

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
August 1, 2024

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on August 1, 2024 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:

Jeremy Harrison, Representing City of Gulfport
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 (2), Director
Supervisor Dan Cuevas, Harrison County (2), Director
Mr. James Simpson, Wise Carter, Attorneys and Esquire
Mr. Alan Lane, Solid Waste Manager, HCUA
Mr. Sam Broom, Engineering Construction Manager, HCUA
Mr. David Perkins, O&M Manager, HCUA
Ms. Marie Ostrander, Office Manager, HCUA

VIA TELECON:

Mayor Jimmy Rafferty, City of Pass Christian, Director
Mr. John Wilson, Executive Director, HCUA
Ms. Cindy Breau, Chief Financial Officer, HCUA

ABSENT:

AUDIENCE:

Kevin McCumby, H2O Innovation
Shea Magee, Waste Management
Sam Williams, Waste Management
Andrew Levens, Overstreet
Jaclyn Turner, Harrison County

Letters of Designation 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. FY25 Budget – Public Hearing

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to open FY25 Budget - Public Hearing, seconded by Supervisor Dan Cuevas for discussion. 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 George Bass opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were made.

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to close the FY25 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 FY25 Budget – Public Hearing, is attached hereto as exhibit "B".

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C. Public Comments

Mayor George Bass opened the floor for public comments.

There were no public comments.

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D. Approval of the Claims Docket dated August 1, 2024

There was an Addendum to the Claims Docket for H2O Innovations, Plant Management (\$330,452.39) which needed to be paid.

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to amend the Claims Docket dated August 1, 2024, 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. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the amended Claims Docket dated August 1, 2024, 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 amended Claims Docket dated August 1, 2024 is attached hereto as exhibit "C".

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E. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated July 18, 2024

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to discuss the Board Meeting Minutes dated July 18, 2024, 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

Mr. Marlin Ladner did recuse himself from the discussion, given that he was not present at the July 18, 2024 meeting.

Mr. Al Gombos brought to the Board's attention a mistake in the Minutes regarding discussion of a Will Serve letter that was issued to a developer that Mr. Gombos brought up in the meeting, ("...listed the MGD for the N/ D'Iberville WWTF as 1.5 when it should be 2.0.). Mr. Gombos was asking if the MGD was 1.5 or 2.0, not that it should be 2.0 and requesting clarification on that. Mr. Sam Broom subsequently submitted a letter clarifying that it is 2.0.

Mr. Al Gombos made the motion to approve the revised Board Minutes dated July 18, 2024 with a copy of Mr. Broom's letter, 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 revised Board Meeting Minutes dated July 18, 2024, with supporting letter, is attached hereto as exhibit "D".

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F. Action Items

1. Old Business

NONE

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2. New Business

F2a. FY25 Budget – Adoption and Approval

Mayor Andrew “Fofu” Gilich made a motion to discuss FY25 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

Mayor Andrew “Fofu” Gilich made a motion to approve FY25 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 FY25 Budget – Adoption & Approval is attached hereto as exhibit “E”.

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F2b. Task Order Contract – Overstreet & Associates, PLLC

Mayor Andrew “Fofu” Gilich made a motion to discuss Task Order Contract – Overstreet & Associates, PLLC, 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. Marlin Ladner asked if the \$5,000 cap on the contract was a reasonable one; to which Mr. Sam Broom explained that it is. Mr. Ladner then also asked for clarification on the verbiage in the contract that seemed not to hold the Engineers responsible for any contractor mistakes. Mr. Jim Simpson explained that what this means is that if the contractor does something wrong, the engineers must notify us, but that they are not responsible for correcting it, the contractor is. Mayor George Bass just wanted to ensure that this covers us, Mr. Jim Simpson assured the Board that yes, we are covered from any liability of responsibility, and reminded them that this was a Professional Services contract, not a Construction contract so the range of liability was much less.

Mayor Andrew "Fofu" Gilich made a motion to approve Task Order Contract – Overstreet & Associates, PLLC, seconded by Supervisor Marlin Ladner. A vote resulted in the following:

Biloxi	voted	aye
Gulfport	abstained	
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 Task Order Contract – Overstreet & Associates, PLLC is attached hereto as exhibit "F".

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F2c. Permission to Advertise – Banking Services

Mayor Andrew "Fofu" Gilich made a motion to discuss Permission to Advertise – Banking Services, 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

Mr. Marlin Ladner asked to clarify that this was simply determining if these banks could handle our finances, and there was no change to percentages rates. Mr. Jim Simpson confirmed that that was correct.

Mayor Andrew "Fofu" Gilich made a motion to approve Permission to Advertise – Banking Services, 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 Permission to Advertise – Banking Services is attached hereto as exhibit “G”.

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F2d. Recommendation – Audit Services

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to discuss Recommendation – Audit Services, 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

Mayor George Bass asked how long Wolfe, McDuff, & Oppie’s (WM&O) current contract for audit services with us was for? Ms. Cindy Breau explained that they have a three-year contract, with no option to extend, and that there was no law or guidelines preventing the same firm from entering a second, consecutive contract. The contract that we are recommending them for now would be a three-year contract with the option for three, one-year extensions. Mayor Andrew “Fofu” Gilich raised the concern that if we award this contract to WM&O, and then give them the three, one year extensions, then we are looking at having the same firm for nine years, and if that were the case then we would want to ensure that it was not the same team of auditors doing it every year, we would want fresh sets of eyes.

The decision was to table this until we had those answers.

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to table Recommendation – Audit Services, 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 Recommendation – Audit Services is attached hereto as exhibit “H”.

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F2e. Line of Credit – Johnson Rd.

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to discuss Line of Credit – Johnson Rd., 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. Al Gombos made a motion to approve Line of Credit – Johnson Rd., 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 approved. A copy of Line of Credit – Johnson Rd. is attached hereto as exhibit "I".

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F2f. Request to Close Bank Account

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to discuss the Request to Close Bank Account, 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

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve Request to Close Bank Account, 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 approved. A copy of Request to Close Bank Account. is attached hereto as exhibit "J".

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G. Solid Waste Report

1. Survey Responses

Mr. Alan Lane reported that, per discussion in previous Board Meetings, the Focus Group had put together an online survey for our residents that focused on Recycling Services. The Survey will run for a month and the included responses are from the first week.

No action taken. A copy of the Survey Responses is attached hereto as exhibit "K".

H. Executive Director's Report

None

I. Executive Session

There was no need for Executive Session.

J. Adjourn – At this time Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to adjourn, 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 to adjourn passed.



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