

Minutes of the May 29, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting of the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority Held at the Gales Ferry office & via Zoom.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

1. ROLL CALL

Joe Bragaw	East Lyme Representative	v	Todd Babbitt	Griswold Representative	P
Gary Schneider	Waterford Representative	Р	Stacey Leitch	Groton Representative	Р
Cheryl Blanchard	Sprague Representative	v			

P = Present, V = (Virtual), A=Absent

Quorum Present

Others: David Aldridge, SCRRRA Executive Director (P); Chris Roman, SCRRRA Finance Manager (P); Liz Chuff, Operations Manager (P); Robin Cano, Operations Administrator (P); Richard Barger, SCRRRA Legal Counsel (P); Jim Bolduc, SCRRRA Consultant (V).

2. ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON APRIL 24, 2025

The majority were in favor, none were opposed. (Motion by Stacey Leitch, 2nd by Todd Babbitt)

3. FINANCE REPORTS:

Dave Aldridge reviewed April's finance report.

4. WOOD GRINDER REPORTS

The grinder is currently in Griswold.

5. AUTHORITY CALENDAR

Mr. Aldridge reviewed the Authority Calendar June.

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6. Discussion on Storage of SCRRRA Equipment

Mr. Schneider expressed concern that storing SCRRRA equipment on private property can introduce potential insurance liabilities. Mrs. Chuff responded, confirming that SCRRRA's insurance policy includes coverage for all equipment stored off-site, including on private property. SCRRRA's equipment is also fully covered regardless of which state the equipment is in.

7. Discussion on Creating an Executive Director Contract

The Executive Committee (EC) discussed the possibility of SCRRRA hiring an outside executive management consulting firm that could assist in defining role requirements, establishing salary ranges and developing job descriptions. Once an overview is obtained, including some recommended firms and processes, Mr. Aldridge will report to the EC for further discussion.

8. Discussion on Developing a Preliminary Timeline for a New MSW Disposal Contract for 2031

After discussion, the EC agrees that we should start putting preliminary thoughts on paper and revisiting in September.

9. PRESIDENT / STAFF REPORTS:

I. Organics Update

Operator Contract

We have developed a first draft of a term sheet to be used as a basis for a contract with Black Earth Compost.

Grants Update

USDA - on hold.

MMI – We supplied DEEP with all requested materials, and we are waiting to schedule our next meeting regarding grant contract.

SMM2 – We are preparing two requests. One for equipment for food waste collection and another one for equipment for a glass collection program. The deadline is June 27th.

Stonington Food Waste Collection

The funding for the Stonington food waste collection program runs out at the end of June. Black Earth Compost has discussed picking up the program with Jill Senior. The town has asked Mr. Aldridge if SCRRRA would subsidize the continuation of the program by supplying an initial purchase of starter kits that consist of a 13-gallon cart and an initial supply of compostable bags at a cost of \$8000. Once the program is established with adequate density additional supplies would be supplied by the hauler.

Joe Bragaw made a Motion for the Executive Committee to recommend the Subsidizing of Stonington's Food Waste Collection to the full Board. Cheryl Blanchard 2nd the motion.

Before the vote, Cheryl Blanchard rescinded her 2nd, and the motion was therefore not acted upon.

II. Legislative Update

Mr. Aldridge and Mrs. Chuff were at the Legislative Office Building and spent time on the House Floor with the Chairs of the Environment Committee to lobby for the Solid Waste Bill, HB 6917. This bill supplies funding for the DEEP Sustainable Materials Management account, implements a plan for commercial scale food diversion and donation and addresses polystyrene and single use plastics.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

None

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT

Joe Bragaw requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was made. by Stacey Leitch and seconded by Gary Schneider and was approved unanimously. There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Gary Schneider

Secretary