

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
June 16, 2022

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on June 16, 2022, 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:

Mr. Wayne Miller, representing City of Gulfport
Mayor Jimmy Rafferty, City of Pass Christian, Director
Mayor Andrew "Fofu" Gilich, City of Biloxi, Director
Mayor George Bass, City of Long Beach, Director
Mr. Al Gombos, representing the City of D'Iberville
Supervisor Marlin Ladner, Harrison County (1), Director
Reid Bryant, representing Harrison County (2), Director
Mr. John Wilson, Executive Director, HCUA
Mr. Alan Lane, Solid Waste Coordinator, HCUA
Ms. Sheila Marsh, Office Manager, HCUA
Mr. James Simpson, Wise Carter, Attorneys and Esquire

ABSENT:

Ms. Cindy Breaux, Chief Financial Officer, HCUA
Ben Whiteside, The Focus Group

AUDIENCE:

Cindy Lamb, Pickering Firm, Inc.
Greg Cullom, HUB International
Shea Magee, Waste Management
Kevin McCumby, H2O Innovation
Shannon Beale, Jacobs
Brittany Thomas, City of Gulfport, Deputy Clerk
Peter Abide, City of Biloxi Attorney

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

There being a quorum sufficient to transact business of the Authority, Mayor Andrew "Fofu" Gilich, representing City of Biloxi, called the meeting to order. The following proceedings were had and done.

.....

A. Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

.....
B. Public Comments

Mayor Andrew "Fofu" Gilich opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. John Wilson noted that Ms. Lindsey Rea, Raymond James was present in the audience.

.....
C. Approval of the Claims Docket dated June 16, 2022

Mayor George Bass made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated June 16, 2022, 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 Claims Docket is attached hereto as exhibit "B".

.....
D. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated June 2, 2022

Mayor George Bass made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes dated June 2, 2022, 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 Board Meeting Minutes dated June 2, 2022, is attached hereto as exhibit "C".

.....

E. Financial Report

Mr. John Wilson explained that the financials to date are consistent with the FY22 Budget. The FY23 Budget (1st draft, handout) reflects project uses of under/overages for member agencies.

Mayor Andrew "Fof" Gilich stated, "Let the records show", The City of Biloxi's \$800,000 over/under refund will be applied to The City of Biloxi's General Fund.

Mr. James Simpson, Counsel explained that over/under refunds and the categories where member agencies apply the refunds are not determined by Harrison County Utility Authority. Member agencies should consider direction from the member agencies' city attorneys.

Mayor George Bass noted that the state auditor may also be contacted for clarification on where over/under refunds can be applied.

No action required. The Board accepted the Financial Report for May 2022 as presented. A copy of the report is attached hereto as exhibit "D".

.....

F. Marketing Report

Mr. John Wilson explained that The Focus Group has a campaign that educates the public about options that include rental of additional garbage and/or recycling carts.

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".

.....

G. Action Items

G1. Old Business

G1a. Solid Waste RFP – Approval for Advertise

Mr. John Wilson explained that Solid Waste RFP- Approval for Advertise is a tabled item from the 6-2-2022 Board Meeting.

No action taken. Solid Waste RFP – Approval for Advertise will carry over as tabled item. A copy of the Solid Waste RFP – Approval for Advertise is attached hereto as exhibit "F".

.....

G1b. Water and Sewer Policy Effective 10/01/2022 – Approval

Mr. John Wilson explained that the Water and Sewer Policy Effective 10/01/2022 – Approval is a tabled item from the 6-2-2022 Board Meeting and the item requires Board vote to continue with the current Water and Sewer Policy Effective 3/19/2020 or adopt the Water and Sewer Policy Effective 10/01/2022. Changes in the 10/01/2022 version include rate changes, NSF fee rate increase, flat water rate versus current usage rate, and a charge for mis-using grinder pumps. Changes are highlighted in yellow. A Board decision will be required for the FY23 Budget Draft.

Supervisor Marlin Ladner expressed his decision to make motion to approve the Water and Sewer Policy Effective 10/01/2022 – Approval if there were no objections.

Mr. Wayne Miller explaining that the City of Gulfport is reviewing the Water and Sewer Policy Effective 10/01/2022 – Approval, awaiting clarifications on jurisdiction.

Mayor Andrew “Fofu” Gilich noted that Water and Sewer Policy Effective 10/01/2022 – Approval will carry over as tabled item.

No action taken. Water and Sewer Policy Effective 10/01/2022 – Approval will carry over as tabled item. A copy of the Water and Sewer Policy Effective 10/01/2022 – Approval is attached hereto as exhibit “G”.

.....
G2. New Business

G2a. Election of Officers 2022 – 2023

Mr. John Wilson noted that the 2022 – 2023 Installation of Officers will take effect at the first Board Meeting in July 2022.

The new officers for the July 2022 – June 2023 Session are as follows:

1. Harrison County’s Supervisor, Director will the Authority’s President, Supervisor Connie Rockco
2. City of Pass Christian’s Director will be the Authority’s Vice-President, Mayor Jimmy Rafferty
3. City of Long Beach’s Director will be the Authority’s Secretary, Mayor George Bass

Mayor Andrew “Fofu” Gilich made a motion to approve the Election of Officers 2022-2023 as presented, 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 Election of Officers 2022-2023, is attached hereto as exhibit "H".

.....

G2b. HUB – Insurance Renewal

Mr. John Wilson introduced Greg Cullom, HUB International, insurance provider for HCUA facilities.

Mr. Greg Cullom explained that quotes were received for insurance packages and the best rate included an increase of 11.3% for premiums. The HCUA insurance cost increases by \$310,000.

Mr. James Simpson requested clarification on the 3% deductible and if the 3% was the same or is there an increase from the previous year. Mr. Simpson explained that buy down for a deductible is an option for HCUA. Mr. Cullom explained there is no increase in the 3% deductible and HCUA could purchase buy down points but the cost is expensive.

Mr. Al Gombos made motion to approve HUB – Insurance Renewal 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 HUB – Insurance Renewal is attached hereto as exhibit "I".

.....

G2c. Long Beach WW Upgrade Ph 1 & 2 – Approval Increase SRF Loans

Mr. John Wilson explained that the Long Beach WW Upgrade Ph 1 & 2 – Approval Increase SRF Loans was discussed with Mayor George Bass and The City of Long Beach Council approved the increase at the last City of Long Beach Council Meeting. Approval is requested from Harrison County Utility Authority's Board Members to approve the request for the increase.

Mayor George Bass made motion to approve Long Beach WW Upgrade Ph 1 & 2 – Approval Increase SRF Loans 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 WW Upgrade Ph 1 & 2 – Approval Increase SRF Loans is attached hereto as exhibit “J”.

.....

G2d. Mercy Cross Property – Approval to Purchase

Mr. John Wilson explained that The City of Biloxi is interested in purchasing the adjacent property to the Keegan Bayou Wastewater Treatment Plant for future expansion of the plant. The adjacent property is the former Mercy Cross property. Mr. Wilson introduced Peter Abide, Counsel for City of Biloxi.

Mr. Peter Abide, Council for City of Biloxi explained that east of the Keegan Bayou Wastewater Treatment Plant is the former Mercy Cross property. The City of Biloxi is interested in 8 ½ acres that appraises at \$65,000 an acre. The Dioceses Bishop has notified Mr. Abide that the Dioceses has agreed to accept \$550,000 (appraisal amount) for the 8 ½ acres.

Mr. John Wilson explained that approval requested is for permission to purchase property and approval to seek a loan. The loan document will be presented to the Board once the document is received.

Mr. Al Gombos made motion to approve Mercy Cross Property – Approval to Purchase, including motion to approve seeking a loan for purchase, 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	aye
Harrison County (2)	voted	aye
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the Mercy Cross Property – Approval to Purchase is attached hereto as exhibit “K”.

.....

G2e. Rockco-McFarland Household Hazardous Waste Site – Annual Appropriation

Mr. John Wilson explained that the Rockco-McFarland Household Hazardous Waste Site – Annual Appropriation fee is \$15,000. HCUA budget's the cost and pays the county to operate the Hazardous Waste Site.

Mr. Al Gombos made motion to approve Rockco-McFarland Household Hazardous Waste Site – Annual Appropriation, 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 Rockco-McFarland Household Hazardous Waste Site – Annual Appropriation is attached hereto as exhibit "L".

.....

H. FY23 Budget – Draft for Review (to be provided)

Mr. John Wilson explained that the handout, FY23 Budget – Draft for Review, is a first draft of the FY23 Budget. Board Members will be contacted to schedule a meeting with HCUA to review and discuss projects and expenses to finalize budget numbers.

No action taken. A copy of the FY23 Budget – Draft for Review is attached hereto as exhibit "M".

.....

I. Executive Director's Report

None

.....

J. Executive Session

There was no need for Executive Session.

.....
K. Adjourn – At this time Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to adjourn, 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	aye
Harrison County (2)	voted	aye
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion to adjourn passed.

.....

Harrison County Utility Authority


Harrison County Utility Authority