

**CONNECTICUT RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY**

**THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-THIRD MEETING**

**JUNE 3, 2004**

A Special meeting of the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority Board of Directors was held on Thursday, June 3, 2004 at 211 Murphy Road, Hartford, Connecticut. Those present were:

Chairman Michael Pace

Directors:     Stephen Cassano  
                  Benson Cohn  
                  Mark Cooper  
                  James Francis  
                  Mark Lauretti  
                  Raymond O'Brien  
                  Andrew Sullivan  
                  Timothy Griswold (Ad-Hoc)

Directors Martland and Knopp did not participate.

Present from the CRRA staff:

Thomas Kirk, President  
Jim Bolduc, Chief Financial Officer  
Peter Egan, Director of Environmental Affairs and Development  
Paul Nonnenmacher, Director of Public Affairs  
David Bodendorf, Senior Environmental Engineer  
Donna Tracy, Executive Assistant  
Kristen Greig, Legal Temp

Also in attendance was: Oshrat Carmiel of the Hartford Courant, Josh Hughes of Hughes & Cronin, Inc., Laurie Ledyard of the Hartford Business Journal, Frank Marci of USA Hauling & Recycling Inc., and Bill Neagus of Cubitt, Jacobs & Prosek.

Chairman Pace called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present.

**1.     Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Pace requested that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. **Public Portion**

Chairman Pace said that the first item on the agenda allowed for a public portion in which the Board would accept written testimony and allow individuals to speak for a limit of three minutes.

Chairman Pace noted that there were no comments from the public and that the special meeting would commence.

3. **RESOLUTION REGARDING ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH AN INITIATIVE TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF FULLY UTILIZING THE DESIGN CAPACITY OF THE HARTFORD LANDFILL**

Chairman Pace requested a motion on the referenced topic. Director Cohn made the following motion:

**RESOLVED:** That the President is hereby directed to discontinue all activities associated with determining the technical viability of vertical expansion of the Hartford landfill.

Director O'Brien seconded the motion.

Chairman Pace stated that CRRA had been looking at landfill options, both in-state and out-of-state, including the expansion of the Hartford landfill. Chairman Pace explained that according to CRRA's business plan model, in order to be viable and continue to effectively serve the cities and towns of Connecticut beyond 2012, CRRA had to consider economic, environmental, social and political factors. Regarding political factors, Chairman Pace emphasized that he did not mean "party politics" but "people politics," the welfare of the State of Connecticut and the customers served by CRRA.

Mr. Kirk said that CRRA management was asked to determine the potential for utilizing the Hartford landfill, since expansion was technically possible. As part of that evaluation, Mr. Kirk stated that CRRA reviewed both technical and practical benefits of the expansion. TRC was hired to evaluate the technical feasibility of expansion from an engineering and continued public health standpoint. Mr. Kirk noted that CRRA had not uncovered any problems in its preliminary technical evaluations and said that expansion was a viable technical opportunity. The bigger issue, according to Mr. Kirk, was addressing the long-term issues that needed to be solved, since expansion of the Hartford landfill was a short-term solution. Mr. Kirk said that from a community standpoint, there were better ways for CRRA to spend its time and resources. Mr. Kirk stated that finding a long-term solution for the Mid-Conn Project and Connecticut's

problems of solid waste disposal was better served by investigating other options such as export, developing a new landfill in Connecticut, and additional technological advances.

Director Sullivan stated that the benefit to CRRA for expanding the landfill was estimated to be in the \$50 million range over a ten-year period. Director Sullivan stated that CRRA's partner, the City of Hartford, was very important to CRRA. Director Sullivan explained that the Steering Committee, when it met to discuss the matter, looked beyond the financial aspect to public policy and the environmental concerns of the city and subsequently decided to recommend the resolution to the Board.

Director Cassano stated that expansion would be advantageous in the short-term, but understanding that there was no desire for expansion in the neighborhood or in the city, CRRA should not expend money and commit resources of the State of Connecticut. Director Cassano said that it was CRRA's obligation to work with the City and begin planning for the future. Director Cassano stated that Commissioner Rocque of the Department of Environmental Protection agreed to work with CRRA in any way possible and noted that Requests for Qualifications would soon be issued by DEP for assistance in revising the Solid Waste Management Plan. Director Cassano emphasized Connecticut's need for a state-wide Solid Waste Management Plan and stated that resources should be spent accomplishing that, rather than on short-term solutions.

Director Cohn stated that there was justice to the issues brought to CRRA by the community groups. Director Cohn stated that since the landfill was located in a densely populated area, CRRA was doing the right thing by putting a limit to it.

Director O'Brien commended the Steering Committee and urged the Board to support their recommendation, because, among the other issues already addressed, choosing to discontinue would show respect for the host community and its residents.

Director Francis stated that he supported the resolution. Director Francis said that, economic issues aside, it was important that the Board recognize and be recognized for identifying environmental and social issues and its dedication to the host community. Director Francis added that this would give CRRA the opportunity to focus on long-term solutions.

Chairman Pace informed the Board that he spoke with Mayor Perez. Chairman Pace said that he had a general sense of the full Board's support for the resolution and noted the common concerns for the environment and the public's interests. Chairman Pace stated that there would be costs associated with the decision to discontinue, but added that CRRA would continue to mitigate the costs associated with this decision and other areas of business. Chairman Pace said that tip fees would continue to be at market rate and stated that CRRA saw this decision as strengthening the position of CRRA.

Chairman Pace stated that CRRA would need to work in conjunction with Hartford for the post-closure plan. CRRA would work with the City of Hartford, the State, and the DEP to establish closure and post-closure monitoring. Director Sullivan agreed, stating that DEP

resources that would have been devoted to the expansion, were better spent assisting with a Solid Waste Management Plan that would benefit the entire state, not just the Mid-Conn Project member towns or the City of Hartford.

Chairman Pace asked Director Lauretti for his comments on the matter. Director Lauretti responded that Shelton had a MSW and ash landfill. Director Lauretti stated that anyone who dealt with the issues associated with a landfill knew that they were problematic. Director Lauretti added that the decision was based on respect and an understanding of the ramifications that come along with a landfill. Director Lauretti emphasized that finding a long-term solution was paramount.

Mr. Kirk noted that when the evaluation process started, the new CRRA Board and management committed to being open and transparent and vowed to listen to the public. Seeing that the community had reasonable concerns, CRRA addressed and respected those concerns. Mr. Kirk stated that he hoped the host community, its leaders, and the community at large would, in turn, support CRRA's initiatives to solve the long-term problem.

Director Griswold asked if a viable alternative would be available in the 3-5 year time frame that the Hartford landfill had left in its capacity. Director Sullivan responded that by discontinuing the efforts associated with the Hartford landfill, CRRA management and the Board could then concentrate their efforts on alternative solutions. Chairman Pace stated that CRRA had already begun and would continue exploring several different options. Director Cassano also offered options that were being considered.

Mr. Kirk noted, for the record, that long-term solutions could not be identified and implemented in only three years. Mr. Kirk stated that long-term solutions could take five or more years and more than one option could possibly be implemented. Mr. Kirk added that another short-term alternative was available.

Chairman Pace asked Mr. Egan for his comments. Mr. Egan said that he supported the Board's decision and reiterated that CRRA had initiated a formal siting investigation to identify potential landfill sites. Mr. Egan stated that results from that investigation were expected in September.

Chairman Pace asked Mr. Bolduc if he saw any issues regarding CRRA's loan with the state. Mr. Bolduc responded in the negative and offered his support for the Board's decision. Mr. Bolduc voiced his support for Director Cassano's comments regarding the need for DEP to assist in finding long-term solutions for handling the disposal of waste. Mr. Bolduc stated that the state and communities would get the most benefit from working toward a long-term solution.

In accordance with CRRA's transparency policy, Chairman Pace announced that he had asked members of the Steering Committee to contact Commissioner Rocque, the Office of Policy and Management, Secretary Ryan, Mayor Perez, State Treasurer Denise Nappier, and the Attorney General. Chairman Pace noted that the Board made an effort to inform people that the

issue would be addressed because it was an important decision for both CRRA and the State of Connecticut.

<b>Eligible Voters</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Michael Pace, Chairman	X		
Stephen Cassano	X		
Benson Cohn	X		
Mark Cooper	X		
James Francis	X		
Mark Lauretti	X		
Raymond O'Brien	X		
Andrew Sullivan	X		
<b>Non Eligible Voters</b>			
Timothy Griswold, Ad Hoc, Mid-Connecticut	X		

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Pace requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn made by Director O'Brien and seconded by Director Cooper was approved unanimously.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Greig  
 Legal Temp