

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.
February 24, 2026**

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. held a Board Meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 3:00 P.M., at the Authority's Administrative Office, 1886 Highway 90, Conway, South Carolina. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, notices setting forth the date, time, and place of the meeting were mailed to the news media.

Present were the following Board Members: Robert J. Kemp, Chairman; W. Norfleet Jones, Secretary; Amos C. Berry, Sr., Treasurer and Board Members Bo Ives, Wayne Fox, and Dr. Albert G. Hayward. Vice Chairman Pam Creech participated in the meeting via conference call.

Corporal Eric Zink from the Horry County Police Department, James Irvin, Preston Kelly and Amelia Wood represented the public in attendance. There were no members of the media present.

The following individuals were also in attendance: Danny Knight, Executive Director; Ed Marr, Assistant Executive Director; Esther Murphy, Director; Jan Bitting, Director; Stephanie Todd, Director; Richie Stetter, Director and staff members Drake Morris, Katherine Bell, and Monica Collier.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kemp called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Fox to render the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Berry led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Berry moved to approve the Agenda as presented. There was a second by Mr. Jones and the Motion was carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Kemp asked for any questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 27, 2026. However, there were none.

Chairman Kemp informed the Board, before moving to the approval of the minutes a correction needed to be made to page 7 of the Board Packet. He stated the name was listed as Mrs. Cooke, but it should be Mrs. Bitting.

Chairman Kemp informed the Board that the motion in the first full sentence of the first paragraph on page 13 of the Board Packet was incorrect. He clarified that the motion did not pass; rather, it failed due to a 3-3 tie. He said that the record should reflect that the motion failed.

Chairman Kemp informed the Board, in addition, there was another item that needed to be addressed. He explained that last month the Board approved increasing the purchasing limit in the General Purchase category to \$10,000; however, no change was made to the paragraph relating to the Informal Bid Process.

Chairman Kemp informed the Board the motion should also include updating paragraph D of the Purchasing Policy to change the amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Mr. Berry made a Motion to change the \$5000 to \$10,000 in paragraph D in the Purchasing Policy. There was a second by Mr. Jones and the Motion was carried.

Chairman Kemp asked for any further questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 27, 2026, however there were none.

Mr. Jones made a Motion to approve the minutes as Amended. Mr. Berry seconded the Motion, and the Motion carried.

Mr. Fox asked whether, under the General Purchasing Policy, the amount in Section C was \$10,000 and whether Section D of the Informal Bid Process increased to \$50,000.

Mrs. Bitting informed the Board that the action taken last month was to raise the General Purchase limit to \$10,000, which in turn adjusts the Informal Bid Process range to \$10,000–\$20,000. She stated that there was no gap in the Informal Bid Process. She further explained that Chairman Kemp had suggested increasing the upper limit to \$50,000 so that the Informal Bid Process would cover \$10,000–\$50,000, with the Formal Bid process applying to purchases exceeding \$50,000.

Chairman Kemp stated that the Board had decided last month not to proceed with the proposed increase to \$50,000. Mrs. Bitting confirmed that this was correct and that several Board Members did not wish to raise the Informal Bid Process to \$50,000 or the Formal Bid to \$50,000. Chairman Kemp explained that the Board wanted the Purchasing Policy to reflect, in paragraph D, the action taken regarding paragraph C. He stated that paragraph D should specify purchases between \$10,000 and \$20,000. Mrs. Bitting confirmed that this was correct and that the document before them reflected that change.

Mr. Jones made a Motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Mr. Berry seconded the Motion, and the Motion carried.

Mr. Jones moved to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2026, Board Workshop. There was a second by Dr. Hayward and the Motion was carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Jones stated there was no Public Input.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/ UPDATES

Recycling and Corporate Affairs Mrs. Murphy offered an update of various projects in the Recycling and Corporate Affairs Division that were included on pages 40-45 in the Board Packet.

2025 – 2026 Grinding of the Greens Program – Mrs. Murphy provided an update on the Grinding of the Greens Program. She reported that the tree collection program concluded at the end of January. She stated that a few additional trees were still coming in. Mrs. Murphy said that staff had estimated the program received about 1,000 trees and said participation was lower than in previous years. Mrs. Murphy said that she believed this trend was due to more people purchasing artificial trees, which she considered a great option. She also shared that the program was promoted through public service announcements, with approximately 2,800 PSAs aired. Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that Christmas tree mulch was still available for anyone interested.

Statement of Economic Update – Mrs. Murphy reminded the Board that it was time to file their Statements of Economic Interest electronically through the State Ethics Commission. She informed the Board that the filing deadline to avoid penalties is 12 P.M. on March 30, 2026. She asked that they submit it as soon as they can.

Caught Green Handed Update – Mrs. Murphy informed the Board the January “Caught Green Handed” recipient was Mr. Thomas McMillan. She stated Mr. McMillan was a recycler at the Brooksville Recycling Center and he was thankful to be recognized.

Finance and Administration Update – Mrs. Bitting offered an update of the following items which were included as pages 46 – 63 in the Board Packet.

Monthly Finance Reports Mrs. Bitting informed the Board at the start of the February 10th workshop, Mr. Knight asked how much money the SWA had set aside for landfill construction, closure, and post-closure costs. She stated that a little over \$23 Million had been reserved for closure and post-closure and a little over \$7 Million had been set aside for landfill construction. Mrs. Bitting said that together the funds totaled \$30,679,975. She also stated that staff collected \$14 per ton from every ton of MSW and C&D collected to support these projects.

Mrs. Bitting informed the Board that the designated account related to the OPEB obligation, which covered post-employment benefits had \$2.6 Million set aside to fund those benefits.

Mrs. Bitting reported that revenues were still showing an increase over the same time last year, with the increase being a little over a 22.7%. Mrs. Bitting said that Solid Waste revenue was 59.87% of budget, Mixed Construction revenue was at 63.83% of budget and Yard Waste revenue was at 64.26% of budget. Mrs. Bitting said that Recyclable Sales were at 57.89% of budget.

Mrs. Bitting reviewed the Income Statement and reported revenue over expenses was \$11,387.40 She said the SWA’s year-to-date revenue over expenses was \$2,914,447.21 She said revenues were at 57.09% of budget and expenses were below at 50.55% of budget. Mrs. Bitting commended staff for doing a great job.

Mrs. Bitting gave an overview of the landfill tonnage and reported that Solid Waste increased by 2.16%, Yard Waste increased by 16.90%, and Mixed Construction increased by 20.94% as compared to last year.

Operations and Planning Update – Mrs. Todd presented the following updates which were included on pages 64 – 82 in the Board Packet.

Landfill Update – Mrs. Todd reported the landfill had its monthly inspection on Monday, February 9th. She stated that all evaluated areas had been inspected and found to be satisfactory.

Household Hazardous Waste – Mrs. Todd reported that the sixth HHW pack-and-ship event with MXI resulted in the collection of 23,541 pounds of material. She said that this brings the total collected to date to 166,144 pounds (83.06 tons).

Driver of the Month Update – Mrs. Todd said the February Driver of the Month was Mr. Landon Davis who works for Harry’s Discount Tire.

C&D Recycling Update – Mrs. Todd reported that material processed at the C&D Recycling Facility in January 2026 increased by 4.85% as compared to January 2025.

MRF Update – Mrs. Todd reported a 0.87 % increase in the amount of recyclables received at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in January 2026 as compared to January 2025.

Mrs. Todd reported that the national average price for PET was currently \$85.60, while the SWA was selling it for \$160 per ton. She stated that the national average price for UBC's was \$1,568.80, compared to the SWA's price of \$2,370 per ton. She added that the national average price for steel cans was \$171 per ton, while the SWA's price was \$267.80 per ton. Mrs. Todd thanked staff for their hard work and dedication.

Executive Director Update – Mr. Knight provided an update, which was included on page 83 of the Board Packet.

I&R Committee Meeting – Mr. Knight informed the Board that it had been a very busy yet successful month. He reported that on Tuesday, February 10th, staff met with I&R and provided a strong presentation to the Board. Mr. Knight stated that Wayne Beam and Tom Ballou both made presentations, and when Mr. Ballou asked if there were any questions, one of the Board and Council Members had several inquiries regarding the alternatives analysis. Mr. Knight added that Council also discussed mandatory recycling.

Board Workshop – Mr. Knight reported on the Board Workshop and stated that Craig Fortner of Garrett & Moore was in attendance, where he provided an overview of long-term planning, landfill capacity, capital budgets, funding rates, and related analyses. Mr. Knight informed the Board that Horry County Administrator Barry Spivey provided a presentation and discussed bonding.

League of Cities Meeting – Mr. Knight stated that the League of Cities meeting was held on February 19th at the North Myrtle Beach Museum, with all cities represented except two. He stated that several new mayors were in attendance. Mr. Knight explained that the discussion included the landfill, its importance to the municipalities and County Council, and the value of extending the landfill's lifespan. He reported that the current tipping fee was approximately \$50 per ton, while transferring waste through a transfer station would cost about \$150 per ton.

SWA Open House – Mr. Knight reported on the SWA Open House. He stated that more than 40 residents attended, along with 10 to 15 presenters. Mr. Knight said the multipurpose room was set up with a sign-in area, and attendees were able to view a large map to identify where they lived. He said that stations were available for engineering and stormwater. Mr. Knight indicated that several residents expressed concerns about drainage. He added that 22 people went out on tours, which were conducted using four vehicles and stated that he believed the event was very informative.

Mr. Knight said that staff were looking forward to the budget process and that a session had already been scheduled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Meetings held during the month.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to come before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Roundtable Discussion – Mr. Ives commended staff for maintaining an effective flow of information throughout this process.

Mr. Knight informed the Board that a presentation with photos from the Open House had been added to the PowerPoint for review.

Chairman Kemp said that he was encouraged by the discussions on recycling at both the League of Cities Meeting and the I&R Committee Meeting, stating that interest in recycling continues to grow.

Mr. Knight informed the Board that staff would continue to contact the cities regarding recycling.

Mr. Knight informed the Board that the large map displayed behind the screen was intended to assist residents who may have questions about where they live, and that the map would remain in place.

Chairman Kemp stated that the map illustrates the relationship among all of our neighboring communities.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Mr. Berry moved, seconded by Mr. Fox, to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was carried,** and the February Board Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Minutes approved on March 24, 2026.

HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.

BY: _____ (L. S.)
Robert J. Kemp, Chairman

ATTEST:

W. Norfleet Jones, Secretary

Amos C. Berry, Sr.

Pam J. Creech

Wayne Fox

_____ (L. S.)
Dr. Albert G. Hayward

_____ (L. S.)
Bo Ives