



**Minutes of the December 4, 2019 Board Annual 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 2:04 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Joe Bragaw	East Lyme Representative	P	Michael Urgo	North Stonington Representative	P
Todd Babbitt	Griswold Representative	P	Don Hill	North Stonington Alternate Representative	A
Stacey Deitch	Groton Representative	P	Patrick McLaughlin	Norwich Representative	P
Joe Lozier	Ledyard Representative	A	Brian Long	Norwich Alternate Representative	A
Steve Masalin	Ledyard Alternate Representative	A	Robert Congdon	Preston Representative	A
Ronald McDaniel	Montville Representative	P	Catherine Osten	Sprague Representative	A
Donald Bourdeau	Montville Alternate Representative	A	Denise Dembinski	Sprague Alternate Representative	P
Brian Sear	New London Representative	P	John Phetteplace	Stonington Representative & Board President	A
David DeNoia	New London Alternate Representative	A	Gary Schneider	Waterford Alternate Representative	P

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

Quorum present

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

3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Aldridge discussed two articles:

- 1) 11-18-2019 from the New London Day discussing the Authority's new 10-year contract with the Lisbon Plant, from Preston.
- 2) Hartford Courant from 12-03-2019 regarding the proposed deal to renovate the Hartford plant.

4. ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETINGS

a. ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 9, 2019.

Motion to approve minutes.
Majority was in favor, none were opposed.
Abstentions: None
(Motion by Ronald McDaniel, 2nd by Todd Babbitt)

b. HELD ON NOVEMBER 6TH, 2019

Motion to approve minutes.
Majority was in favor, none were opposed.
Abstentions: Ronald McDaniel
(Motion by Todd Babbitt, 2nd by Pat McLaughlin)

5. FINANCE REPORTS

Mr. Roman reviewed the October 2019 finance report.
Motion to approve the Finance Report as presented.
Majority was in favor, none were opposed.
(Motion by Ronald McDaniel, 2nd by Denise Dembinski)

6. PRESIDENT'S/ STAFF REPORTS

PROJECT:

I. **2021 Tip Fee**

Mr. Aldridge recommended to keep the MSW tip fee at \$58/ton, but as the Authority moves forward, the Board should consider increasing the MSW tip rate in future budgets, while keeping the recycling tip rate low to maintain motivation to recycle over disposal. Mr. Aldridge also discussed the consideration of supporting pay-as-you-throw initiatives through the tip fee in future years.

Mr. Bragaw agreed with the Executive Director's proposal.

There was discussion regarding pulling the Authority budget submission process forward a month. Submission in October; Board Approval in November.

Motion to set the MSW tip Fee at \$58.00/ton
Majority was in favor, none were opposed
(Motion by Ronald McDaniel, 2nd by Brian Sear)

II. **2021 Operating Budget**

Board was present with the 2021 Authority Operating Budget.
Mr. Aldridge highlighted the budget assumptions.
Mr. Bragaw highlighted other budget factors affecting Authority reserves.
Mr. McLaughlin noted the reserve amount expected to be used and inquired of the total balance that the Authority held in reserves.
Mr. Aldridge noted the need for longer term forecasting. Fiscal planning should be focused on a 25-year horizon vs. 10 years.

Motion to approve the 2021 SCRRRA Budget as proposed
Majority was in favor, none were opposed
(Motion by Ronald McDaniel, 2nd by Pat McLaughlin)

PRESIDENT’S/STAFF REPORTS (CONT.)

III. Transportation Subsidy

Board was presented with a revised Transportation Subsidy calculation.

Mr. Bragaw provided background for the Transportation Subsidy currently in place.

Mr. Aldridge discussed the mechanics of the proposed revision, noting that the amount is predictable, voted upon by the board, equitable, and more closely matches MSW disposal for all member municipalities.

Motion to approve the methodology and calculation of the revised transportation subsidy, as presented.

Majority was in favor, none were opposed.

(Motion by Pat McLaughlin, 2nd by Donald Hill)

IV. Organics Update

Mr. Aldridge indicated that he and Winston Averill, SCRRRA Recycling Director met with officers of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation concerning potential siting of the organics project on Ella Wheeler Road in N. Stonington. They were very interested. Mr. Aldridge proceeded to discuss the site.

Mr. Aldridge also contacted the owner of a site at the intersection of Routes 2 & 184 in N. Stonington, who was also interested.

Mr. Aldridge also updated the Board on future meetings with the Groton Town Planner and representatives of the United States Navy.

V. DEEP Legislative Meeting

Mr. Aldridge provided an update of a DEEP legislative agenda meeting. Topics included and update on the MIRA Facility redevelopment, Organics diversion, the outlook on recycling, and potential legislation to be pushed forward by DEEP. Concern was voiced over the escalation of tip fees in Hartford, which was also addressed by the article presented earlier in the meeting. Mr. Aldridge was specifically asked about SCRRRA’s MSW contract and organics plan. Mr. Aldridge recognized SCRRRA’s Board in explaining how various arrangements have been reached for the benefit of the residents. Next DEEP meeting is in January 2020, with potential topics being MIRA, Pay-as-you-Throw at the State level, single use plastics, and packaging legislation.

VI. Mixed Recycling Composition Audit

Mr. Aldridge presented the most recent results of the composition audit performed on October 21, 2019 at Willimantic Waste. The results of the February 2016 results were also presented for comparative purposes. The audit results do not affect the SCRRRA tip fee, but allows for active tracking of the worth of a SCRRRA ton.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into Executive Session for contract negotiation and personnel matters, inviting SCRRRA representatives, SCRRRA Executive Director, Attorney Richard Barger & Jim Bolduc at 2:45 pm

Majority was in favor, none were opposed.

(Motion by Ronald McDaniel, 2nd by Denise Dembinski)

EXECUTIVE SESSION (CONT.)

Exited executive Session at 3:02 PM

Motion to approve the submitted changes to the job description of the Administrative Assistant and to increase annual compensation by 15%.

Discussion: none

Majority was in favor, none were opposed.

(Motion by Gary Schneider, 2nd by Ron McDaniel)

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

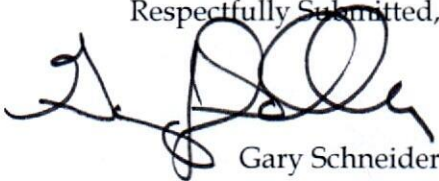
None

ADJOURNMENT

John Phetteplace requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was made by Denise Dembinski, Gary Schneider seconded and was approved unanimously.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gary Schneider
Secretary