



**Minutes of the December 14, 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 2:01 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Joe Bragaw	East Lyme Representative	P	Bob Carlson	North Stonington Representative	A
Kevin Seery	East Lyme Alternate Representative	A	Don Hill	North Stonington Alternate Representative	P
Todd Babbitt	Griswold Representative	P	Patrick McLaughlin	Norwich Representative	P
Stacey Leitch	Groton Representative	P	Brian Long	Norwich Alternate Representative	A
Joe Lozier	Ledyard Representative	A	Sandra Allyn-Gauthier	Preston Representative	A
Steve Masalin	Ledyard Alternate 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
Brian Sear	New London Representative	P	Jill Senior	Stonington Representative	P
David DeNoia	New London Alternate Representative	A	Gary Schneider	Waterford Representative	P
			Daniel Matheson	Waterford Alternative 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 and Tim Ny, FIA

3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

NONE

4. ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON NOVEMBER 9, 2022

Majority was in favor; none were opposed.
(Motion by Gary Schneider, 2nd by Don Hill)

5. FINANCE REPORTS

Dave Aldridge reviewed November's Finance Report
(Motion by Ron McDaniel, 2nd by Steve Masalin)

6. PRESIDENT'S / STAFF REPORTS

PROJECT:

I. FIA -Annual Investment Review

Tim Ny reviewed Annual Investment Review

II. 2023 Annual Meeting Schedule Approval

Motion to Approve 2023 Annual Meeting Schedule

Discussion: None

Majority were in favor, none were opposed

(Motion Pat McLaughlin, 2nd Ron McDaniel)

III. Subcommittee Updates

Human Resource Committee

Mr. Aldridge informed us that the Human Resource Committee met on November 22nd and reviewed the Draft Personnel Rules and Employee Handbook. This document consolidates the current SCRRRA Personnel Rules with a comprehensive Employee Handbook that satisfies all federal and state employment statutes. The draft document is in its 5th version and will be brought to the full Board for approval in January. Mr. Aldridge has contacted our HR Support company, Paychex, and requested information regarding town retirement plans and structure for a performance review package.

Financial Planning Committee

The Financial Planning Committee met on December 5th. The Committee decided on a set meeting schedule to meet monthly on the third Tuesday of the month. Topics discussed were the formulation of a 5 year tip fee strategy to be adopted in the next budget cycle and the need for meetings with the town CEO's and Finance Managers.

III. Update on Grant Opportunities

Marine Debris – National Fish and Wildlife Association / Long Island Furfures Fund

Mr. Aldridge tells us that this grant opportunity was submitted by Mike Whitney, a Science Professor at UCONN Avery Point. He was awarded \$70,000 to set up an Environmental Science Class as part of the curriculum at Grasso Tech High School in Groton. Mike contacted Mr. Aldridge about co-sponsoring the program and Mr. Aldridge successfully invited Eric Magers of Seaside Sustainability to co-sponsor as well. We will be setting up the Seaside Sustainability Green Scholars program which is project based learning coursework that will begin with a marine debris reduction project. Our involvement will be providing several lectures, assisting with research and possibly providing some seed money to get a project off the ground. We will begin next month.

Mr. Aldridge went on to tell us that there are several grant opportunities through the Solid Waste for Infrastructure Bill (SWIFR), part of the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: one through the USDA, two others through the EPA.

USDA - Fertilizer Production Expansion Program

This grant opportunity is being offered through the US Department of Agriculture for the development of facilities to increase the production of fertilizer and other nutrient alternatives, like compost. The program will offer grants ranging from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000 that will cover up to 60% of the investment required to build and expand a facility. Elizabeth Sawyer successfully registered us in the System for Award Management (SAM) and Grants.gov, required for any application for federal funding. We are working with SCS to adapt the draft design they created for the Preston property as the basis for an application. The application window closed December 29th.

EPA - Solid Waste Infrastructure For Recycling (SWIFR) Grant

The EPA has 2 grant opportunities that we plan to submit for. The first is the SWIFR grant which provides for infrastructure including composting. Minimum awards are \$500,000 going up to \$4,000,000 for the grant period, which is three years. The application window closes January 16th.

EPA - Recycling Education & Outreach (REO) grant

The second is for recycling & outreach which would provide funding for efforts to increase recycling and reduce contamination. 25 grants will be awarded ranging from a minimum of \$250,000 and a maximum of \$2,000,000 for a grant period which is up to 3 years. The application window for this grant also closes January 16th.

In addition to the existing federal bills the 5-year Omnibus Farm Bill is due for renewal in 2023. The US Composting Council has been very active in lobbying for inclusion of composting infrastructure as part of the bill. Earlier this year TCORs Capital Group arranged for a Zoom meeting with Rep. Joe Courtney during which he offered support for including infrastructure in legislation.

Lastly, after all the work on the federal opportunities we will be well positioned to apply for the next round of State grants, should they be funded.

New Business

None

Executive Session

Motion to move into Executive Session to discuss Compensation & Contractual Issues

Time In: 2:59PM

Discussion: None

**Majority were in favor, none were opposed
(Motion Ron McDaniel, 2nd Todd Babbitt)**

Motion to leave Executive Session

Time Out: 3:16PM

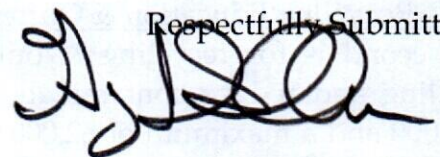
Discussion: None

**Majority were in favor, none were opposed
(Motion Steve Masalin, 2nd Ron McDaniel)**

ADJOURNMENT

Joe Bragaw requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was made by Steve Masalin and Ron McDaniel seconded and was approved unanimously. There being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gary Schneider
Secretary