

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
January 18, 2024

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on January 18, 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:

Mr. Wayne Miller, representing City of Gulfport  
Mayor Jimmy Rafferty, City of Pass Christian, Director  
Mr. Mike Leonard, representing City of Biloxi  
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. John Wilson, Executive Director, HCUA  
Ms. Cindy Breaux, 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. Bridgett Payton-Boone, Administrative Assistant, HCUA  
Mr. James Simpson, Wise Carter, Attorneys and Esquire – Via Telecom

ABSENT:

AUDIENCE:

Jaclyn Turner, HARCO  
Bernie Parker, City of Long Beach, Councilman  
Ethan Schneider, The Focus Group  
Makayla Roberts, Pelican Waste  
Kevin McCumby, H2O Innovation

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. Public Comments**

Mayor James "Jimmy" Rafferty opened the floor for public comments.

There were no public comments.

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**C. Approval of the Claims Docket dated January 18, 2024**

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated January 18, 2024, seconded by Mayor George Bass.

Supervisor Marlin Ladner requested clarification on the amount of \$14,000.00 to United Rentals. Mr. John Wilson explained that United Rentals is a vendor that provides equipment rentals, including bypass pumps and generators. Work for the UV Project at North Gulfport Treatment Plant and work for the Clarifier Project at South Gulfport Treatment Plant required equipment rentals.

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 "B".

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**D. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated January 4, 2024**

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes dated January 4, 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

The motion passed. A copy of Board Meeting Minutes dated January 4, 2024, is attached hereto as exhibit "C".

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## **E. Financial Report**

Ms. Cindy Breaux explained that she is available if there are questions regarding the December 2023 Financial Report. Ms. Breaux is currently completing the FY23 Audit.

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

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## **F. Marketing Report**

Ethan Schneider, The Focus Group, presented stats for the month of December 2023. The goal was to increase website traffic, in order, to attempt to increase recycling participation. The Facebook stats for December 2023 included an increase of 15% for new users on Facebook and the HCUA Website. Page views increased by 106% with an increase of 78% in organic ads. The average cost per click was \$.17 per click, with the standard industry average of \$.83 per click. Supervisor Marlin Ladner requested clarification on, whether or not there were any public comments posted. Mr. Schneider explained he viewed several good comments, and he would be sure comments were included in the future reports.

No action taken. The Board accepted the Marketing Report as submitted by The Focus Group. A copy of the Marketing Report is attached hereto as exhibit "E".

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## **G. Action Items**

### **G1. Old Business**

None

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### **G2. New Business**

#### **G2a. North Gulfport WWTP – SF SRF Loan Authorization Resolution**

Mr. Wayne Miller made motion to approve North Gulfport WWTP – SF SRF Loan Authorization Resolution, seconded by Supervisor Dan Cuevas. Open for discussion.

Mr. John explained that at the last HCUA Board Meeting (January 4, 2024), the Board authorized the approval of the SRF Loan. The Resolution authorizes Mr. Wilson to act on HCUA behalf, by signing the SRF Loan documents. Mr. Wayne Miller questioned and requested clarification on whether, or not, the approval for the SRF Loan was only to allow SRF Loan Funds to be available if the funds were needed. Mike Leonard requested clarification on whether, or not, the SRF Funds could be returned if no SRF Funds were drawn. Mr. Wilson



explained that the SRF Loan funds do not have to be used and the SRF Funds can be returned with no admin fee cost.

Ms. Sheila Marsh called a roll call that resulted in the following votes:

Mr. Mike Leonard representing Biloxi	voted	yes
Mr. Wayne Miller representing Gulfport	voted	yes
Mr. Al Gombos representing D'Iberville	voted	yes
Mayor George Bass, City of Long Beach	voted	yes
Supervisor Marlin Ladner, Harrison County (1)	voted	yes
Supervisor Dan Cuevas, Harrison County (2)	voted	yes
Mayor Jimmy Rafferty, City of Pass Christian	voted	yes

The motion passed. A copy of the North Gulfport WWTP – SF SRF Loan Authorization Resolution is attached hereto as exhibit "F".

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**H. Solid Waste**

**H2a. Solid Waste Report**

Mr. Alan Lane explained that the highest recycling participation rate (43.1%), was for the month of December 2023. Supervisor Marlin Ladner noted that information regarding the savings of costs from recycling versus the landfill costs should be information listed on the HCUA website. Mr. Wilson explained that the video for public review will be available soon showing the recycling process from curb to MURF.

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

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**H2b. Solid Waste Fines**

Waste Management and Pelican Waste had no incidents resulting in fines for the past quarter.

Recommendation to release retainage in the amount of \$34,844.51 to Waste Management and \$7,634.43 to Pelican Waste.

Mr. Al Gombos made motion to approve Solid Waste Fines, 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 and a copy of Solid Waste Fines, is attached hereto as exhibit "H".

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**I. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. John Wilson explained that the FY23 Financial Audit will be presented soon. There was a meeting last week with The City of Gulfport and the Sand Filter Project will begin soon. O&M retainage and fines for H2O will be presented at the next Board Meeting.

Mr. Mike Leonard requested clarification on timing when wastewater flow will begin from North Gulfport Plant to the West Biloxi Plant. Mr. Wilson explained that ARPA funds are being used to fund the Debuys Road Repairs Project. Mr. Wayne Miller explained that The City of Gulfport is in contract negotiations with Seymour Engineering and project should move quick once project begins.

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**J. Executive Session**

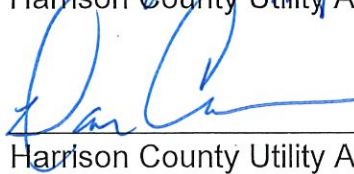
There was no need for Executive Session.

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**K. Adjourn** – At this time Mayor George Bass made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Al Gombos. 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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