

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
August 17, 2023

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on August 17, 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 - via Telecom  
Mr. John Wilson, Executive Director, HCUA  
Ms. Cindy Breau, Chief Financial Officer, HCUA  
Mr. Alan Lane, Solid Waste Manager, HCUA  
Mr. Sam Broom, Engineering Construction Manager, HCUA  
Ms. Sheila Marsh, Office Manager, HCUA  
Ms. Valerie Cuevas, Administrative Assistant, HCUA  
Mr. James Simpson, Wise Carter, Attorneys and Esquire

ABSENT:

AUDIENCE:

Kevin McCumby, H2O Innovation  
Jamie Bahonovich, Cypress  
Tami Blackwell, The Focus Group  
Andrea Lett, Pelican Waste  
Makayla Roberts, Pelican Waste  
Jaclyn Turner, HARCO  
Shea Magee, Waste Management

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

There being a quorum sufficient to transact business of the Authority, Mayor James "Jimmy" Rafferty, representing The City of Pass Christian, 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. FY24 Budget – Public Hearing**

Mayor Andrew “Fofu” Gilich made motion to open FY24 Budget - Public Hearing, seconded by Supervisor Marlin Ladner for public comments. 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

Mayor Jimmy Rafferty open the floor for public comments. No public comments were made.

Mayor Andrew “Fofu” Gilich made a motion to close the FY24 Budget – Public Hearing, 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 notice, Public Hearing for FY24 Budget – Public Hearing, is attached hereto as exhibit “B”.

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**C. Public Comments**

Mayor James “Jimmy” Rafferty opened the floor for public comments.

There were no public comments.

Mr. Al Gombos handout out, to the Board Members, a copy of a Sun Herald article dated Friday August 11, 2023/Saturday August 12, 2023, titled “Report shows contaminated water in MS counties”. Mr. Gombos noted that Harrison County ranks in top 5% of counties in MS for highest levels of contamination detected in water. HCUA should have better communications and be more aware, long term, of the water business.

Mr. John Wilson explained that HCUA rated a "5" (top score) for all four drinking water systems, inspected by the Mississippi State Health Department.

Mr. Al Gombos noted that although HCUA rated "5" on drinking water systems, Harrison County was listed in the article rated top five of the Mississippi counties with the highest level of contamination detected and HCUA should be pro-active in steps to figure out why Harrison County rated in the top five on the list.

Handout, a copy of Sun Herald article, is attached hereto as exhibit "C".

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**D. Approval of the Claims Docket dated August 17, 2023**

Mayor Andrew "Fofu" Gilich made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated August 17, 2023, seconded by Supervisor Marlin Ladner with discussion.

Supervisor Marlin Ladner requested clarification on payment listed on Page 5 to Lyman Well Company, \$600. Mr. John Wilson explained that Lyman Well is a vendor that is used when checking valves or repairing/rebuilding valves.

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 "D".

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**E. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated August 3, 2023**

Mayor Billy Hewes made a motion to approve the Revised Board Meeting Minutes, dated August 3, 2023, 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. A copy of Revised Board Meeting Minutes dated August 3, 2023, is attached hereto as exhibit "E".

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**F. Action Items**

**F1. Old Business**

None

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**F2. New Business**

**F2a. FY24 Budget – Adoption and Approval**

Mr. John Wilson explained that revisions and corrections were made to the FY24 Budget and the FY24 Budget is ready for approval if no more changes. Applied over/under money to projects as discussed.

Mayor Andrew "Fofu" Gilich made motion to adopt and approve FY24 Budget – Adoption and Approval, 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 FY24 Budget – Adoption and Approval is attached hereto as exhibit "F".

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**F2b. Focus Group FY24 Amend – Approval**

Mr. John Wilson proposed and recommended approval for The Focus Group FY24 Amend Contract in the amount of \$34,000.00, \$2,500 of the amount is for video to explain and show the process of recycling from curb to MRF. There is also consideration of possible videos on the wastewater treatment process.

Mayor Andrew "Fofo" Gilich made motion to approve Focus Group – FY24 Amend – Approval 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. A copy of the Focus Group – FY24 Amend – Approval is attached hereto as exhibit "G".

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**F2c. Sunkist FM (Yuls) August 8, 2023 - Emergency Declaration**

Mr. John Wilson explained that there was a forcemain break (crack in elbow) at the end of Causeway Drive, Biloxi, in front of Yuls Restaurant. The repairs have been made and system is now operational. Mr. Wilson request Declaration of Emergency for Sunkist Forcemain.

Mayor Andrew "Fofo" Gilich made motion to approve Sunkist FM (Yuls) August 8, 2023 – Emergency Declaration, 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 Sunkist FM (Yuls) August 8, 2023 - Emergency Declaration is attached hereto as exhibit "H".

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**G. Financial Report**

Ms. Cindy Breaux explained that the FY23 will end in next couple of months and Ms. Breaux is available if there are questions regarding the July 2023 Financial Report.

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

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**H. Executive Director's Report**

**None**

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**I. Executive Session**

There was no need for Executive Session.

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**J. 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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Harrison County Utility Authority

  
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