

**Lower Connecticut River Valley Selectmen's Association**  
**September 14, 2005**  
**Minutes**

**Attendance:**

Chester:	Martin Heft
Clinton:	Jim McCusker
Deep River:	Dick Smith
Essex:	Phil Miller
Killingworth:	David Denvir
Lyme:	
Old Lyme:	Tim Griswold
Old Saybrook:	Bill Peace
Westbrook:	Tony Palermo
Legislators:	Rep. James Spallone, Betty Wagner, on behalf of Rep. Rob Simmons
Guest:	Paul Nonnenmacher, Director of Public Affairs for CRRA, Henry May representing the Essex Sanitary Waste Commission
Staff:	Linda Krause, Joel Severance, Wini Olson, Amy Cabaniss, Ralph Eno

**I.** Vice-chairman Jim McCusker called the meeting to order in the CRERPA conference space at 455 Boston Post Road at 9:16 AM.

**II. Minutes**

Phil Miller moved that the minutes be approved as circulated. The motion was seconded by Tony Palermo and unanimously approved.

**III. Guest**

Members greeted Paul Nonnenmacher as a returning guest who visits regularly as part of the ongoing outreach program of CRRA.

Mr. Nonnenmacher reminded members that CRRA is holding the much anticipated electronic collection at the CRRA site in Essex.

CRRA is looking for a site for a new ash landfill. Ash is currently deposited in Hartford. It is estimated that the site can accommodate the ash for three more years. CRRA has hired a consultant who is conducting a statewide search for a suitable site.

CRRA has replaced the contractor in four of its sites at a saving of \$2,800,000 annually. They are attempting to replace the contractor at the main site. The current CRRA recycling facilities are fifteen years old. An RFP has been issued for updating the facilities. Beginning in October, CRRA will accept mixed paper. Due to changes in the market, recycled items will not have to be subsidized but are expected to realize a \$2,700,000 annual profit. After the new facility is built, CRRA will be able to accept box board and aerosol cans.

#### **IV. New Business**

##### **A. Natural Hazard Mitigation update**

Jean reported that comments have been received and are being incorporated into each plan.

Recommendations are to be prioritized in each town. Each Selectman was encouraged to work with his local team to determine which details should gain high priority in their town.

Jean called special attention to the items highlighted in yellow. Attention to those items could lower flood insurance rates. She wondered out loud if Dock Rd in Chester might qualify for federal funds. She noted the every town has critical evacuation routes. Betty Wagner was encouraged to bring the question to the attention of Rob Simmons.

##### **B. Hazardous Waste Facility**

Linda reflected that when he first accepted responsibility for operating the Household Hazardous Waste Facility, Ralph Eno had indicated that he wants to go hunting this fall. He is leaving, and Janice Ehle/Meyer has been hired to undertake some of his functions.

Amy Cabaniss was hired six years ago to focus on educating the public to recycle. A side project was the creation of a permanent Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Linda cautioned Amy that she could not leave until the facility was completed. Amy is working on her doctorate at Antioch and has accepted full time employment as the Environmental Specialist at Connecticut College. She will still be available for consultation since she is writing her dissertation on educating people to recycle Household Hazardous Waste.

Henry May presented the situation of an Essex resident who is restoring an old house and brought the equivalent of 120 households of lead based paint to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection with the resulting charge of \$4,400 to the Town of Essex. It was agreed that he is a householder and had a legitimate right to properly dispose of the paint scrapings. Mr. May proposed limiting the amount of waste that can be disposed of.

Tim Griswold cited a situation in Old Lyme when a person was removing asbestos. The town accepted the equivalent of one household. The individual reimbursed the town, at cost, for disposing of the rest of the material. Ralph Eno testified that limiting household amounts would be problematic. Limiting amounts would be contrary to the DEP permit. Any material that is turned away has to be explained to DEP. Refusing to accept material from a householder would be hard to explain. If material is refused, where will it go? It is not unusual for a car to contain more than one household equivalent. Often a neighborhood will send their waste in one car. Small per car amounts are often aggregated for the household count. The 100 household requirement is hard enough to deal with. There already is dual accounting. Towns pay on a per household equivalent basis. DEP counts cars.

David Denvir suggested that the towns might share the expense of households that equal more than ten equivalent units. It was suggested that

DEP might assume the balance of the cost in extreme cases, such as households with more than ten equivalent units. Phil Miller asked if the towns should petition DEP as a body. It was agreed that Janice Ehle/Meyer would be given the assignment.

Phil Miller asked if Haddam is still interested in using the facility. The initiation fee was a deterrent. East Haddam has another solution. The interest in Haddam will be investigated.

Amy reported that it is quite possible that there may be two electronics collections next year.

On behalf of the Association, Vice-Chairman McCusker thanked Amy and Ralph for their many years of service.

In honor of Ralph, a copy of "The Men of Lyme" 2006 calendar was circulated.

### **III. Other Business**

A. Phil Miller asked about hurricane preparations in the region.

B. Pump-out boat

Joel Severance reported that this has been a record-breaking summer for pump-outs. There have been 28,500 pump-outs by August. There were 20,000 pump-outs in the entire season of 2004.

Management of the boat is being transferred from Lyme to Essex for 2006. An RFP has been issued for a new boat. There is a Mutual Inter-local Agreement with the DEP.

Tim Griswold noted that DEP has declared the area from Guilford to Groton a no discharge area. This should increase the demand for pump-outs.

Joel noted that they are using two crews now. One crew works Monday through Friday and the other crew works weekends. The old boat will be retained and used as a back up.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy C. Griswold, Secretary