

**Steering Committee Meeting  
January 14, 2003**

***DRAFT MINUTES***

Members Present: Michael Pace, Committee Chair  
Stephen Cassano  
Andrew Sullivan

Staff Present Tom Kirk, President  
Angelica Mattschei, Corporate Secretary

Chairman Pace called the meeting to order at 3:25 p.m.

**1. Filing of the Steering Committee Report to the General Assembly**

Chairman Pace said that the Steering Committee Report to the General Assembly was filed on time and available online.

**2. Legislative Initiatives**

Chairman Pace said that he would like to pursue two legislative initiatives. The first was the \$1 per ton dioxin tax paid to the DEP. Chairman Pace explained that he was not moving away from performing the test but to change the payment arrangement. Chairman Pace said that CRRA should be paying the DEP the exact amount of dollars for the testing plus operational costs. Mr. Kirk continued that the original cost of the testing was probably accurate, but that the costs had declined due to newly developed technologies. CRRA's payments to the DEP should reflect the actual costs of the testing, he said. Chairman Pace added that Senator Melodie Peters was writing the bill.

Chairman Pace said that the second item was escheats. He said that he had a freshman representative to write the bill and that it was not a Republican or Democrat issue, but an issue of savings for Connecticut municipalities. Chairman Pace stated that the escheats would significantly benefit CRRA member and nonmember towns. Chairman Pace said that the money from the escheats would be used to either mitigate tipping fees or repay the State of Connecticut. It would be a yearly return of funds to the towns, he said, based on the value of the tip fees.

Chairman Pace said that he was worried that the bill would not see the light of day and that the Steering Committee had a responsibility to educate the Legislature on the matter. Director Cassano suggested that the Cibes Committee be brought back on board to testify on behalf of CRRA as to the importance and legitimacy of the escheats bill.

Mr. Kirk explained that CRRA should receive the money from the escheats because CRRA had real costs associated with the unclaimed bottles and cans. Mr. Kirk said that returned cans were properly recycled while those that were not ended up in the waste stream and in one of CRRA's facilities. Mr. Kirk distributed a picture illustrating the effects of aluminum on the sides of one of CRRA's furnaces. There were operational and down time costs involved in the clean up of such materials, he said, as well as a reduction in capacity. Mr. Kirk continued that the plastic increased B2U levels and the ash component also created real cost factors for CRRA. Chairman Pace said that there was going to be a debate over who would receive the monies but that CRRA should be pointed to first because CRRA dealt with it directly.

Chairman Pace said that he would be calling the editorials of major newspapers and any public forum that could lead into public interest or support for CRRA. He wanted a true transparency to the public, he said, and Directors Cassano and Sullivan agreed.

### **3. Timelines**

Chairman Pace said that he would like a timeline set for budgets as well as all other initiatives. He had a discussion with Mr. Kirk regarding CRRA's business model, he said, and establishing a 6, 12 and 18-month plan to include action steps, which committee would be responsible and the timeline. Chairman Pace said that a transition plan from the Board of Directors to the President would also be established.

### **4. Other Matters**

Chairman Pace said that in the January Board meeting he was going to report to the Directors the business model he spoke of previously with Mr. Kirk and to examine whether the savings detailed in the Steering Committee Report were really there. Chairman Pace said that he was inconclusive as to whether or not the Manafort trucks transaction was good or bad for CRRA.

Chairman Pace noted that he and Mr. Kirk were meeting with Mr. Lee Erdmann, Hartford's City Manager, on January 17, 2003.

Director Sullivan led a discussion regarding Terrorism Insurance. Director Sullivan said that the Property and Casual Renewal came at \$230,000 per year and that terrorism coverage was offered to CRRA from February 7, 2003 to April 30, 2003 for \$30,000. Director Sullivan said that \$30,000 was a significant amount of money for a short period of coverage and suggested that CRRA pay everything but the \$30,000. The Steering Committee members agreed. Director Sullivan noted that the \$30,000 terrorism insurance only covered acts of terrorism from foreign terrorists.

Mr. Kirk asked why CRRA was solely responsible to pay for the terrorism coverage since other entities received benefits from CRRA operations. Mr. Kirk said that staff would examine the possibility of cost sharing.

Director Sullivan said that the Finance Committee was crafting a working group consisting of Mr. Bolduc, Ms. Bronisz, Mr. Constable, and Directors Rifkin or Boone, and Mengacci to draft a term sheet for the State loan. The term sheet would reflect everyone's agreement before meeting with the State Treasurer and OPM, he said.

Chairman Pace said that he received correspondence from Mr. Jonathan Bilmes of the Bristol Resources Recovery Facility requesting a meeting. Mr. Kirk said that it would be a good idea to meet with Mr. Bilmes as they pursued the same interests as CRRA.

## **5. Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Pace requested motion to accept the minutes of the September 9, 2002 meeting. The motion to accept made by Director Sullivan and seconded by Director Cassano was approved unanimously.

Chairman Pace requested motion to accept the minutes of the November 18, 2002 meeting. The motion to accept made by Director Sullivan and seconded by Director Cassano was approved unanimously.

## **Adjournment**

Chairman Pace requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn made by Director Cassano was approved unanimously.

There being no other business to discuss before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angelica Mattschi  
Corporate Secretary