

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
September 19, 2019

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on September 19, 2019 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 Chipper McDermott, City of Pass Christian, Director  
Mayor George Bass, City of Long Beach, Director  
Mayor Andrew "Fofu" Gilich, City of Biloxi, Director  
Mr. Al Gombos, representing the City of D'Iberville  
Mayor Billy Hewes, City of Gulfport, Director  
Supervisor Marlin Ladner, Harrison County (1), Director  
Mr. James Simpson, Wise Carter Attorneys, Esquire  
Mr. Donald Scharr, Executive Director, HCUA  
Ms. Patra Roberts, Office Manager, HCUA  
Mr. John Wilson, Construction & Engineering Manager, HCUA  
Mr. Alan Lane, Solid Waste Coordinator

ABSENT:

Supervisor Connie Rockco, Harrison County (2), Director

AUDIENCE:

Ms. Cindy Lamb, Pickering Firm  
Mr. Andy Phelan, Pickering Firm  
Ms. Brynn Joachim, The Focus Group  
Mr. Bernie Parker, The City of Long Beach  
Ms. Jenna Bass, Waste Management  
Mr. Damon Torricelli, Neel-Schaffer  
Mr. Bruce Newton, Digital Engineering  
Mr. Derrel Wilson, Utility Partners  
Mr. Bobby Knesal, Utility Partners  
Ms. Colby Cantrell, Pelican Waste  
Mrs. Leigh Ann Scharr

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

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

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

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**B. Public Comments**

Mr. Gombos opened the floor for public comments. The Board recognized and congratulated Ms. Merri Ann Testa on her upcoming retirement at the end of September. Mayor McDermott presented her with a gift on their behalf.

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**C. Public Meeting – Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget**

Mayor McDermott made a motion to open the Public Meeting for the Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 budget, seconded by Mayor 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. The public meeting was opened.

Mr. Gombos asked if there were any comments on the proposed budget.

Mr. Gombos requested the budget be revised to include an amount sufficient to fund the remainder of the current O & M contract through December 31, 2019, until we have a negotiated contract. The current amount in the budget is \$3,653,758. Mr. Gombos recommended that amount be changed to at least \$1,000,000 to cover the contract through the end of the year. He stated once the O & M contract has been negotiated, then the budget can be amended to include the new contract amount.

Mr. Scharr advised that the budget will be amended to correct Biloxi's house count number.

Mr. Simpson advised the Board that they cannot approve a budget today because all board members are not present and the budget requires a unanimous vote. He advised that a budget has to be approved by October 1, 2019, so the board will need to schedule a special meeting to take up the vote by September 30, 2019.

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**Motion**

Mayor McDermott made a motion to close the Public Meeting, seconded by Mayor 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the budget is attached hereto as exhibit "B".

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**D. Approval of the Claims Docket dated September 20, 2019**

Mayor Gilich made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated September 20, 2019, 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	absent
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 September 5, 2019**

Mayor Bass made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes dated September 5, 2019, seconded by Mayor Gilich. 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the meeting minutes is attached hereto as exhibit "D".

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**F. Technical Meeting Minutes dated September 11, 2019**

Mayor Bass made a motion to accept and spread upon the minutes the Technical Committee Meeting Minutes dated September 11, 2019, 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the meeting minutes is attached hereto as exhibit "E".

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**G. Financial Report**

Mr. Scharr provided the board with a Financial Report as of August 31, 2019, as prepared by Ms. Jani Schmit.

Mayor McDermott made a motion to accept the Financial Report, 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the report is attached hereto as exhibit "F".

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**H. Marketing Report**

Ms. Brynn Joachim, of the Focus Group, provided the board with a monthly marketing summary report. She stated they are finalizing details on FY-2020 planning.

No action required. A copy of the report is attached hereto as exhibit "G".

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**I. Solid Waste Report**

Mayor McDermott made a motion to accept the Solid Waste Report, 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	absent
Harrison County (2)	voted	aye
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the report is attached hereto as exhibit "H".

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**Old Business**

**J. 1 a – O & M Contract Proposal – Update**

Mayor Bass made a motion to accept the memorandum on the status of the O & M Proposals, seconded by Mayor McDermott.

Mayor Hewes advised that this does not require a motion.

No action was taken. A copy of the memorandum is attached hereto as exhibit "I".

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**New Business**

**I. 2 a – RFP for Grounds Maintenance Services**

Supervisor Ladner made a motion to table the RFP for Grounds Maintenance Services until the O & M review is completed, seconded by Mayor 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. The item is tabled.

A copy of the memorandum is attached hereto as exhibit "J".

**I. 2 b – BP Project (SP 12 & 13) Engineering Contract & Task Order No. 1 – Pickering Firm**

Mayor Bass made a motion to approve the BP Project (SP 12 & 13) Engineering Contract & Task Order No. 1 – Pickering Firm, subject to MDEQ approval, seconded 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the task order contract is attached hereto as exhibit "K".

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**I. 2 c – Magnolia Bend – Hickman Road Water Main Recommendation for RPR Services – Machado Patano**

Mayor Bass made a motion to approve award for RPR Services on the Magnolia Bend/ Hickman Road Water Main Project to Machado Patano, seconded by Mayor Gilich. 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the memorandum is attached hereto as exhibit "L".

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**I. 2 d – Chemical Contract – Request for Extension**

Mayor Bass made a motion to approve the Chemical Contract Request for a two-year extension with Water & Waste Specialties, 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the memorandum is attached hereto as exhibit "M".

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**I. 2 e – Odor Control Contract – Request for Extension**

Mayor Bass made a motion to approve the Odor Control Contract Request for a one-year extension with Chemstation, 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the memorandum is attached hereto as exhibit "N".

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**I. 2 f – Waste Management – Request for CPI Adjustment**

Mayor Hewes made a motion to table the Waste Management Request for CPI Adjustment, seconded by Mayor Gilich. 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. The item is tabled.

A copy of the request is attached hereto as exhibit "O".

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**I. 2 g – Utility Partners – CPI Adjustment**

Mayor Bass made a motion to approve the Utility Partners CPI Adjustment, seconded by Mayor McDermott. A roll call vote resulted in the following votes:

Biloxi	voted	aye
Gulfport	voted	nay
D'Iberville	voted	aye
Long Beach	voted	aye
Harrison County (1)	voted	aye
Harrison County (2)	voted	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the memorandum is attached hereto as exhibit "P".

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**I. 2 h – Waste Tire Collection Grant**

Mayor Bass requested establishing a tire drop off site in the western part of the county. Mr. Lane advised that he just needs a secure location. Mayor Bass and Mayor McDermott will work together to establish a designated site.

Mayor Hewes asked if research can be done to identify any type of grants/funds available for surveillance of illegal dump sites.

Mayor Bass made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to execute the Waste Tire Collection Grant, seconded by Mayor Gilich. 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. A copy of the grant is attached hereto as exhibit "Q".

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**I. 2 i – Fiscal Year 2020 Budget – Action/Approval**

Supervisor Ladner made a motion to table Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, seconded by Mayor Bass. No action taken.

Mr. Scharr requested the board set a date for the special meeting on the budget and advise what changes need to be made to the budget.

Mr. Scharr will amend the budget to revise the Biloxi house count, amend the O & M Contract cost to \$1,000,000 to cover the cost of the remainder of the contract, and include funds to hire a consultant to advise HCUA on acquiring our own landfill.

Supervisor Ladner wanted it to be understood that if the full O & M contract cost is not included in the budget, approval of the newly negotiated contract will require a unanimous vote because it will require a budget amendment.

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Mayor McDermott made a motion to amend the proposed budget to revise the Biloxi house count, amend the O & M contract cost to \$1,000,000, and include funds to hire a consultant to advise HCUA establishing our own landfill, seconded by Mayor Gilich. 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	nay
Harrison County (2)	voted	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed.

A special meeting for budget approval will be held on Monday, September 30, 2019 at 9:00 AM.

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#### **J. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Scharr provided the Board with a summary of HCUA accomplishments, under his leadership.

A copy of the memorandum is attached hereto as exhibit "R".

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#### **K. Executive Session**

Mr. Simpson advised that he needed to provide an update on the S-14 litigation.

Mr. Scharr advised that he has a personnel matter for discussion.

Mayor McDermott made a motion to enter Executive Session, 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. The Board entered Executive Session.

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Mayor McDermott made a motion to exit Executive Session and return to Open Session, 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion passed. The Board returned to Open Session.

No action taken during Executive Session.

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**L. Adjourn** - At this time Mayor McDermott made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Gilich. 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	absent
Pass Christian	voted	aye

The motion to adjourn passed.

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