

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
March 19, 2020

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on March 19, 2020 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 Chipper McDermott, City of Pass Christian, Director (In-Person)  
Mayor Andrew "Fofo" Gilich, City of Biloxi, Director (Teleconference)  
Mr. Al Gombos, representing the City of D'Iberville (In-Person)  
Mr. Wayne Miller, representing the City of Gulfport, (Teleconference)  
Mayor George Bass, City of Long Beach, Director (Teleconference)  
Supervisor Connie Rockco, Harrison County (2), Director (In-Person)  
Supervisor Marlin Ladner, Harrison County (1), Director (In-Person)  
Mr. Jim Simpson, Wise Carter Attorneys, Esquire (In-Person)  
Mr. John Wilson, Executive Director, HCUA  
Ms. Patra Roberts, Office Manager, HCUA

**ABSENT:**

Mayor Billy Hewes, City of Gulfport, Director

**AUDIENCE:**

Mr. Jonathan Daniels, Gulfport Port Authority  
Mr. Derrel Wilson, Utility Partners

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

There being a quorum sufficient to transact business of the Authority, Mr. Gombos 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**

There were no public comments.  
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**C. Approval of HCUA Claims Docket dated March 20, 2020**

Supervisor Ladner made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated March 20, 2020, seconded by Mayor McDermott. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated March 5, 2020**

Supervisor Rockco made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes dated March 5, 2020, seconded by Mayor McDermott. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 meeting minutes is attached hereto as exhibit "C".

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#### **E. Financial Report**

Supervisor Ladner made a motion to accept the Financial Report as presented, seconded by Supervisor Rockco A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 report is attached hereto as exhibit "D".

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## **F. Marketing Report**

Mayor Bass made a motion to accept the Marketing Report as presented, seconded by Mayor McDermott. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 report is attached hereto as exhibit "E".

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## **G. Solid Waste Report**

Supervisor Ladner made a motion to accept the Solid Waste Report as presented, seconded by Supervisor Rockco. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 report is attached hereto as exhibit "F".

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## **Old Business**

### **H. 1 a – Revised for Water & Sewer Connection Policy**

Supervisor Ladner made a motion to approve the Connection Policy under Option 1, seconded by Mayor Bass. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

Biloxi	voted	nay
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Gulfport	voted	nay
D'Iberville	voted	nay
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 connection policy is attached hereto as exhibit "G".

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## **New Business**

### **H. 2 a – Harrison County Interlocal Agreement**

Mayor McDermott made a motion to approve the Harrison County Interlocal Agreement, seconded by Mayor Gilich. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 agreement is attached hereto as exhibit "H".

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### **H. 2 b – Utility Partners CY 2019 Annual Audit Report**

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve payment for Retainage to Utility Partners in the amount of \$134,759.60, seconded Mayor Bass. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 memorandum is attached hereto as exhibit "I".

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### **H. 2 c – S-14 Project – Pickering Proposal**



Mayor Bass made a motion to accept the Pickering Proposal for Engineering Services on the S-14 Project, seconded by Supervisor Rockco. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 memorandum is attached hereto as exhibit "J".

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#### **H. 2 d – Request for Advertisement – Flat Branch Sewer Interceptor Camera Inspection**

Mayor McDermott made a motion approve Advertisement for Flat Branch Sewer Interceptor Camera Inspection, seconded Supervisor Ladner. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 memorandum is attached hereto as exhibit "K".

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#### **Motion to Amend Agenda**

Supervisor Rockco made a motion to amend the agenda to add Item H, 2 e – Declaration of Emergency, seconded Mayor McDermott. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 agenda was amended.

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## **H. 2 e – Approval of Emergency Declaration for COVID-19/Coronavirus**

Mayor McDermott made a motion to authorize Emergency Declaration for COVID-19/Coronavirus, seconded Supervisor Rockco. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 resolution is attached hereto as exhibit "L".

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## **Non-Agenda Discussion**

### **Waste from Cruise Ships Temporarily Docked in the Port of Gulfport**

Mr. Simpson advised that the cruise ships plan to off-load treated sewer by vacuum trucks and have it taken to the North Gulfport plant for discharge.

There was significant discussion regarding the monitoring of the ships pre-treatment and discharging processes. Supervisor Ladner requested written confirmation from qualified officials to advise the safety of receiving the sewer and solid waste from the ships.

Supervisor Ladner made a motion to reject sewer and solid waste from the cruise ships temporarily docked at the Port of Gulfport, seconded by Mayor Bass.

Mr. Miller requested time to reach Mayor Hewes and bring him up to speed.

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Mayor McDermott made a motion to recess and reconvene today at 1:30 PM, seconded by Supervisor Rockco. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 meeting has been recessed.

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**Board Meeting Reconvened at 1:30 PM**

**All Board Members were present.**

The Board has reconvened to consider the following motion:

Supervisor Ladner made a motion to reject sewer and solid waste from the cruise ships temporarily docked at the Port of Gulfport, seconded by Mayor Bass.

Mayor Hewes stated that he does not believe that any action is necessary by the HCUA board. Mr. Hewes requested the Board allow Mr. Johnathan Daniels, Executive Director of the Port Authority, to address the Board.

Mr. Daniels addressed the Board and explained that there will be no human waste or sewer being discharged from the ships. He also explained how the solid waste will be sorted, recycled, and/or incinerated. The majority of the waste would be ash.

Supervisor Ladner still expressed concerns with receiving solid waste from outside of our landfill's permitted area and the public perception.

Mr. Daniels offered to have the waste transported to another facility outside of our area.

Mr. Daniels pointed out how this vote would also impact all other Port tenants, such as Dole, Chiquita, and Crowley. Some of their waste is generated in South America.

Mr. Ladner requested written assurances confirming that it is safe to receive this outside waste.

Mr. Daniels will contact Dr. Dobbs, the State Medical Officer, and ask for his written opinion on the safety of the waste stream from the Port.

Supervisor Ladner made a motion reject compacted trash, accept solid waste ash, and remove any reference to sewer discharge.

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Supervisor Rockco requested tabling the matter for 24 hours to allow time to obtain a written statement from Dr. Dobbs regarding the safety of receiving the waste from the ships, seconded by Mayor McDermott. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 item is tabled.

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Mayor McDermott made a motion to recess the meeting until tomorrow, March 20, 2020 at 1:30 PM, seconded by Mayor Bass. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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 meeting is recessed.

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**Board Meeting Reconvened Friday, March 20, 2020 at 1:30 PM**

**All Board Members were present.**

The Board Members were provided with copies of an email from Dr. Thomas Dobbs, from MS Department of Health.

Supervisor Ladner confirmed that he did get the written information that he was seeking.

Supervisor Ladner withdrew his previous motion. Supervisor Rockco withdrew her second to the motion.

No action taken. A copy of the email is attached hereto as exhibit "M".

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**L. Adjourn** - At this time Mayor Bass made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mayor McDermott. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

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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