



**Minutes of the March 11, 2020 Board Annual Meeting of the  
Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority  
Held at the Gales Ferry Office**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

John Phetteplace called the meeting to order at 2:08 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

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

David Aldridge informed the Board of a Waste Management Forum that COST is coordinating with DEEP on 3/20/20. This forum is intended to give towns the opportunity to discuss waste management issues.

**4. ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON FEBRUARY 12, 2020**

Majority was in favor, none were opposed.  
(Motion by Gary Schneider, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ronald McDaniel)

5. FINANCE REPORTS

Chris Roman reviewed the July 2019 – January 2020 finance report.  
Motion to approve the Finance Report as presented.  
Majority was in favor, none were opposed.  
(Motion by Ronald McDaniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Hill)

6. PRESIDENT'S/STAFF REPORTS

**PROJECT:**

**I. Organics Update**

Mr. Aldridge informed us that Greg McCarron of SCS Engineers will be presenting a composting test pilot proposal to our Executive Committee in a couple of weeks. Mr. Aldridge thinks it's a good idea to conduct this test pilot using the feedstocks which SCRRRA would use if we did build a facility. Mr. Aldridge then went on to explain the process of composting using step by step photos. Mr. McCarron said that the monitoring equipment and cover cost is about \$5,000 per month. Mr. Aldridge pointed out that we could do a lot of the labor and sampling work ourselves in order to save money. Throughout the entire process, we take core samples to look at the compost activity. At the end of the pilot we would have a good idea of what we can produce, what the nutritional value is, what the market is for what we produce, and how much we can generate. Mr. Aldridge said that the composting process from beginning to end takes about 3-4 months. Stacey Leitch asked where the test site will be. Mr. Aldridge responded that he spoke to John Phetteplace and they agree that it makes sense to use the Stonington Transfer Station. Mr. Phetteplace spoke to the First Selectman who was amendable to it. Mr. Aldridge reminded the board that once the test site was up and running, anyone from the board is welcome to look. Pat McLaughlin asked when we would have a finished product. Mr. Aldridge said that typically, we would age it for 2-3 months after it's done. Aging helps the continuation of the break down process which is helpful because it allows for a more nutritious product with the added time for breakdown. Don Hill asked if we will be bagging the finished product. Mr. Aldridge said that the trick is to make sure you're moving the product so to start with, we would sell it in bulk. Mr. Phetteplace asked if they will be able to tell how much we will be capable of generating. Mr. Aldridge said yes. He thinks the limiting factor will be the amount of food scraps we can collect to put into the compost pile.

**II. Simple Recycling**

Mr. Aldridge spoke with Tim DeVivo, who let him know that Willimantic Waste will not be participating in the Simple Recycling Program. As a result, we are going to move forward with Simple Recycling but we're going to scale back the effort to four towns. Mr. Phetteplace stated that Stonington will be starting the program on April 6<sup>th</sup>. We also spoke with East Lyme, Waterford and New London to see if we can get route information to give to Simple Recycling in order to see if it would be feasible to collect in these 3 towns as well. So, we are moving ahead, but only with four of our twelve towns.

**III. Outreach Activity**

Mr. Aldridge presented the outreach calendar of events from now until the beginning of May. This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Earth Day so when we get to April, we

will be out going to a lot of different places. In January, Mr. Aldridge did a presentation to the Lion's Club in North Stonington. Mr. Aldridge goes on to explain that it's a presentation he's developed that talks about who we are and what we do, what state the solid waste is in here in CT, what's happening with the recycling markets, the details of the problems with those markets and what's happening with plastic & marine debris. We then go through a question and answer time and talk about what goes in the bin and what doesn't. It's very well received. Winston Averill was in Stoneridge with Mr. Phetteplace in February. Mr. Averill has also been very active in schools doing composting and recycling presentations. Robin Cano has been going to schools and helping Mr. Averill out. Mr. Aldridge continues to tell us that The Town of Waterford recorded his presentation and they will put it on their website along with sharing the presentation with other towns if they would like to post it. We will start the Household Hazardous Waste collections on April 4<sup>th</sup>. We have STEM day coming up and will be spending three days at Mystic Aquarium during Spring Break. We have Earth Day coming up at Mystic Seaport Museum and we have started to update our media on marine debris. We'll be at Pfizer next week talking about composting. S.B. Butler Math and Science Night is coming up. We do a recycling presentation each year. I got a call from Tolland H.S. Students will be touring the waste energy plant. We'll have them here afterwards and talk to them about solid waste in CT. We'll finish up Spring with HHW at New London H.S. in May.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Aldridge brought up the topic of the Corona Virus. Mr. Phetteplace asked what we would do if haulers and transfer station employees were quarantined or got sick. Ronald McDaniel said that if employees get sick, maybe the towns could help each other. Stacey Leitch brought up New Rochelle, NY and talked about how the National Guard is helping with everyday issues the town needs help with. Mr. Phetteplace agreed that if we got to the point that we could no longer collect trash; he agrees that they could bring in the National Guard.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

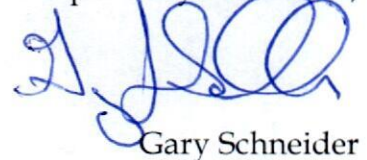
None

ADJOURNMENT

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

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gary Schneider  
Secretary