

**HVCEO**  
**DRAFT MINUTES OF 2/20/2004 FOR**  
**MEETING HELD AT BROOKFIELD, CT TOWN HALL**

Chairman Natalie Ketcham of Redding  
Vice Chairman Rudy Marconi of Ridgefield, Secretary-Treasurer Peggy Katkocin of New Fairfield

**MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES IN ATTENDANCE**

Bethel.....Absent  
Bridgewater.....Alternate Robert Brown  
Brookfield.....First Selectman Jerry Murphy  
Danbury.....Mayor Mark Boughton, Alternate Dennis Elpern  
New Fairfield.....First Selectman Peggy Katkocin  
New Milford.....Absent  
Newtown.....First Selectman Herbert Rosenthal  
Redding.....First Selectman Natalie Ketcham, Chairman  
Ridgefield.....First Selectman Rudy Marconi  
Sherman.....First Selectman Andrea O'Connor

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Michelle Gilman and Anthony Householder of Senator Dodd's staff, Tyler Kleykam of the CT Department of Public Health, Curtis Read, Jean Cronauer and Sean Hayden of the Northwest Conservation District, Brookfield Selectman Judy Heise, two citizens, Mark Langlois of the News Times, and Bob Rush of the New Milford Planning Commission.

Also, a member of the New Milford Wetlands Commission, Eric Hampton of the CT DECD, Lynn Waller of Danbury, Richard Schreiner of HART, Holly Burbank of Metropool, Danbury Mayoral Aide Michael McLachlan, Danbury Corporation Counsel Eric Gottschalk, WLAD reporter, James Bellano of HVEDP, and Candy Acquanita, George Blake and Jonathan Chew of the HVCEO staff.

**CALL TO ORDER/ PUBLIC COMMENT**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Natalie Ketcham 12:35 P.M. There was no public comment.

**MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF 1/16/2004**

On a motion made by Herb Rosenthal and seconded by Peggy Katkocin, the minutes of the meeting of 1/16/2004 were unanimously approved.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1/2004**

On a motion made by Herb Rosenthal and seconded by Andrea O'Connor, the draft financial statement for 1/2004 was unanimously approved.

**TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE**

Jon Chew reviewed the Regional Transportation Plan update process and the draft review comments received to date, the comments in the form of an agenda attachment. Then on a motion made by Dennis Elpern and seconded by Bob Brown, the updated Regional Transportation Plan was approved, including the input obtained through the public participation process.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

HVEDP Director Jim Bellano gave his report, noting recent activities. The date for the Housatonic Valley Classic Bicycle Race is now set for May 23. The annual high tech expo is still under development. The availability of training grants to businesses from the Workforce Investment Board was explained.

### **ASSISTANCE FROM SENATOR DODD'S OFFICE**

Remarks were made by Michelle Gilman and Anthony Householder of the Senator's staff. Areas of assistance from their office were reviewed, including possible federal funding to assist local governments challenging BIA tribal recognition decisions.

### **LOCAL RESULTS OF STATE WATER SUPPLY SOURCE PROTECTION STUDY**

Remarks were made by Tyler Kleykam of the CT Department of Public Health. A chart outlining all water supply resources in the area was reviewed. Detailed municipal protection evaluation reports were forwarded to Redding and Ridgefield members.

### **MAKING FULL USE OF NORTHWEST CONSERVATION DISTRICT SERVICES**

Remarks were made by District Chairman Curtis Read, then supplemented by Jean Cronauer and Sean Hayden of the staff. High priorities of the group are technical training for inland wetland commission members, and response to municipal GIS and soil science questions.

### **OLD BUSINESS, NEW BUSINESS**

During this discussion it was agreed that Natalie Ketcham will contact the SWRPA chair regarding their deer management efforts, and that Herb Rosenthal will provide staff with a potential meeting speaker on the deer management/Lyme's Disease issue. Then drug use prevention efforts were discussed. Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton entered the meeting at this point.

### **DISCUSSION OF BIA'S SCHAGHTICOKE RECOGNITION AND UPCOMING APPEALS**

As this topic dealt with the Council's legal strategy as interveners in the recognition of the Schaghticoke Tribal Nation by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, there was a vote to enter executive session. This was accomplished by a motion made by Herb Rosenthal and a second by Rudy Marconi, all aye.

During the executive session the appeals process was discussed. Then on a motion made by Peggy Katkocin and seconded by Rudy Marconi, it was voted unanimously to end the executive session.

Then on a motion made by Herb Rosenthal and seconded by Rudy Marconi, it was voted unanimously to recommend the expenditure of an additional \$20,000 by the Housatonic Coalition, using the current funding formula of Danbury financing one third of the total, then a one ninth share each for Bethel, Brookfield, New Fairfield, Newtown, Ridgefield and HVCEO. Purposes are 1) funding legal services for the appeals process, 2) possible supplemental traffic study of the impacts thru the Region if there were a casino located via I-84 to the east, and 3) possible property value impact study.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Then on a vote duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM.