

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
April 20, 2023

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on April 20, 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
Mayor Andrew "Fofa" Gilich, City of Biloxi, Director
Mayor George Bass, City of Long Beach, Director
Mr. Al Gombos, representing the City of D'Iberville
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
Ms. Valerie Cuevas, Administrative Assistant, HCUA
Mr. James Simpson, Wise Carter, Attorneys and Esquire

ABSENT:

Supervisor Marlin Ladner, Harrison County (1), Director

AUDIENCE:

Shea Magee, Waste Management
Derek Bullock, CMS
Chelsea Payne, The Focus Group
Bernie Parker, City of Long Beach, Councilman
Kevin McCumby, H2O Innovation
Cindy Lamb, Pickering Firm, Inc.
Michelle Oppie Gist, Wolfe, McDuff & Oppie
Chec 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 April 20, 2023

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated April 20, 2023, seconded by Mayor Andrew "Fofu" Gilich. A vote resulted in the following:

Biloxi	voted	aye
Gulfport	voted	aye
D'Iberville	voted	aye
Long Beach	voted	aye
Harrison County (1)	voted	absent
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 April 6, 2023

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes dated April 6, 2023, seconded by Mayor "Fofu" Gilich. A vote resulted in the following:

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

The motion passed. A copy of Board Meeting Minutes dated April 6, 2023, is attached hereto as exhibit "C".

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E. Financial Report

Ms. Cindy Breaux explained she was available, to the Board Members, if there were any questions concerning the Financial Report. Cindy added that Michelle Oppie Gist from Wolfe, McDuff & Oppie will be presenting the FY22 Financial Audit later in the meeting.

No action required. The Board accepted the Financial Report for March 2023 as presented. A copy of the report is attached hereto as exhibit "D".

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F. Marketing Report

Ms. Chelsea Payne with The Focus Group presented the HCUA March 2023 Marking Report. The website indicated there were 3,071 users, 2,635 new users and the top page was the recycling page. There were 581 organic engagements (free ads), 4,581 count on reach, and 996 page views. There were 128,000 impressions, 3,631 clicks. The average cost per click totals \$.23 per click with the industry average of \$1.72 cost per click.

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 "E".

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G. Action Items

G1. Old Business

G1a. 1 – Mile Jurisdiction Policy

Mr. John Wilson explained that the handout presented at the Board Meeting was an email he received from Mayor Billy Hewes regarding the 1 - Mile Jurisdiction Policy and language recommended for review for the Policy. Mr. Wilson suggested adding in front of the blue highlighted information printed in the email, "Within the one mile of the city limits". Mr. Wilson had no objections to any of the yellow highlighted information received from Mayor Hewes.

Mayor Billy Hewes explained that he had also sent the email as a blind copy to other Board Members to review. Mayor Hewes hoped that the yellow highlighted information would have been included in the 1 – Mile Jurisdiction Policy for review and consideration. The information Mayor Hewes sent in the email for review was based on basic provisions discussed by Board Members at the last two Board Meetings. Mayor Hewes recommended using one or the other (yellow highlighted or blue highlighted) verbiage in the 1 – Mile Jurisdiction Policy but not both

and that prior the next Board Agenda Package going out, updates or changes should be made and sent to Board Members prior the board package being submitted.

Mayor Jimmy Rafferty noted that there should be engagement with Supervisor Marlin Ladner for input.

Mayor Hewes recommended no action due to Supervisor Marlin Ladner being absent from the Board Meeting and advised more time could be used by Board Members to review the emailed verbiage suggestions.

Mayor Billy Hewes made motion to table 1 – Mile Jurisdiction, seconded by Mayor George Bass.

A copy of the 1 – Mile Jurisdiction Policy, is attached hereto as exhibit “F”.

A copy of the handout, email from Mayor Billy Hewes, on 1 – Mile Jurisdiction Policy, is attached hereto as exhibit “G”.

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G2. New Business

G2a. Landfills – Notice to Advertise and Public Meeting – Approval

Mr. Alan Lane explained that the former Don Williams Landfill site on HWY 15 has been purchased by a group in Baton Rouge and the landfill is now named Hurricane Creek Rubbish and Recycling Landfill. Lamey Brothers, Inc. (Class II Rubbish Landfill) and Hurricane Creek Rubbish and Recycling Landfill (Class I and Class II Landfill) both have approached HCUA and requested HCUA to amend the Solid Waste Contract and expand landfills.

Mr. John Wilson explained that the request is for Notice to Advertise the two landfill expansions for public comment and allow Public Meeting, at the Board of Directors meeting on June 15, 2023.

Mr. Al Gombos made motion to approve Landfills – Notice to Advertise and Public Meeting – Approval, seconded by Mayor George Bass. A vote resulted in the following:

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

The motion passed. A copy of the Landfills – Notice to Advertise and Public Meeting – Approval is attached hereto as exhibit “H”.

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Mr. Wilson explained the need to amend the agenda and remove item G2b. Long Beach Phase I – Change Order #4 Approval.

Mayor George Bass made motion to amend agenda, removing item G2b. Long Beach Phase I – Change Order #4 Approval, seconded by Mayor Andrew “Fofu” Gilich.

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G2b. South Gulfport WWTF – Clam Bucket Final Pay App & Close Out

Mr. John Wilson explained that the South Gulfport WWTF – Clam Bucket Final Pay App & Close Out is the closing out on a capital project.

A copy of the South Gulfport WWTF – Clam Bucket Final Pay App & Close Out is attached hereto as exhibit “I”.

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G2c. CMS Proposal for Subdivision Inspection

Mr. John Wilson explained that HCUA needs an inspector to inspect the installation of water and sewer services for three subdivisions and Derek Bullock with CMS is familiar with subdivisions.

Mr. Al Gombos made motion to approve CMS Proposal for Subdivision Inspection, seconded by Mayor George Bass. A vote resulted in the following:

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

The motion passed. A copy of the CMS Proposal for Subdivision Inspection, is attached hereto as exhibit “J”.

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G2d. FY2021-2022 Financial Audit – Provided in Meeting by Wolfe, McDuff & Oppie, PA

Michelle Oppie Gist, with Wolfe, McDuff & Oppie presented the FY2021 – 2022 Financial Audit packets that included three reports, Independent Auditor’s Report on Financial Statements (issued an unmodified opinion), Internal Control Report (although not engage to audit internal control, there are procedures to identify and assess the internal controls and no incidents were identified), and the Compliance for Major Federal Programs (HCUA expended more than the threshold of \$750,000 for Federal awards, a single audit was required, issued a unmodified opinion, no findings). GASB 37 – Lease Accounting is required to be implemented for all fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2021. Lease expense for life of equipment leases totaled \$7,000.00, and due to amount not considered material. Last page of report summarizes audit findings. Only audit adjustment was pension liability.

Mayor Hewes requested clarification on what cycle period was HCUA in for the audit contract. Mr. Wilson explained second year.

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to accept FY2021-2022 Financial Audit – Provided in Meeting by Wolfe, McDuff & Oppie, PA, seconded by Mayor George Bass. A vote resulted in the following:

Biloxi	voted	aye
Gulfport	voted	aye
D’lberville	voted	aye
Long Beach	voted	aye
Harrison County (1)	voted	absent
Harrison County (2)	voted	aye
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of FY2021-2022 Financial Audit – Provided in Meeting by Wolfe, McDuff & Oppie, PA, Report is attached hereto as exhibit “K”.

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H. Solid Waste

H1. Solid Report

Mr. Alan Lane explained that the recycling participation rate of 40.49% exceeded the previous month’s recycling participation rate. Areas increasing include the unincorporated areas from previous 25% now up to 41%.

Mayor Billy Hewes reminded Board and Public that Saturday, April 22, 2023 is Earth Day and Bring It Hazardous Waste to Mississippi Power Company, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

No action taken. A copy of the report is attached hereto as exhibit "L".

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H2. Solid Waste Fines

Waste Management had no incidents resulting in fines for the past quarter. Pelican Waste had (2) fines totaling \$500.00.

Recommendation to release retainage in the amount of \$25,992.42 to Waste Management and \$7,134.43 to Pelican Waste.

Mr. Al Gombos made motion to approve Solid Waste Fines, seconded by Mayor George Bass. A vote resulted in the following:

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

The motion passed and a copy of Solid Waste Fines, is attached hereto as exhibit "M".

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I. Executive Director's Report

Mr. John Wilson explained there was no Executive Director's Report but a Personnel issue to discuss in Executive Session.

Mayor Billy Hewes requested clarification on whether or not, there will be a workshop on the process for the ARPA monies that will be released from Jackson regarding member agencies management of funds and HCUA handling the bid process.

Mr. John Wilson explained already working with Ms. Jaclyn Turner, HC and he is available to meet with Mr. Wayne Miller, City of Gulfport. MDEQ approved member agencies request for matching ARPA Funds.

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J. Executive Session

Mayor George Bass made motion to go into Executive Session, 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	absent
Harrison County (2)	voted	aye
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion to move to Executive Session passed. The Board Members moved to Executive Session.

Supervisor Connie Rockco made motion to return from Executive Session, seconded by Mayor Andrew "Foho" Gilich. 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion to return from Executive Session passed.

Mr. James Simpson, Counsel advised no action taken in Executive Session.

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K. Adjourn – At this time Mayor George Bass made a motion to adjourn, 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	absent
Harrison County (2)	voted	aye
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion to adjourn passed.
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