



**Minutes of the January 11, 2023, 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	P	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 Reid Patterson from Prairie Robotics.

**Motion to Move Up Prairie Robotics to Beginning of the Meeting  
Discussion: None  
Majority were in favor, none were opposed.  
(Motion Ron McDaniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pat McLaughlin)**

**3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND CORRESPONDENCE**

NONE

4. **ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON DECEMBER 14, 2022**

Majority was in favor; none were opposed.

(Motion by Ron McDaniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat McLaughlin)

5. **FINANCE REPORTS**

Dave Aldridge reviewed December's Finance Report

(Motion by Ron McDaniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Hill)

6. **PRESIDENT'S / STAFF REPORTS**

**PROJECT:**

**I. Prairie Robotics - Contamination Reduction Pilot**

Mr. Aldridge expressed that as we are aware, SCRRRA is struggling with contamination in our curbside recycling program which measured over 26% in the audit performed by Casella. Trash residue represents the highest cost commodity a SCRRRA ton, Calculated at \$95 per ton. Mr. Aldridge believes that if we can significantly Reduce the level of contamination our negotiating position with Casella will be much improved when our current contract expires. Today, we have with us Reid Patterson of Prairie Robotics, a firm that has developed a contamination reduction program that utilizes artificial intelligence to identify offending residences and communicates with them to correct the error in separation. Mr. Patterson prepared a proposal for a pilot project in one of our towns to see if this technology can make a Significant improvement in our performance. The Executive Committee listened to this presentation and agreed to bring this to the full Board.

**IA. Presentation by Reid Patterson of Prairie Robotics**

**Motion to Authorize 2 towns in the Pilot Program**

**Discussion: None**

**Majority were in favor, none were opposed.**

**(Motion Pat McLaughlin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ron McDaniel)**

**II. Sub Committee Update - FOIA Regulation and Meeting Schedule**

Mr. Aldridge asked to please find letter from Rich Barger in our paperwork package regarding FOIA regulations as they apply to subcommittee meetings. Joe Bragaw brought this topic up in the last Executive Committee meeting prompting Mr. Barger to research and provide this opinion. We will adjust the website to include these committees in the Public Record section.

### **III. Draft Employee Handbook**

Mr. Aldridge said that last week he distributed a draft copy of the SCRRRA Employee Handbook and Personnel Rules. This document was developed through a calibration with our HR Consultant, Paychex. It is in compliance with federal, state municipal labor law. Moving forward as laws change, we will be notified by Paychex to ensure that we are in compliance. This document incorporates our current Personnel Policy and will serve as its replacement. The document

Has been reviewed by our attorney and the Human Resource Committee before bringing it to you for a vote of acceptance. Mr. Aldridge said that he does not intend to ask for a vote today due to its length and complexity, but he intends to raise it for a vote in our February meeting.

### **New Business**

None

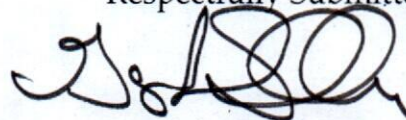
### **Executive Session**

NONE

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Joe Bragaw requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was made by Ron McDaniel and seconded by Pat McLaughlin and was approved unanimously. There being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gary Schneider  
Secretary