

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
August 06,2020

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on August 6, 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 Billy Hewes, City of Gulfport, Director
- Mayor Chipper McDermott, 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
- Supervisor Connie Rockco, Harrison County (2), Director
- Mr. John Wilson, Executive Director, HCUA
- Mr. Alan Lane, Solid Waste Coordinator, HCUA
- Ms. Sheila Marsh, Office Manager, HCUA
- Ms. Marie Ostrander, Financial Assistant, HCUA
- Mr. James Simpson, Wise Carter Attorneys, Esquire

**ABSENT:**

**AUDIENCE:**

Andy Phelan, Pickering Firm, Inc.

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

There being a quorum sufficient to transact business of the Authority, Mayor Hewes called the meeting to order. The following proceedings were had and done.

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**A. Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**

**Moment of Silence for Mayor Tommy Schaffer**

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**B. Public Comments**

Mayor Hewes opened the floor for public comments.

There were no public comments.

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**C. Approval of the Claims Docket dated August 6, 2020**

Mayor McDermott made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated August 6, 2020, seconded by 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 claims docket is attached hereto as exhibit "B".

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**D. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated July 16, 2020**

Mayor Bass made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes dated July 16, 2020, seconded by Supervisor Connie 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 meeting minutes dated July 16, 2020 is attached hereto as exhibit "C".

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## **E.1 Old Business**

### **E1a. FY21 House Count – Approval**

Mayor McDermott made a motion for Discussion for the FY 2021 Budget-House Count, seconded by Supervisor Marlin Ladner.

Mr. John Wilson advised, only current revisions to House Count is D'Iberville's numbers. John stated there has been discussion with Mr. Al Gombos and his people to resolve current difference of (4) four in the numbers.

Mayor McDermott questioned Mr. Al Gombos for comments. Mr. Gombos addressed his concerns on items on chart that he has not received all responses. Mr. Gombos stated Waste Management list addresses and bill for cans at locations with no house on property. Mr. Gombos stated Waste Management system can detect a can located at incorrect address, system should be able to detect no can needed at property with no house. Mr. Gombos noted example of house not located on a property for three (3) years and he requested the can to be removed and he believes can is still located at property. Mr. Gombos stated D'Iberville could not give free garbage service if not authorized. Mr. Gombos stated "All I ask, if house does not exist, pick up the cart" and "all I'm looking for is a response that either you agree the list or you don't, or maybe it's been done all somebody is to tell me item #3 been done, we picked up cart". Al Gombos stated list has been worked on, one item where can was removed, citizen came in to sign up for can. Mr. Gombos wants real discrepancies resolved.

Mr. John Wilson stated information sent when Agenda put out, the numbers were correct. John stated he has questioned the addresses with discrepancies in order to resolve them, he has not received addresses from D'Iberville.

Mr. Al Gombos stated addresses are in list and when list corrected that should cover the (4) four discrepancies. Mr. Gombos stated he wants response to list, items on list be addressed and completed and once notified of completion he will be happy.

Mayor Bass questioned the process of resolving the house count in the last (3) three years.

Mr. Al Gombos indicated obviously did not do a very good job, but we need to do better.



Mayor Bass agreed there should be a better job at house count, but also stated (3) three years ago Donald should have caught those houses not located on properties.

Mr. Al Gombos agreed.

Mayor Bass stated John working on situation involving discrepancies. Mayor Bass questioned how member agencies currently tracking cans picked up or delivered at new homes, homes sold, or resident moved. Mayor Bass stated Long Beach Building Department issues, Right of Occupancy, and then water is turned on and trash request sent in through water department to Waste Management. The fire fighters verify house count.

Mr. Al Gombos stated he wants accuracy, does not want free service given.

John Wilson stated contract discrepancy with Waste Management and City do not agree which is resulting in discrepancies with numbers.

Mr. Al Gombos stated this is a separate problem.

Mr. Alan Lane stated count is pulled up from computer account system Waste Management uses (related to where carts are delivered based on GO coded). Alan stated when system first started for County, E911 system was used to get addresses. D'Iberville, Long Beach and Biloxi provided street addresses to HCUA. As far as cart picked up and delivery, Long Beach, D'Iberville and Biloxi no cart is added or picked up unless email is sent from member agency to Alan. Alan notifies Waste Management. There is a monthly running talley.

Mr. Al Gombos questioned if carts on his list for pick up, were they picked up.

Mr. Alan Lane stated he was told yesterday from Waste Management everything on the list is completed.

Mr. Al Gombos stated send list of discrepancies resolved in writing and he would agree with bottom number.

Supervisor Connie Rocko questioned if the discrepancies are different issues or just houses not on property.

Mr. Alan Lane advised there are different issues on discrepancies.

Mayor Billy Hewes stated for Benefit of Board and Administration, do they feel numbers are wrong within a margin of error because it will be a hit and miss. Mayor Hewes believes there is always a possibility of 2% to 5% margin error on numbers based on nature of what we do.

Mayor Billy Hewes asked Mr. James Simpson, Counsel, if he acknowledge that was accurate.

Mr. Jim Simpson replied, "Certainly from day to day".

Supervisor Marlin Ladner suggested Waste Management come up with system to identify adds and deducts on truck system and if no system next year to identify add and deduct then a house count should be required.

Mr. Alan Lane advises Waste Management is working on finding compatible system.

Mayor Fofu Gilich suggested Waste Management provide HCUA with download of information from truck route. HCUA would review, for insight, information gathered from the truck routes.

Supervisor Connie Rockco addressed Mr. John Wilson and stated concerns of Mr. Al Gombos seem to be multiple; dumpsters, houses not on properties, residents not being serviced. She believes Mr. Gombos wants direct questions answered.

Mr. John Wilson addressed Supervisor Rockco. John indicated discrepancies have been addressed several times and every time the numbers change.

Supervisor Connie Rockco added inhouse count issues were not the only problems.

Mr. Al Gombos advised he wants specific items corrected (item # 1, 2, etc.). Mr. Gombos stated he would settle for signed memorandum from John that all items have been corrected and John could pick number. Mr. Gombos indicated he did not care what the number is.

Mr. John Wilson stated when number printed on Agenda, Mr. Al Gombos discrepancies was completed.

Mayor Billy Hewes suggested if Mr. John Wilson agrees to provided requested information to Mr. Al Gombos, the Board could now adopt and move forward.

Mr. John Wilson agreed to provide spreadsheet with line memos to Mr. Al Gombos.

Mayor McDermott made motion to adopt, seconded by Mayor Bass, the FY21 House Count – Approval based on documentation provided from Mr. John Wilson with signature to Mr. Al Gombos that all discrepancies have been addressed and resolved.

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 FY21 House Count – Approval is attached hereto as exhibit "D".

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**E.2 New Business**

**E2a. Biloxi/D'Iberville Water Project-Booster Station – Approval of final PA and Summary CO**

Mayor Bass made a motion to approve Biloxi/D'Iberville Water Project-Booster Station – Approval of final PA and Summary CO, seconded by Mr. Gombos. 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 Biloxi/D'Iberville Water Project-Booster Station – Approval of final PA and Summary CO is attached hereto as exhibit “E”.

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**E2b. LB WW Upgrade/Sp12&13 Project – Approval for MDEQ SRF Loan Application**

Mr. John Wilson advised SRF Loan Application to MDEQ for (4) Four Million for facilitate complete construction Long Beach Price Brothers Pipe Removal and Replacement Project

Mayor Bass made a motion to approve LB WW Upgrade/Sp12&13 Project – Approval for MDEQ SRF Loan Application, seconded by Supervisor Connie 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 LB WW Upgrade/Sp12&13 Project – Approval for MDEQ SRF Loan Application is attached hereto as exhibit “F”.

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**E2c. GCRF HCUA Projects – Approval of 3 Resolutions for 3 Project**

Mr. John Wilson noted that Gulf Coast Restoration Fund opened application process thru August 28, 2020. HCUA is now asking for approved resolutions for (3) three projects, North Gulfport Sand Filters and UV System and Long Beach Project.

Mayor McDermott made a motion to approve the GCRF HCUA Projects – Approval of 3 Resolutions for 3 Project, seconded by Mayor George 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 GCRF HCUA Projects – Approval of 3 Resolutions for 3 Project is attached hereto as exhibit “G”.

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**E2d. Solid Waste Fines April-June 2020**

Supervisor Marlin Ladner made a motion to approve the Solid Waste Fines April-June 2020, seconded by Supervisor Connie 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 Solid Waste Fines April-June 2020 is attached hereto as exhibit “H”.

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**E2e. County Request for Sewer Easement**

Supervisor Marlin Ladner made a motion to discuss the County Request for Sewer Easement, seconded by Supervisor Connie 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

Mayor McDermott questioned if there was cost associated with obtaining Easement.

Mr. Wilson explained the County is requesting the Easement from the Authority and no costs will be incurred.

Supervisor Marlin Ladner made a motion to approve the County Request for Sewer Easement, seconded by Supervisor Connie 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 County Request for Sewer Easement is attached hereto as exhibit "I".

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**E2f. South Forest/Price Brothers Pipe Forcemain Break – Emergency Declaration  
7/31/2020**

John noted there was an identified break on Friday, July 31, 2020, and break was contained that date, and repairs were completed by 5:00 pm Monday.

Mayor McDermott made a motion to approve the South Forest/Price Brothers Pipe Force main Break – Emergency Declaration 7/31/2020 as presented, seconded by Supervisor Connie 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 South Forest/Price Brothers Forcemain Break – Emergency Declaration 07/31/2020 is attached hereto as exhibit “J”.



**F. Executive Director’s Report**

Mayor Fofa Gilich brought to discussion his concerns over refinancing the Authority’s debt service. Mayor Gilich wants some form of evaluations completed so that future decisions regarding the Swap and current national financial situation. Mayor Gilich indicated he would like to be part of any committee or discussions regarding refinance or evaluation. He wants a written report with numbers and options, with or without the Swap.

Supervisor Ladner pointed out that while there might be an initial cost associated with refinancing, regarding payment of the Swap, it may very well be worth it in the long run.

Mr. John Wilson explained that HCUA has had a meeting with Raymond James who is working on options for the Authority, including an extension of the loan’s maturity date.

Mayor Hewes wants to see a plan or report in place showing when the national financial situation hits a certain point, where action would be advantageous to the Authority, the Authority can act and “pull the trigger.”

Mr. James Simpson advised the Board that Raymond James sent a letter naming them in a nonbinding, no cost intended underwriter for HCUA, per SEC Municipal Underwriting Rules. We are not obligated to use their services. Raymond James is not a financial advisor. The Board may need to choose a Financial Advisor to work with us. Mr. James Simpson advised the Board approval that Mr. John Wilson may sign the agreement with Raymond Jones. The Board agreed.



**G. Executive Session**

There was no need for Executive Session.

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**H. 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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Harrison County Utility Authority



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Harrison County Utility Authority