

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
April 17, 2025

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on April 17, 2025 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. Robert Lee, representing the City of Gulfport
Mayor Jimmy Rafferty, City of Pass Christian, Director
Mayor Andrew "Fofo" 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 Dan Cuevas, Harrison County (2), Director
Mr. James Simpson, Wise Carter, Attorneys and Esquire
Mr. John Wilson, Executive Director, HCUA
Ms. Cindy Breaux, Chief Financial Officer, HCUA
Mr. Alan Lane, Solid Waste Manager, HCUA
Ms. Marie Ostrander, Office Manager, HCUA

VIA TELECOM:

None

ABSENT:

None

AUDIENCE:

Tori Martinez, The Focus Group
Charles Head, H2O Innovation
Jaclyn Turner, Harrison County
Shea McGee, Waste Management

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

There being a quorum sufficient to transact business of the Authority, Mayor George Bass, representing The City of Long Beach, 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

Mayor George Bass opened the floor for public comments.

There were no public comments.

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C. Approval of the Claims Docket dated April 17, 2025

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated April 17, 2025, seconded by Supervisor Dan Cuevas. 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 dated April 17, 2025 is attached hereto as exhibit "B".

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D. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated April 3, 2025

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes dated April 3, 2025, seconded by Supervisor Dan Cuevas. 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 April 3, 2025, is attached hereto as exhibit "C".

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E. Financial Report

Ms. Cindy Breaux reported that there would be a draft budget would be ready for HCUA staff to review shortly and then we would be setting up meetings with each Member.

No action required. The Board accepted the March 2025 Financial Report

A copy of the Financial Report for March 2025 is attached hereto as exhibit "D".

F. Marketing Report

Ms. Tori Martinez of The Focus Group presented the Facebook and website stats. There was a 53% increase in organic social media impressions, 103% increase in post reactions, and 95% increase in video watches over last year. There was also a 101% increase in website traffic, with the most visited page being news.

No action taken. The Board accepted the March 2025 Marketing Report as submitted by The Focus Group.

A copy of the March 2025 Marketing Report is attached hereto as exhibit "E".

G. Action Items

1. Old Business

None

2. New Business

G2a. FY24 Final Audit - Acceptance

Mayor Andrew "Fofo" Gilich made a motion to accept FY24 Final Audit - Acceptance, seconded by Mr. Robert Lee. 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

It was accepted. A copy of the FY24 Final Audit - Acceptance, is attached hereto as exhibit "F".

G2b. FY26 Budget – Proposed Salary Adjustments - Approval

Mayor Andrew "Fofo" Gilich made a motion for discussion of FY26 Budget – Proposed Salary Adjustments - Approval, seconded by Mr. Robert Lee. 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 asked if we shouldn't wait till the Member Agencies have settled their budgets for the upcoming fiscal year before approving anything for this office.

Mr. John Wilson reminded them that this is just a component of the budget and did not want to include it in our final budget without the Members seeing it first. There were times previous that the Members were handed the entire budget and weren't able review everything and we wanted to avoid that by showing you ahead of time.

Supervisor Marlin Ladner then asked if the Board was being asked to approve this adjustment, as it seems a little early in the process.

Mayor George Bass agreed with what both Mr. Wilson and Supervisor Ladner said but also agreed that maybe this should be tabled until the Board Members can not only look at their own budgets but also have some time to examine and discuss these particular salary adjustments.

Mr. Al Gombos asked what percentage of the proposed FY26 budget these salary increases would be. Mr. John Wilson answered that they would make up less than .03%. Mr. Wilson also noted that every year since 2019 the salary budget for the Authority has gone down, while still giving raises. This is the first year that there will be an increase.

Mayor Andrew "Fofo" Gilich made a motion to table FY26 Budget – Proposed Salary Adjustments - 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 was tabled. A copy of the FY26 Budget – Proposed Salary Adjustments - Approval is attached hereto as exhibit "G".

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H. Solid Waste

1. Solid Waste Report

Mr. Alan Lane reported that our recycling participation rate for last month was 43.13%. On May 10, 2025 the annual Bring-It event will be held by Mississippi Power.

No action taken. A copy of the Solid Waste Report is attached hereto as exhibit "H".

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I. Executive Director's Report

There was nothing to report.

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J. Executive Session

There was no need for Executive Session.

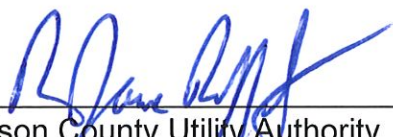
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K. Adjourn – At this time Mar. Al Gombos made a motion to adjourn, seconded by M. Robert Lee. A vote resulted in the following:

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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