

# Minutes of the July 28, 2022, Executive Committee Meeting of the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority Held at the Gales Ferry office & via Zoom

#### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

#### 1. ROLL CALL

Joe Bragaw	East Lyme Representative	Р	Todd Babbitt	Griswold Representative	Р
Gary Schneider	Groton Representative	Р	John Phetteplace	Stonington Representative & Board President	Α
Pat McLaughlin	Norwich Representative	А			

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

## **Quorum Present**

Others: David Aldridge, SCRRRA Executive Director; Chris Roman, SCRRRA Finance Manager; Robin Cano, Operations Administrator, SCRRRA Legal Counsel Richard Barger, and SCRRRA Consultant Jim Bolduc.

## 3. ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON JUNE 23, 2022

Majority was in favor, none were opposed (Motion by Joe Bragaw, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Todd Babbitt)

#### 4. FINANCE REPORTS:

Dave Aldridge reviewed June's finance report.

### 5. PRESIDENT/STAFF REPORTS:

# I. Mixed Recycling

Dave Aldridge met with Bob Cappadona, VP Casella on July 15th to discuss the mid-contract adjustment for recycling. Mr. Cappadona agreed that the adjustment would be retroactive to May 1 and would be per the terms of the contract. He did not agree to the proposed adjustment for glass residue and suggested that if we wanted to pursue that we should do so as per the contract terms. Mr. Aldridge expects a letter from Mr. Cappadona any day that spells out their understanding of the adjustment calculation.

On July 6 Mr. Aldridge visited Willimantic Waste to discuss how Casella has changed procedures since the buyout, and in particular to have a conversation regarding trash residue. He met with Mike Crowell, Casella's Market Area Manager and Matthew Beltz the manager of the recycling facility. It was immediately apparent that Casella's Standard Operating Procedures are far different from what existed in the facility before. They went to the glass collection area and there was a glass cleaning machine operating that was not there when we

conducted the composition audit in 2019, which Mr. Aldridge believes explains at least in part the discrepancies between the 2019 and 2022 audits.

Casella also has, as standard Operating Procedure, an audit program that they conduct as part of regular operations that is different from Willimantic Waste. They pull 400 pounds of inbound recycling and inventory to the individual item the makeup of the sample. Over time they build a continually more accurate picture of loads and in particular trash residue. This process is outside the inspections that they conduct as part of their permit requirements from DEEP that have resulted in several recent letters to towns. Winston Averill and Mr. Aldridge will be spending several days working with them to review inbound loads and the results of their audit program to start a program to reduce the level of contamination in our curbside program. They were very open to having SCRRRA Board Members visit the facility to review their operations.

## 2.Organics

At the August Board Meeting Mr. Aldridge will be asking for volunteers for an Organics Committee. He brought this up int eh June meeting and he has received one volunteer, Brian Sear. He would like two more committee members. Mr. Aldridge has received draft versions of a conceptual design, pro-formas for construction cost and operating profitability and guidance regarding zoning/permitting.

#### 3.SCRRRA Website

Mr. Aldridge informed us that the SCRRRA Website went live about a week ago. We have been adding additional content and making minor adjustments. Just this morning the Service Request version of the Town Portal was activated, and we have updated our Microsoft Outlook to receive requests. We will be sending out instructions to municipalities regarding password access and how to utilize the requests.

#### 5. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Issues Time in: 3:05 pm

Discussion: none

Majority was in favor, none were opposed. (Motion by Joe Bragaw, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Todd Babbitt)

Motion to come out of Executive Session Time out: 3:48 pm

Discussion: none

Majority was in favor, none were opposed. (Motion by Todd Babbitt, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Bragaw)

No action taken

### 7. NEW BUSINESS:

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Joe Bragaw asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was made by Todd Babbitt seconded by Joe Bragaw.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Schneider Secretary