

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
July 6, 2023

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on July 6, 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 "Fofu" Gilich, City of Biloxi, Director
Mr. 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
Mr. Alan Lane, Solid Waste Manager, HCUA
Ms. Sheila Marsh, Office Manager, HCUA
Ms. Valerie Cuevas, Administrative Assistant
Mr. James Simpson, Wise Carter, Attorneys and Esquire

ABSENT:

AUDIENCE:

Roddie Matherne, Pelican Waste & Debris
Billy Skellie
Chec White, Pelican Waste
Ben Benveniutt, Covington

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

Supervisor Marlin Ladner introduced a guest in the audience, Former Mayor of Long Beach, Mr. Billy Skillie.

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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. Election of Officers

The new officers for the July 2023 – June 2024 Session are as follows:

1. City of Pass Christian’s Director will be the Authority’s President, Mayor R. James “Jimmy” Rafferty
2. City of Long Beach’s Director will be the Authority’s Vice-President, Mayor George Bass
3. City of D’Iberville’s Director will be the Authority’s Secretary, Mayor Russell Quave

Mayor Billy Hewes made a motion to approve the Installation of Officers 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 the Election of Officers is attached hereto as exhibit “B”.

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The Board Meeting continued with new HCUA Board President, Mayor James “Jimmy” Rafferty.

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D. Approval of the Claims Docket dated July 6, 2023

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated July 6, 2023, seconded by Mayor Andrew “Fofo” 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	aye
Pass Christian	voted	aye

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

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E. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated June 15, 2023

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes dated June 15, 2023, seconded by Supervisor Connie Rockco. 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 15, 2023, is attached hereto as exhibit "D".

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F. Action Items

F1. Old Business

None

F2. New Business

F2a. Seymour Engineering Contract & Task Order #1 – Approval

Mr. Al Gombos made motion to approve Seymour Engineering Contract & Task Order #1 – Approval, with discussion, 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	aye
Harrison County (2)	voted	aye
Pass Christian	voted	aye

Mr. Al Gombos requested an amendment to the Seymour Engineering Contract & Task Order #1, that would include S22 Project, S20 Project, and South D'Iberville Plant Interceptor Force Main Project. The North D'Iberville Force Main Project would connect to the treatment plant. Mr. Gombos also made a request to remove the strike-out line (wording "studying and report

phase” in Exhibit “A”). Mr. Gombos noted that S22 Project, S20 Project, and the South D’Iberville Plant Interceptor Project, should be discussed and included in the FY23-24 Budget. Mr. Wilson explained that a task order contract is the basic framework and task orders can be added for any project.

Mr. Gombos made motion to approve Seymour Engineering Contract & Task Order #1, subject to amend language, removing the strike-out line (wording “studying and report phase” in Exhibit “A”) and add request for additional task orders, 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 Seymour Engineering Contract & Task Order #1 – Approval is attached hereto as exhibit “E”.



F2b. Revised Solid Waste Plan – Neel Schaffer Engineering - Approval

Mr. Al Gombos made motion to approve Revised Solid Waste Plan – Neel Schaffer Engineering – Approval, 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	aye
Harrison County (2)	voted	aye
Pass Christian	voted	aye

Supervisor Marlin Ladner requested clarification on whether or not Mr. Wilson felt the \$12,000.00 cost on a revised Solid Waste Plan was worth it, based on what is involved with the paperwork, and if the revisions would include the two landfills and Lamey Bridge. Mr. John Wilson explained that the Solid Waste Plan is a twenty-year plan and updates are required every so often. There are solid waste collections with Pelican Waste and two solid waste collections with Waste Management. The two landfill expansions are already permitted. The City of Gulfport has a new collection contract. Solid Waste revisions are submitted to the Engineer who then makes updates in rewriting the submittal, the submittal is reviewed, approved, and then submitted to MDEQ. The charge is not to exceed \$12,000.00. Mayor Andrew “Fofu” Gilich requested clarification, on whether or not, the calculation for the Engineering fees were based on an hourly rate and if the engineering services were annually.

Mr. Wilson explained that the Engineering fees are based on an hourly rate. A Pay Application is submitted to HCUA and the Pay Application is reviewed based on work performed.

The motion passed. A copy of the Revised Solid Waste Plan – Neel Schaffer Engineering – Approval is attached hereto as exhibit “F”.

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F2c. FY24 House Count - Approval

Supervisor Marlin Ladner made motion to approve FY24 House Count - Approval, 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	aye
Harrison County (2)	voted	aye
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the FY24 House Count - Approval, is attached hereto as exhibit “G”.

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F2d. FY24 Water & Sewer Policy Rates, Fees - Approval

Mr. John Wilson explained that FY24 Water & Sewer Policy Rates, Fees changes are highlighted in yellow. The rates and fees are reviewed every year for the budget. The Service Jurisdiction and Connection Policy was adopted in May 2023.

Mr. Al Gombos made motion to approve FY24 Water & Sewer Policy Rates, Fees – Approval 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	aye
Harrison County (2)	voted	aye
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the FY24 Water & Sewer Policy Rates, Fees – Approval is attached hereto as exhibit “H”.

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F2e. FY24 Water Allocation - Approval

Mr. Andrew "Fofu" Gilich made motion to approve FY24 Water Allocation – Approval, seconded by Mayor James "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 FY24 Water Allocation - Approval is attached hereto as exhibit "I".

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F2f. FY24 Budget Proposed Salary Adjustments

Mayor Andrew "Fofu" Gilich made motion to approve FY24 Budget Proposed Salary Adjustments, 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

Included during discussion of FY24 Budget Proposed Salary Adjustments, Mayor Billy Hewes made motion to table FY24 Budget Proposed Salary Adjustments until Executive Session, seconded by Supervisor Connie Rockco. There was no vote due to Board Member discussion on steps for Executive Session concerning FY24 Budget Proposed Salary Adjustments. It was determined that Executive Session is only required if there is a request about information regarding the salary of a specific employee(s). Mayor Hewes made motion to withdraw motion to table FY24 Budget Proposed Salary Adjustments, seconded by Supervisor Rockco.

Supervisor Marlin Ladner requested clarification whether or not, the change in staff count was a reflection of a reduction in the number of staff. Mr. Wilson explained that the part time employee retired and the retired employee's duties would be handled by current personnel and that the reduction in personnel also reflects a decrease in FY24 salaries compared to FY23 salaries even with FY24 raises.

Mr. Jim Simpson, Counsel explained that the Executive Director submits a budget, including staff raises and the Board approves the Budget based on total FY Budget. The Board does not

set the Executive Director's staff salaries, but Board Members may request Executive Session to discuss salaries proposed.

Supervisor Marlin Ladner requested clarification on whether or not Mr. Wilson was comfortable with adding additional duties of the retired part time staff member to other staff members and whether or not Mr. Wilson felt the staff members would be overload with duties. Mr. Wilson explained he did not feel staff would be overloaded due to additional duties of the retired staff member.

The motion passed. A copy of the FY24 Budget Proposed Salary Adjustments, is attached hereto as exhibit "J".

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F2g. FY24 Budget Draft

Mr. Andrew "Fofu" Gilich made motion to accept FY24 Budget Draft, 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

Mr. John Wilson explained that a vote was not required, and appointments would be scheduled with each member agency Director for review of the FY24 Budget. There will be a Solid Waste audit for dumpsters determining if to downsize on size of dumpster or reduce the number of service days for emptying dumpsters. H2O, adding to Plant Management positions to be used where required.

The motion passed. A copy of the FY24 Budget Draft, is attached hereto as exhibit "K".

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G. Executive Director's Report

None

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H. Executive Session

There was no need for Executive Session.

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

The motion to adjourn passed.

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