

# Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management Meeting

## Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2020 CCSMM Coalition Kick-Off Meeting via ZOOM

Present: See Attachment A  
Next meeting: TBD, Mid-October, 2020  
Prepared by: Elizabeth Moore, DEEP

### I. Call to Order and Announcements

Co-chairs Katie Dykes, DEEP Commissioner, Laura Francis, First Selectman, Town of Durham and Matt Knickerbocker, First Selectman, Town of Bethel provided welcoming remarks, introductions, housekeeping rules and an overview of the CCSMM initiative process.

Commissioner Dykes also introduced DEEP staff, Chris Nelson, Supervising Environmental Analyst, and Gabrielle Frigon, Supervising Environmental Analyst, to provide a presentation on [Background on Waste Sector](#).

### II. Committee Reports

The tri-chairs stated the scope and intent of the Coalition is to commit to working together in this initiative to accomplish the following goals:

1. Create a more cost effective and environmentally sustainable materials management system;
2. Share experiences and lessons learned from various efforts to adopt effective waste reduction strategies;
3. Engage market participants and local stakeholders to solicit input and proposed waste reduction solutions;
4. Seek creative means to fund solutions that further our collective goal;
5. Identify and evaluate a menu of options that municipalities and the state can adopt that will help us to collectively make progress toward improving our materials management system, including reducing the amount of waste disposed;
6. By January 1, 2021, report on our progress and announce commitments to action in furtherance of our waste reduction vision.

The Chairs stated that as of today's meeting CCSMM Participants include 68 towns from all regions of the state. Participants include small towns, medium-sized towns, and large cities. Municipalities from all nine COGs were represented in the meeting.

The Chairs stressed that Connecticut's waste infrastructure is disproportionately located in environmental justice communities and that this effort would include an environmental justice lens as it approached these topics.

A timeline was offered on how working groups should proceed and focus on certain topics ranging on the following subjects: 1. Food Scraps/Organics Collection; 2. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR); 3. Increase Recycling; and 4. Unit-Based Pricing.

A panel composed of the following representatives presented their municipal experience and best practices on the following subjects:

Jennifer Heaton Jones, HRRRA, Executive Director: Recycling

Kim O'Rourke, Middletown Recycling Coordinator: Textiles

CJ May, Waterbury Refuse/Recycling Coordinator: Outreach and education

### **III. Roundtable**

Members were interested in social justice related to Unit Based Pricing as well as broadening the scope of the group to include national conversations and federal government actions. There was recognition of a national Bill, Senator Udall's Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act on packaging EPR.

Other discussion included next steps. The Chairs indicated that a follow up email/survey would go out to member towns and municipal executives to invite members to sign up and participate in one or more of the four working groups established under the initiative. A tentative schedule of Working Group meetings was also discussed.

### **IV. Public Comment**

Members of the public were asked to use the "chat" feature or the "raise hand" feature to indicate if they wanted to make a comment.

Diane Lauracella, a RecycleCT board member, requested the inclusion of the public and citizens who want to engage in this conversation to provide assistance in public outreach efforts.

### **V. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:58pm

Attachment A.

N.B. that this list is a partial list due to a technical difficulty encountered with the ZOOM application whereby preliminary meetings were automatically purged from ZOOM before DEEP could download the files. ZOOM has a default setting that automatically purges older meetings from the list of "Previous meetings." Since DEEP became aware of the ZOOM setting, all meeting attendees' list have been captured and retained.

Katie Dykes, DEEP Commissioner  
Laura Francis, First Selectman, Durham  
Matt Knickerbocker, First Selectman, Bethel  
Robert Isner, CT DEEP  
Gabrielle Frigon, CT DEEP  
Chris Nelson, CT DEEP  
James Albis, CT DEEP  
Elizabeth Moore, CT DEEP  
Chelsey Hahn, CT DEEP  
Sherill Baldwin, CT DEEP  
Jennifer Weymouth, CT DEEP  
Jennifer Heaton Jones, HRRA, Executive Director  
Kim O'Rourke, Middletown Recycling Coordinator  
CJ May, Waterbury Refuse/Recycling Coordinator  
Scott Shanley  
Ron Capozzi  
Don Stein  
Julie Cammarata  
Brian Bartram  
Lesley Barewin  
Patty Foley  
Kim Hanson  
Diane Lauricella  
Lisa Marotta