



**Minutes of the November 9, 2022, Board Meeting of the
Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority
Held at the Gales Ferry Office & via Zoom**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Joe Bragaw called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Joe Bragaw	East Lyme Representative	P	Bob Carlson	North Stonington Representative	A
	East Lyme Alternate			North Stonington Alternate	
Kevin Seery	Representative	A	Don Hill	Representative	P
Todd Babbitt	Griswold Representative	P	Patrick McLaughlin	Norwich Representative	P
				Norwich Alternate	
Stacey Leitch	Groton Representative	P	Brian Long	Representative	A
Joe Lozier	Ledyard Representative	A	Sandra Allyn-Gauthier	Preston Representative	A
	Ledyard Alternate				
Steve Masalin	Representative	P	Jim Corley	Preston Alternate Representative	P
Ronald McDaniel	Montville Representative	P	Cheryl Blanchard	Sprague Representative	P
John Carlson	Montville Alternate	A	Paul Copenhagen	Sprague Alternate Representative	A
	New London				
Brian Sear	Representative	P	Jill Senior	Stonington Representative	P
	New London Alternate				
David DeNoia	Representative	A	Gary Schneider	Waterford Representative	P
				Waterford Alternative	
			Daniel Matheson	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

NONE

4. ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON OCTOBER 12, 2022

Majority was in favor; none were opposed.

(Motion by Stacey Leitch, 2nd by Ron McDaniel)

5. FINANCE REPORTS

Dave Aldridge reviewed September's Finance Report
(Motion by Ron McDaniel, 2nd by Stacey Leitch)

6. PRESIDENT'S / STAFF REPORTS

PROJECT:

I. Draft FY 2024 Budget

Mr. Aldridge referred to the second draft of the 2024 operating budget. It was developed with the following assumptions:

- Waste volumes were planned as a three-year trailing average, as we have done in the past.
- MSW revenue is planned at 131,908 tons at the current subsidized rate of \$61.25.
- Tip fee expense is calculated using the contractual inflationary cap of 3%.
- Recycling revenue was calculated at \$27.70/ton using a contractual inflationary cap of 3%.
- The same 3% inflationary factor was used in the ECRRA royalty payment.
- A 4% cost of living adjustment was used based on advice from our investment counselor, we are also awaiting advice from our Human Resource Consultant.
- Insurance increases based on advice from our insurance broker.
- Mulch hauling expense was reduced to \$100,000 as approved
By Board vote.

Lobbyist expenses were eliminated by Board vote (\$25,000).

As a result of Board actions at the last meeting the total subsidy for FY 2024 is planned at \$1,600,000 down from a previously planned amount of \$1,988,000 on a planned FY 2023 subsidy of \$2,000,000.

Motion to Vote on Budget Approval as Presented

Discussion: None

Majority were in favor, none were opposed

(Motion Ron McDaniel, 2nd Joe Bragaw)

Motion for Mulch Hauling not to Exceed \$200,000 without Board Approval

Discussion: None

5 Towns were in favor, 7 were opposed

(Motion Brian Sear, 2nd Ron McDaniel)

Motion to Approve Subsidized Rate of \$61.25

Discussion: None

Majority were in favor, none were opposed

(Motion Stacey Leitch, 2nd Ron McDaniel)

II. Review of Reserve Accounts

Mr. Aldridge went over the SCRRRA Reserve Fund Account Sheet that has been updated with FY 2022 actuals. The total of \$40,800,000 equals the flash report that we received from Fiducient Advisors on October 17th. After discussion, Mr. Aldridge is asking the Board to vote to adjust the funds to reflect the monies spent in FY 2022. That vote will be recorded as Board Designated Funds in the Financial Position Summary of our Annual Financial Audit.

Motion to Adopt Board Designated Funds in the Financial Position Summary of our Annual Financial Audit

Discussion: None

**Majority were in favor, none were opposed
(Motion Brian Sear, 2nd Ron McDaniel)**

III. Subcommittee Meetings

Mr. Aldridge informed us that we have scheduled a Personnel Committee Meeting for Wednesday the 16th. We need to schedule meetings for both the Finance Committee to discuss long range planning and the Recycle Committee to discuss grinding report and mulch hauling.

IV. Bill Concerning EPR for Consumer Packaging

Mr. Aldridge referred to the copy of Raised Bill 115, An Act Concerning Extended Producer Responsibility for Consumer Packaging. As is widely known, EPR bills assign the cost of disposal for difficult commodities to the party responsible for producing them. The intent is severalfold:

- 1- To shift the financial burden from municipalities to producers.
- 2- To incentivize producers to make their product more recyclable.
- 3- To incentivize producers to use more recycled content in their product.
- 4- In the case of packaging to reduce the amount of product necessary.

EPR laws have been prevalent in Europe for decades. In North America there is a law in place and functioning in Alberta Canada since 2004. In the US the first Packaging EPR was passed in Maine in July of 2021. In Maine a Stewardship Organization will be hired through an RFP process and will be tasked with managing the taxation and disbursement program. Maine is targeting making payments to municipalities beginning in 2027. The payments are intended to offset the rising cost of recycling. Three other states have also passed packaging EPR laws, Oregon, California, and Washington.

New Business

None

Executive Session

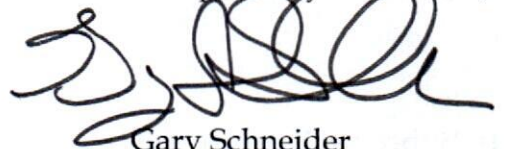
NONE

ADJOURNMENT

Joe Bragaw requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was made by Gary Schneider and Stacey Leitch seconded and was approved unanimously.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Schneider', written over the printed name.

Gary Schneider
Secretary