



**Minutes of the November 21, 2019 Executive Committee Meeting of the
Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority
Held at the Gales Ferry Office**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 2:08 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Joe Bragaw	East Lyme Representative	P	Denise Dembinski	Sprague Alternate Representative
Gary Schneider	Waterford Representative	P	John Phetteplace	Stonington Representative & Board President
Joe Lozier	Ledyard Representative	A		

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

Present

Others: David Aldridge, SCRRRA Executive Director; Asia Warren, SCRRRA Operations Administrator; Chris Roman, SCRRRA Finance Manager; Winston Averill, SCRRRA Recycling Coordinator; SCRRRA Legal Counsel Richard Barger & SCRRRA Consultant Jim Bolduc

3. ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON OCTOBER 24, 2019

Majority was in favor, none were opposed.
(Motion by Gary Schneider, 2nd Joe Bragaw)

4. FINANCE REPORTS:

Chris Roman reviewed October 2019 finance report.

Motion to authorize a transfer from the Tipping Fee Stabilization investment account to the SCRRRA Operational account at Citizens for \$1,200,000.00.

Discussion: none

Majority was in favor, none were opposed.

(Motion by Gary Schneider, 2nd by Joe Bragaw)

5. PRESIDENT / STAFF REPORTS:

I. Transportation Subsidy: Dave Aldridge recapped last Wednesday's Transportation Sub-Committee met to discuss revisions to the current policy, that would account for the change from Preston to Lisbon. Mr. Aldridge directed attention to the spreadsheet in the attendee's packets; prepared by Joe Bragaw gone over in the Wednesday November 13th Transportation Sub-Committee Meeting. As well as a simplified written version of the spreadsheet in the packets as well. Proposed was that once a year the Board would approve a total amount to be distributed for the subsidy. The mileage from each town to Lisbon would be calculated, once determined how to gauge the distance. The suggestion was MapQuest or something similar it to get actual road mileage. He proceeded to say the starting point would

also be an issue that still would need to be determined; suggesting that detail be determined town by town. Mr. Aldridge proceeded to say that once each town's total was added up the percentage of each town's subsidy would be based on the individual town's percentage of the total mileage. Each year previous tonnage would be calculated as a percentage of the total. Essentially a multiplier which would account for the two percentages, determining what that town's percentage of the subsidy would be. All towns would receive a subsidy so essentially that multiplier would be used to determine what each town's total for the year is and then deduct that off the tip fee charge for each town. He highlights that this example may be the best way to show the 12 towns working together, that every year the amount is voted on showing the Board is cognizant of what the Board is spending keeping the formula current and accurate, as well as the deduction from billing to continue to allow solid waste to be the charter of SCRRRA, by deducting from a bill we can maintain that the credit is going against solid waste. Mr. Aldridge gives verbal credit to Joe Bragaw for the suggestion of the methodology in determining the subsidy amounts. He confirmed that the Transportation Sub-Committee all agreed that the methodology was agreeable. John Phetteplace posed a question as to why we can't use the current month's tonnage to determine the subsidy each month. Mr. Aldridge followed up with stating; that because of the reconciliation that would have to take place, would hold up the process for another month and that it is a cleaner process. Mr. Aldridge also requested the opinions of the room, as an attempt to prepare for recommendation to the full Board on Dec. 4th, 2019. He also suggests that the Board request to move the entire fiscal planning up a month, recapping that Brian Long (City of Norwich) added that Norwich would be putting the Public Works budget together the day before the tip fee is voted on, which is not ok. Mr. Aldridge reiterates that perhaps moving the fiscal planning up a month doing the voting in November as opposed to December going forward.

Joe Bragaw also added to clean up the process even more by adding up the total amount and dividing by 12 eliminating variances in amounts and questions per town, by eliminating the tonnage variable.

II. 2021 Draft Budget: Dave Aldridge directed the Board's attention to the handout in their packets, noting that it is obviously adjusted for the just determined transportation subsidy changes. He advised that at the last Executive Meeting it was asked that the report be expanded out another level. He clarified that the document was the same document presented at the Board meeting, but that the rest of the budget was a little negated due to the long discussion on the Transportation Subsidy. Reminding the Board that SCRRRA is looking for final recommendations. Joe Bragaw asked Chris Roman if he was ok with the \$980,000 delegated for recycling. Chris Roman clarified that the \$980,000 was an annualization of 140,000 tons which is the best estimate for the year. Denise Dembinski added that the expanded version of the report. Denise Dembinski questioned the increase in attorney fees. Chris added the cushion is to cover additional expenses that is anticipated for the upcoming projects. Mrs. Dembinski also questioned the reduction in Total Outreach and Publicity. Chris confirmed that the approved budget for 2020 includes leftover approved funds from the 2019 budget. Dave Aldridge adds that the 2019 budget had

included marketing materials that will not be repeated. Joe Bragaw questioned the amount reduced amount on the Residue Expense line item. Chris confirmed that the 0'd amount represented the dissolution of the expenses paid to Willimantic Waste. Confirming that the expense goes away with the new contract. Joe Bragaw also questioned what represented the

revenue from the woodchipper which Mr. Roman clarified that the line item for the woodchipper revenue is Other Operating Revenue \$30,000 and clarified that the \$70,000 is for land lease with Covanta at \$5,600 per month. John Phetteplace asked about the LOBBYIST line item and whether it is still necessary and Mr. Aldridge clarified that it is still necessary and the he was invited to a meeting with the Commissioner in December to discuss the 2020 Legislative Program being pushed in the State. John Phetteplace questioned whether the line item for Mulch hauling an adequate amount and Mr. Aldridge was suggested that it was not enough. John Phetteplace suggested bumping their Mulch Hauling amount up to \$100,000.

III. Food Scrap Composting: Mr. Aldridge stated that since SCRRRA has completed the disposal deal and will be work on a recycling deal in the coming months - along with the NL transfer being on hold awaiting the CT DOT lease extension. Mr. Aldridge stated that he would like to turn our attention to looking at the feasibility of developing a food scrap composting facility. Mr. Aldridge also stated that he believes that a composting facility is the next best opportunity for reducing our outflow of subsidy dollars. Initial conservative estimates that he has looked at indicate that SCRRRA could save \$600,000 per year in subsidy costs. Mr. Aldridge has visited sites in Syracuse several years ago and visited a Massachusetts site on Monday. He is convinced that this is the next big project that we can look at to stretch our reserves for as long as possible while improving our services to the towns. Mr. Aldridge showed a couple of photos and a video of the composting facilities that he had visited. Mr. Aldridge also advised that he has been in contact with Mr. Lee Sawyer (CT DEEP) to better determine the process and he was excited about this project.

6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion to go into Executive Session at 3:13 pm
To discuss the contract negotiations
(Motion by Gary Schneider, 2nd by Joe Bragaw)

Inviting SCRRRA representatives, SCRRRA staff, Attorney Richard Barger & Jim Bolduc

Exited executive Session at 4:07 PM

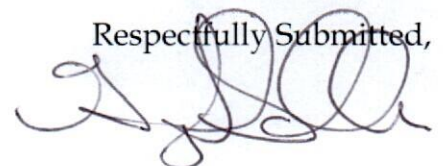
No votes were taken during the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

John Phetteplace asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Joe Bragaw and seconded by Gary Schneider.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gary Schneider
Secretary