

# **Finance Subcommittee Meeting**

**August 14, 2007**

**8:30 a.m.**

**Minutes**

## **Attendance:**

**Michael Salvadore, Treasurer; Scott Avedisian, Michael OConnell, Dennis aRusso, Sarah Kite, Sharon D'Angelo, Jerry Kempen, Alan Brod, Steve Alfred**

**1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Scott Avedisian made a motion to approve the Minutes of the June 8, 2007, meeting and was seconded by Mike Salvadore.**

## **2. Grants**

**a) Middletown - Sarah Kite stated that Middletown has requested \$868,850 to fund a Pay as You Throw program. Sarah stated that she is recommending \$260,000 over two fiscal years. Jerry Kempen, Town Administrator, stated that the bids for recycling carts came in lower than expected.**

**b) South Kingstown – Sarah Kite stated that the Town of South Kingstown has requested funding for carts for a Pay as You Throw Program which will be implemented in October 2007. Sarah**

suggested funding the town \$900,000 over three years to support the PAYT program and satisfy the original RIRRC recycling program intent to fund fledgling municipal recycling programs for the first three years of implementation. Steven Alfred stated that the Town of South Kingstown has not gone out to bid for the carts yet. Sarah stated that an exception to the Board approved \$250,000 maximum grant per year should be made in FY'08 and FY'09 to satisfy the original mandate that the Corporation financially support new recycling programs for the first three years. Michael OConnell stated that he will see if any legal issues for contracts over three years and make a recommendation for funding dollars and timeframe for payments.

c) Woonsocket – Sarah Kite stated that the City of Woonsocket was seeking a grant in the amount of \$467,158 to fund Phase II of their Automated Solid Waste Collection system and other miscellaneous expense. The automated program began on July 1, 2007. The City of Woonsocket is seeking \$48,000 for this fiscal year. Michael Salvadore said that within the next 60 days a decision will be made on future funding.

d) Rhode Island Schools Recycling Club – Sarah Kite stated that the Environment Council of Rhode Island Education Fund is requesting an emergency grant for the Corporation in the amount of \$16,375 to assist in the continuation of a program called the RI Schools Recycling Club. In order to accommodate the Corporation new grant

application policy, this emergency grant request is designed to support RISRC activities through 12/07 only. The ECRI Fund is a research and education organization whose mission is to enhance the long-term stewardship of RI's natural resources. Michael Salvadore and Scott Avedisian agreed that this is a worthwhile program.

**3. Audit Status – Michael OConnell reported that the Audit may be finalized on Friday. The Closure/Post Closure Fund is \$5 million over funded.**

**4. Industrial Park Review – Mike OConnell gave an overview of the current status of the Industrial Park.**

**5. Recovermat Emergency Rental – Dennis aRusso reported that the Gruendler experienced significant damage to the main hopper and rotor assembly. The Gruendler is the main grinder used at the Recovermat operation and processes up to 90 tons per hour of inbound material. Currently the CBI grinder is being used which processes 40 – 50 tons per hour. The cost to repair the Gruendler is \$137,814. The downtime for this machine will be approximately 6 weeks. We expect to have repairs completed by mid-September.**

**6. Industrial Park Contract Increases – Brian Card reported as construction efforts for the Industrial Park infrastructure continue, a number of events have occurred that have required the contractor to**

**submit change order requests. These plan changes necessitated the need for the contractor to seek an increase to his original contract amount. Brian highlighted all of the proposed change order requests. This matter will be reviewed by the full Board on August 27, 2007.**

**7. New Shoreham Cap Request – Sarah Kite reported that New Shoreham has requested an adjustment to their municipal cap to account for seasonal activity. Based on Corporation policy and as directed by the RI Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan, New Shoreham’s municipal cap should be adjusted to meet increasing diversion goals by the same methodology as all other Rhode Island municipalities. However, the high seasonal activity in New Shoreham merits adjustment. New Shoreham’s base cap is 456, the seasonal cap allotment for FY’08 is 1,481 tons. Sarah recommended that New Shoreham’s cap be adjusted to 1,973 tons for FY’08.**

**8. MRF Profit Share Program Proposal – Sarah Kite stated that she was proposing a MRF Profit Share Program to comply with the Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan. She stated that she is recommending replacing the Municipal Participation Grant Program with a MRF Profit Share Program. The goal of the program will be to provide participating municipalities with a market-based incentive to deliver both a high quantity and high quality of recyclable materials to the Corporation. MRF profits shall be divided equally, with 50% reserved for the Corporation and the remaining 50% being shared by all RI municipalities with a current, signed municipal solid waste contract**

**with the Corporation.**

**9. Michael OConnell stated that the Corporation continues to do its due diligence on gasification. Michael Salvadore and Scott Avedisian both agreed that the Corporation needs expert advice on this matter; therefore it was recommended that the Corporation go out to bid for consultant.**

**10. Donations – The Roger Williams Park Zoo was seeking a donation of \$5000 for its Spooky Zoo Sundays. The request was denied. Although this request was denied it was recommended that recycling containers and 200 reusable bags be donated to this event.**

**11. Compost - Michael OConnell stated that the compost volume issue remains a problem although we are seeking outlets for this material. This will be re-reviewed at the next Board Meeting.**