

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
February 16, 2023

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on February 16, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the Harrison County Utility Authority Board Room, at 10271 Express Drive in Gulfport, Mississippi. In attendance were:

BOARD AND STAFF:

Mayor Billy Hewes, City of Gulfport, Director  
Mayor Jimmy Rafferty, City of Pass Christian, Director  
Mr. Michael Leonard, representing City of Biloxi  
Bernie Parker, representing City of Long Beach  
Mr. Al Gombos, representing the City of D'Iberville  
Supervisor Marlin Ladner, Harrison County (1), Director  
Supervisor Connie Rockco, Harrison County (2), Director  
Mr. John Wilson, Executive Director, HCUA  
Ms. Cindy Breaux, Chief Financial Officer, HCUA  
Mr. Alan Lane, Solid Waste Manager, HCUA  
Ms. Sheila Marsh, Office Manager, HCUA  
Valerie Cuevas, Administrative Assistant, HCUA  
Mr. Kenneth Hulett, Solid Waste Technician  
Mr. James Simpson, Wise Carter, Attorneys and Esquire

ABSENT:

AUDIENCE:

Sam Williams, Waste Management  
Shea Magee, Waste Management  
Tami Blackwell, The Focus Group  
Donovan Dukes, Waste Management  
Katie Cowes, Waste Management  
John Brown, Waste Management  
Michael Hunter, Waste Management  
Jaclyn Turner, HARCO  
Wayne Miller, City of Gulfport  
Chelsea Payne, The Focus Group  
Chequin White, Pelican Waste

Letters of Designations are attached hereto as exhibit "A".

There being a quorum sufficient to transact business of the Authority, Supervisor Connie Rockco, representing Harrison County, called the meeting to order. The following proceedings were had and done.

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**A. Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**

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**B. Public Comments**

Supervisor Connie Rockco opened the floor for public comments.

There were no public comments.

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**C. Approval of the Claims Docket dated February 16, 2023**

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated February 16, 2023, seconded by Mayor Jimmy Rafferty. A vote resulted in the following:

|                     |       |     |
|---------------------|-------|-----|
| Biloxi              | voted | aye |
| Gulfport            | voted | aye |
| D'Iberville         | voted | aye |
| Long Beach          | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (1) | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (2) | voted | aye |
| Pass Christian      | voted | aye |

The motion passed. A copy of the Claims Docket is attached hereto as exhibit "B".

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**D. Recognition John Brown, Waste Management**

Mr. John Wilson introduced Mr. Shea Magee and Mr. John Brown from Waste Management. Mr. Wilson presented Mr. Brown with a Certificate of Appreciation from Harrison County Utility Authority for outstanding service. Mr. Magee explained that Mr. Brown performed life saving measures on a heart attack victim, assisted a head injury victim and kept a two-year old from wandering on a public street, until medical emergency services and or law enforcement arrived in all separate instances. In all three instances, each time, Mr. Brown insisted on completing his routes.

Certificate of Appreciation presented to Mr. John Brown, copy of Certificate of Appreciation is attached hereto as exhibit "C".

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**E. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated February 2, 2023**

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes dated February 2, 2023, seconded by Mayor Jimmy Rafferty. A vote resulted in the following:

|                     |       |     |
|---------------------|-------|-----|
| Biloxi              | voted | aye |
| Gulfport            | voted | aye |
| D'Iberville         | voted | aye |
| Long Beach          | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (1) | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (2) | voted | aye |
| Pass Christian      | voted | aye |

The motion passed. A copy of Board Meeting Minutes dated February 2, 2023, is attached hereto as exhibit "D".

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**F. Financial Report**

Ms. Cindy Breaux explained that she is available if there are questions regarding the January 2023 Financial Report. A preliminary report for the FY22 Audit should be available soon.

Supervisor Marlin Ladner made a motion to approve the Financial Report, seconded by Mayor Jimmy Rafferty. A vote resulted in the following:

|                     |       |     |
|---------------------|-------|-----|
| Biloxi              | voted | aye |
| Gulfport            | voted | aye |
| D'Iberville         | voted | aye |
| Long Beach          | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (1) | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (2) | voted | aye |
| Pass Christian      | voted | aye |

The motion passed. A copy the Financial Report for January 2023 is attached hereto as exhibit "E".

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**G. Marketing Report**

Ms. Tami Blackwell explained that The Face Book stats for January 2023, organic (free) ads reached over 4,000 residents and paid ads reached over 75,000 residents. There were 4,700 clicks on ads with an average cost of \$.21 per click. The standard industry average is \$1.72 per click.

Supervisor Marlin Ladner requested on the next Marketing Report, samples of public comments and messages received on the HCUA Facebook page. Ms. Blackwell will provide on the next Marketing Report, samples of public comments and messages received on the HCUA Facebook page.

Mayor Billy Hewes requested reasons that may have contributed to lower customer participation in all categories of Facebook on January 25, 2023. Ms. Blackwell explained that campaigns are switched at the end of each month, ads stop and graphics are updated. The process for The Focus Group takes a couple of hours to upload and Facebook takes up to twenty-four hours to review and approve the ads.

No action taken. The Board accepted the Marketing Report as submitted by The Focus Group.

A copy of the Marketing Report is attached hereto as exhibit "F".

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**H. Action Items**

**H1. Old Business**

**None**

**H2. New Business**

**H2a. Harrison County Beautification – 15K**

Mr. John Wilson explained that Harrison County Beautification – \$15,000 is given to the Beautification Association once a year to continue Hazardous Waste Collection efforts.

Mr. Al Gombos made motion to approve Harrison County Beautification – 15K, seconded by Supervisor Marlin Ladner. A vote resulted in the following:

|                     |       |     |
|---------------------|-------|-----|
| Biloxi              | voted | aye |
| Gulfport            | voted | aye |
| D'Iberville         | voted | aye |
| Long Beach          | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (1) | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (2) | voted | aye |
| Pass Christian      | voted | aye |

The motion passed. A copy of the Harrison County Beautification – 15K, is attached hereto as exhibit "G".

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**H2b. Waste Management / Pecan Grove – Request 3% CPI on Disposal**

Mr. John Wilson explained that Waste Management has requested a 3% CPI increase, on disposal for the Pecan Grove Landfill. HCUA included the 3% increase in the FY23 Budget. Supervisor Marlin Ladner questioned, on whether or not, it would be wise to accept disposal of all leachate waste, at one treatment facility. Mr. Wilson explained, there would be limits on volume and there would be the ability to discharge at any of the ten wastewater treatment plants. The amount disposed is not a problem concerning the volume, the bod amount is the concern. Prior to discharge, pretreatment will be required. Delisle Treatment Plant is closest wastewater treatment plant. Mayor Billy Hewes requested clarification on the status of discussions involving the concerns for trucking cost and utilizing a dedicated pipeline for flow to the Delisle Plant. Mr. Wilson explained that Harrison County is working on a Force Main Project, under ARPA, that would allow for connection and flow from a lagoon to a connection. HCUA, MDEQ and EPA policies do not agree with one another on the pretreatment limits.

Mayor Billy Hewes made motion to approve Waste Management / Pecan Grove – Request 3% CPI on Disposal, seconded by Supervisor Marlin Ladner. A vote resulted in the following:

|                     |       |     |
|---------------------|-------|-----|
| Biloxi              | voted | aye |
| Gulfport            | voted | aye |
| D’Iberville         | voted | aye |
| Long Beach          | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (1) | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (2) | voted | aye |
| Pass Christian      | voted | aye |

The motion passed. A copy of the Waste Management / Pecan Grove – Request 3% CPI on Disposal is attached hereto as exhibit “H”.

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**H2c. South Gulfport WWTP – Clam Bucket Substantial Completion**

Mr. John Wilson requested that South Gulfport WWTP – Clam Bucket Substantial Completion be tabled due to newly discovered issues during weather conditions.

Mayor Billy Hewes noted spelling correction required, change Calm to Clam.

South Gulfport WWTP – Clam Bucket Substantial Completion was tabled and is attached, hereto as exhibit “I”.

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**H2d. Long Beach Phase 2 SP12 – Summary Change Order & Close Out**

Mr. John Wilson explained that Long Beach Phase 2 SP12 – Summary Change Order & Close Out is for the project from Nicholson to South Forrest.

Mr. Bernie Parker made motion to approve Long Beach Phase 2 SP12 – Summary Change Order & Close Out, seconded by Mr. Al Gombos. A vote resulted in the following:

|                     |       |     |
|---------------------|-------|-----|
| Biloxi              | voted | aye |
| Gulfport            | voted | aye |
| D'Iberville         | voted | aye |
| Long Beach          | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (1) | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (2) | voted | aye |
| Pass Christian      | voted | aye |

The motion passed. A copy of the Long Beach Phase 2 SP12 – Summary Change Order & Close Out, is attached hereto as exhibit "J".

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## **I. Solid Waste Report**

Mr. Alan Lane explained that recycling participation rate for January 2023, was 41.96 %.

Supervisor Marlin Ladner made motion to spread on minutes, seconded by Mr. Bernie Parker. A vote resulted in the following:

|                     |       |     |
|---------------------|-------|-----|
| Biloxi              | voted | aye |
| Gulfport            | voted | aye |
| D'Iberville         | voted | aye |
| Long Beach          | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (1) | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (2) | voted | aye |
| Pass Christian      | voted | aye |

The motion passed. The Board accepted the Solid Waste Report as presented. A copy of the Solid Waste Report is attached hereto as exhibit "K".

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## **J. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. John Wilson explained that the Long Beach Project, Phase I continues. An Emergency Declaration will be required for the replacement of the UV System at the North Gulfport Plant.

Mr. James Simpson explained that Tuesday, February 14, 2023, Mr. Simpson and Mr. Wilson were in Jackson, Mississippi for mediation on SP13 Project and a settlement was not reached but there was progress. Mr. Simpson is awaiting on an offer of settlement.

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**K. Executive Session**

There was no need for Executive Session.



**L. Adjourn** – At this time Mayor Billy Hewes made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Marlin Ladner. A vote resulted in the following:

|                     |       |     |
|---------------------|-------|-----|
| Biloxi              | voted | aye |
| Gulfport            | voted | aye |
| D'Iberville         | voted | aye |
| Long Beach          | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (1) | voted | aye |
| Harrison County (2) | voted | aye |
| Pass Christian      | voted | aye |

The motion to adjourn passed.



  
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Harrison County Utility Authority

  
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