company background, and they appear to be a legitimate potential customer.

III.FEMA Claim

Chris Roman has been working closely with our FEMA manager on our claim and all paperwork has been submitted. Mr. Aldridge said we are hopeful to have a claim payment in several weeks, about \$63,000. Mr. Aldridge would like to thank Mayor McDaniel for keeping us up to date on the FEMA updates that allowed us to process the claim. Mr. Aldridge asked other towns, in the case of another disaster declaration to separate as best they can to allow us to recoup more of our operating cost. This \$63,000 was for grinding and shipping brush from two towns. Mr. Aldridge said he can only imagine how much the Authority could have saved if more towns participated.

IV. Supplemental Wood Grinding

Gary Schneider asked to have this topic added to the agenda. Mr. Schneider said that there are towns that have large piles to grind and haul and one thought he had was to contract out grinding and chip hauling to clean and clear our sites before the upcoming hurricane season. Mr. Aldridge commented that this was a good idea. He said we are currently almost done with our town circuit. He said he could keep a contractor handy but with the expense of it he is hesitant to bring them at this time.

V. Transfer Station Service Spreadsheet

Mr. Aldridge stated that in the last meeting the issue of developing a SCRRRA town Transfer Station services spreadsheet that would list hours, services offered, and fees was discussed. There seemed to be a consensus that it was a good idea. There is a copy of a survey that Joe Bragaw put together in your paperwork. Mr. Aldridge asked if each town would send Robin Cano and himself an update of their information, we can compile an updated survey and distribute it at our next meeting.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

None

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Joe Bragaw requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was made by Ron McDaniel and Steve Masalin seconded and was approved unanimously. There being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Schneider Secretary