

HARRISON COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
April 4, 2024

Be it remembered that a meeting of the Harrison County Utility Authority Board of Directors was held on April 4, 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. Jeremy Harrison, representing City of Gulfport
- Mayor Jimmy Rafferty, City of Pass Christian, Director – via Telecom
- Mayor Andrew “FoFo” Gilich, 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. James Simpson, Wise Carter, Attorneys and Esquire
- Mr. John Wilson, Executive Director, HCUA
- Mr. Alan Lane, Solid Waste Manager, HCUA
- Mr. Sam Broom, Engineering Construction Manager, HCUA
- Ms. Marie Ostrander, Office Manager, HCUA

**ABSENT:**

**AUDIENCE:**

- Cara Wagner, Cypress O&I
- Damon Torricelli, Neel-Shafer
- Jaclyn Turner, HARCO
- Shea McGee, Waste Management
- Heather St. Julian, Pelican Waste
- Andrea Lett, Pelican Waste

Letters of Designations are attached hereto as exhibit “A”.

There being a quorum sufficient to transact business of the Authority, Mayor Jimmy Rafferty representing The City of Pass Christian, called the meeting to order. The following proceedings were had and done.

.....

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

.....

**B. Public Comments**

Mayor Jimmy Rafferty opened the floor for public comments.

There were no public comments.

.....  
**C. Approval of the Claims Docket dated April 4, 2024**

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated April 4, 2024, seconded by Mayor George Bass.

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".

.....  
**D. Approval of Revised Board Meeting Minutes dated March 7, 2024**

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Revised Board Meeting Minutes dated March 7, 2023, seconded by Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich. 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 Revised Board Meeting Minutes dated March 7, 2024, is attached hereto as exhibit "C".

.....

**E. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes dated March 21, 2024**

Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes dated March 21, 2023, seconded by Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich. 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 March 21, 2024, is attached hereto as exhibit "D".

.....

**F. Action Items**

**1. Old Business**

None

**2. New Business**

**F2a. West Biloxi WWTF Generator Project – Pay App #6 & #7 (Final Payment)**

Mr. John Wilson requested that approval for West Biloxi WWTF Generator Project – Pay App #6 & #7 (Final Payment) be tabled following discovery of an electrical issue that needs to be corrected before the project can be completed.

Mayor George Bass, representing The City of Long Beach, made a motion to table West Biloxi WWTF Generator Project – Pay App #6 & #7 (Final Payment), seconded by Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich. 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 |

No Action Taken. A copy West Biloxi WWTF Generator Project – Pay App #6 & #7 (Final Payment) is attached hereto as exhibit “E”.

.....

**F2b. Draft FY2023 Audit - Review**

The current draft of the FY2023 Audit was presented to the Board for them to review; the Auditors will be at an upcoming meeting to go over the Audit and answer any questions.

No Action was taken. A copy of the Draft FY2023 Audit - Review is attached hereto as exhibit “F”.

.....

**G. Executive Director’s Report**

Mr. John Wilson reported to the Board that HCUA was beginning to put together the FY2025 Budget.

Mayor Jimmy Raftery asked for an update on the PFAS testing that was done at two of our well sites. Mr. John Wilson reported that Safewater tested two wells, one on the East and one on the West side of the county, and HCUA had also done sampling, using another laboratory, at those same sites; we are awaiting the results. The problem remains that because there are no set standards for what is considered dangerous levels, its hard to know exactly what the results we get back will mean, if they come back showing any PFAS levels at all. Mr. Al Gombos asked how then, if there are no set levels, can articles, and stories like the one the Sun Herald ran serval months ago, claim that there are contaminated water sources in Mississippi. Mr. John Wilson explained to the Board that this was just one of many questions this conversation raises, another being the type of water source being tested: private or public, surface or well, shallow or deep source, etc..

Mr. Al Gombos, and other members of the board agreed that this is about messaging and conveying to the public at large that our water sources are safe and we are doing everything we can to ensure that it stays safe, and we have to make sure that we are ahead of this.

As part of the Executive Director’s report Mr. Alan Lane answered some questions and clarified how the House Count for residential collection works. The last one was done in 2022 and we expect the numbers to look bigger due to population growth, but also because this will be a two-unit count. We will be getting an address list from Waste Management for each of the Members to review.

.....

**H. Executive Session**

NONE


.....

I. **Adjourn** – At this time Mr. Al Gombos made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Andrew “FoFo” Gilich. 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.

.....

  
Harrison County Utility Authority

  
Harrison County Utility Authority