



**Minutes of the November 8, 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 2:02 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	A
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	A	Jim Corley	Preston Alternate Representative	A
Ronald McDaniel	Montville Representative	A	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	A
Steve Lee	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; Chris Roman, SCRRRA Finance Manager; SCRRRA Legal Counsel Richard Barger, & SCRRRA Consultant Jim Bolduc & Tim Ny and Eric Kraus from Fiducient

**3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND CORRESPONDENCE**

NONE

**4. ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON OCTOBER 11, 2023**

Majority was in favor; none were opposed. Brian Sear abstained.  
(Motion by Cheryl Blanchard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stacey Leitch)

**Motion to Move Fiducient Investment Update to 4A.**

**Discussion: None**

**Majority were in favor, none were opposed  
(Motion Pat McLaughlin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stacey Leitch)**

**Motion to Reaffirm that Investment Policy from Fiducient is being Accepted as is.**

**Discussion: None**

**Majority were in favor, none were opposed  
(Motion Cheryl Blanchard, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stacey Leitch)**

5. **FINANCE REPORTS**

Dave Aldridge reviewed August's Finance Report  
(Motion by Ron McDaniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat McLaughlin)

**Motion to Approve Finance Report as Presented**

**Discussion: None**

**Majority were in favor, none were opposed  
(Motion Pat McLaughlin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gary Schneider)**

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

**PROJECT:**

❖ **Service Fee Policy**

Mr. Aldridge referred to the current version of our Service Fee Policy in the paperwork packet. This has been vetted in the Executive Committee and is being brought to the Committee today for approval. The intent of this policy is to lay out a plan to 2030 in a good position to tackle the expected \$30/ton increase to market cost over an additional number of years.

**Motion to Approve Service Fee of \$67.81 for FY 2024**

**Discussion: None**

**Majority were in favor, none were opposed.  
(Motion Cheryl Blanchard, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gary Schneider)**

**Motion to Approve Service Fee Policy Statement as Presented**

**Discussion: None**

**Majority were in favor, none were opposed.  
(Motion Stacey Leitch, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gary Schneider)**



❖ **Approval of FY 2025 Operating Budget**

Mr. Aldridge referred to the paperwork package where we will find a draft of the 2025 Operating Budget. As written this budget projects a loss of \$4.39 million and a required subsidy of \$2.7 million. That is compared to a FY24 Plan Budget of a \$3.72 million loss and a subsidy of \$2.1 million.

Assumptions included in this plan are the following:

➤ **MSW**

- MSW tonnage is planned at \$132,648 tons which is a three-year rolling average (21-23).
- The service fee was set at \$67,821 / ton, consistent with Executive Committee recommendation.
- The tip fee assumes a max CPI adjustment of 3%
- The ECRRA payment assumed a max CPI adjustment of 3%

➤ **Curbside Recycling**

- Recycling tonnage was planned at \$17,500 which is a 3-year rolling average.
- Tip fee assumes calculation from MIRA contract with a blended average of \$65.71.

➤ **Compensation**

- Salaries were planned with a 4% COLA, subject to a town survey that we are conducting.
- Health Insurance is planned with a 7% increase per broker.

❖ **Sub-Committee Updates**

🗨️ **Finance Committee**

▪ **Town Meeting**

Mr. Aldridge pointed to the paperwork package where there are copies of the Town Meeting Agenda and a Draft Talking Points memo.

🗨️ **Waste Diversion Committee**

• **Textile Recycling** – Apparel Impact – Joe Whitten

Apparel Impact currently has 22 locations that are active and placed. This is a total of 24 bins and 5 drop sheds that are active. It includes locations in Norwich, Montville, New London, Ledyard, Stonington and Preston. Joe Whitten estimates that they will be diverting 300 tons annually just from what is currently placed. Joe asks that any towns currently not participating to consider doing so.

• **Prairie Robotics**

The Press Release for our project will be out this week and we expect to launch the project on Monday.

✚ **Special Projects Committee**

The zoning application for our Preston property was submitted yesterday, we are scheduled for a public meeting on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion to move into Executive Session to Discuss Healthcare Benefits**

**Time In: 3:22PM**

**Discussion: None**

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

**(Motion Cheryl Blanchard, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stacey Leitch)**

**Motion to leave Executive Session**

**Time Out: 3:39PM**

**Discussion: None**

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

**(Motion Pat McLaughlin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gary Schneider)**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NONE**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Joe Bragaw requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was made by Cheryl Blanchard and seconded by Stacey Leitch and was approved unanimously. There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gary Schneider  
Secretary