

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.  
April 23, 2019**

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. held a Board Meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, at 5:30 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: Michael H. Hughes, Chairman; Bo Ives, Vice Chairman; J. Michael Campbell, Secretary; Pam J. Creech, Treasurer; and Board Members Samuel T. Johnson, Jr., W. Norfleet Jones and Carl H. Schwartzkopf.

Steve Gosnell, Interim Horry County Administrator was present. Madeline Beverly, Renee' Beverly, Roger Beverly, Katrina Carter, Tinsley Carter, Benjy Cook, Raleigh Cook, Andriette Flesch, Haven Flesch, Jeb Flesch, Jeff Gallagher, Nicholas Gallagher, Dale Gore, Josh Gore, Logan Gore, Renee' Gore, Paula McNelis, Zoe McNelis and Ms. Amelia Wood represented the public in attendance. There were no members of the media in attendance.

The following individuals were also in attendance: Danny Knight, Executive Director; Jan Bitting, Director; Mike Bessant, Director and other staff members to include Chris Calhoun, Victoria Johnson, Wayne Martin, Nannette Powell, Jamie Suggs, Cecil Terry, Stephanie Todd and Susie Wofford.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Hughes called the meeting to order and Ms. Creech rendered the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Hughes asked for any revisions to the Agenda as contained in the Agenda Packet.

**Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to approve the Agenda as presented. There was a second by Mr. Campbell and the Motion was carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Hughes asked for any questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the March Board Meeting held on March 26, 2019, as contained in the Agenda Packet; however there were none.

**Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to approve the Minutes of the March 26, 2019 Board Meeting. There was a second by Mr. Ives. There being no further discussion, the Motion was carried.**

**PUBLIC INPUT**

There were no requests for Public Input.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

**Recycling and Corporate Affairs Update** – Mr. Jamie Suggs, Manager for the Unincorporated Collection System offered an update of various projects in the Recycling and Corporate Affairs Division that were included as pages 11-18 in the Board Packet. Esther Murphy, Director of Recycling and Corporate Affairs was absent due to a prior engagement.

**2019 Environmental Scholarship Recipients Update** – Mr. Suggs informed the Board that nine (9) students would be awarded an Environmental Scholarships this school year. He indicated each would receive \$1,000 scholarship and a medal upon completion of the volunteer requirements for this award. The recipients are as follows:

**Zoe McNelis**

Academy for Arts, Science & Technology

**Madeline Beverly**

Academy for Technology & Academics

**Raleigh Cook**

Conway High School

**Thelicia Weaver**

Early College High School

**Logan Gore**

Green Sea High School

**Haven Flesch**

Loris High School

**Austin Randall**

Myrtle Beach High School

**Nicholas Gallagher**

North Myrtle Beach High School

**Tinsley Carter**

Socastee High School

Mr. Suggs asked the scholarship recipients if they would like to address the Board. Several of the recipients expressed their appreciation to the SWA for offering the scholarship and recognizing their academic achievements.

**Longs Paving Project** – Mr. Suggs informed the Board that the Longs Recycling Center was closed March 29 through April 18, 2019 for site work and paving. He stated that the site had asphalt and concrete repair work done. Mr. Suggs indicated that speed bumps were added to the center. He commented the weather was a major factor in the reopening of the center.

**Smart Gardner Workshop Update** – Mr. Suggs informed the Board the SWA hosted the Smart Gardner/Grow Workshop on April 16-17, 2019. He commented the workshop was very well attended this year. Mr. Suggs stated on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 the SWA hosted 42 attendees and Wednesday, April 17, 2019 the SWA hosted 40 attendees. He thanked staff members Victoria Johnson, Kendra Hooks and Cecil Terry for their efforts in planning and overseeing all aspects of the workshop.

Chairman Hughes asked Mr. Suggs who grew the starter plants. Mr. Suggs commented that Black Water Middle School students furnished the starter plants.

**Caught Green Handed Update** – Mr. Suggs informed the group the March “Caught Green Handed” winner was Mr. Peter Webster. He indicated that Mr. Webster used the Brooksville Recycling Center. Mr. Suggs stated Mr. Webster received a SWA prize pack and media recognition.

## **Financial Reports**

Mrs. Bitting offered an update of the following which was included as page 19-34 in the Board Packet.

**Monthly Finance Reports** – Mrs. Bitting stated for the period ending March 31, 2019 the SWA revenue should be at 75.00% of budget. She indicated MSW revenue was at 77.57% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated Construction and Demolition revenue was at 79.83% of budget and Yard Waste revenue was at 75.78% of budget. She stated the sale of recyclables revenue was at 57.51% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated the Construction and Demolition Processing Facility revenue for March was \$351,080.91 and expenses were \$456,270.45 with airspace saved equating to 44.34 days. Mrs. Bitting commented the MRF revenue year-to-date was \$3,444,616.67 and the expenses year-to-date were \$3,951,617.54 with a savings of 58.57 days of airspace. She indicated net income for March was \$342,005.58 and year-to-date was \$3,007,579.09.

**Horry County Budget Retreat Workshop** – Mrs. Bitting informed the group that the SWA Budget was presented at the Horry County Workshop on April 5, 2019. She stated that no questions were asked and that the SWA ‘s budget would be incorporated into the County’s and the County would have second reading on their budget within the next month.

**Horry County I&R Meeting** – Mrs. Bitting indicated that the Horry County I&R Meeting was held on April 9, 2019. She commented that Mr. Gosnell discussed the Unincorporated Collection System or Fund 06. Mrs. Bitting informed the group that Mr. Gosnell discussed the storm debris funding and the fund balance to operate the Centers. She stated that Mr. Gosnell informed Horry County Council that the fund was critically depleted, and the next step would be to close centers or reduce services in some way. Mrs. Bitting indicated that Mr. Gosnell explained to Horry County Council that a tax increase was needed. Mr. Ives interjected that mandatory recycling would alleviate most of the problem. Mrs. Bitting commented that the I&R Committee asked that a 3-millage increase be added to the Fund 06 Budget next year.

Mr. Knight informed the Board that next month the reports would reflect airspace savings for the material sold at The Store.

## **Operations Update**

Mr. Bessant presented the following update which was included as pages 35-56 of the Board Packet.

**Landfill Update** – Mr. Bessant informed the Board that the landfill had a DHEC inspection this month and everything went well.

**C&D Recycling Update** – Mr. Bessant stated that more material was being diverted to the Construction and Demolition Recycling Facility. He commented that the recycling rate had increased since more material was being processed.

**MRF Update** – Mr. Bessant informed the group that since the termination of Charleston County recyclables the MRF facility has had a decrease in material. He commented that the facility was collecting more material from Horry County prior to Charleston County contract. Mr. Bessant stated this was due to Myrtle Beach Recycling going out of business and Waste Industries cancelling their cardboard collection program.

Mr. Bessant commented that commodity prices overall have decreased. He indicated that mixed newspaper was \$12.50 per ton and OCC cardboard was \$74.00 per ton. Mr. Bessant commented that vendors from India were interested in purchasing commodities from U.S. markets once again.

**MRF Upgrade Update** – Mr. Bessant informed the Board that the Machine X purchase order had been issued. He stated that Machine X will do a 3-D scan of the MRF system. Mr. Bessant commented the system upgrade should be completed by January 2020. He indicated with the upgrade the MRF's quality of material should be better with less labor cost. Mr. Ives asked if there were sub-contractors or was staff doing the upgrades in-house. Mr. Bessant commented that staff would complete the upgrades in-house.

**MRF Storage Facility** – Mr. Bessant indicated the loading dock had been completed for the facility. He commented that staff was waiting on the building permits for the facility. Mr. Bessant stated that the MRF storage facility should be completed by June 2019.

**MRF Rebuild In-House** – Mr. Bessant commented that systems not integrated in the MRF retrofit are to be upgraded and completed in-house by staff.

**MRF Floor Repair** – Mr. Bessant informed the group that the MRF floor repair was completed on April 7, 2019. He stated the floor has a performance bond and two-year warranty if any problem should arise. Mr. Bessant commented that the old floor had started to show signs of wear and tear. He indicated that staff had notified the company of this problem. Mr. Bessant explained that the old floor still had a warranty which expires in August 2019.

**Driver of the Month Update** – Mr. Bessant stated the March Driver of the Month was Jerome Thomas from the Big Ds Recycling. Mr. Bessant commented Mr. Thomas has been driving for two years. He commented that Mr. Thomas worked well with staff.

**Collection & Hauling Update** – Mr. Bessant indicated that Collection & Hauling division was installing a new computerized routing system in their trucks.

**Disaster Debris Plan Update** – Mr. Bessant indicated that the Annual Disaster Debris training session would be held May 23, 2019 at 9:00A.M. in the SWA's multi-purpose room. He commented that the training would include Horry County and the municipalities. Mr. Bessant indicated that Horry County and the municipalities would have the option to determine any changes that were needed.

**Landfill Road Project Update** – Mr. Bessant indicated the landfill road project is to build a road around the landfill. He commented the landfill road project is currently in the engineering and design process.

**Piggyback 3 Project Update** – Mr. Bessant informed the group that the Demonstration of Need and the Letter of Consistency determination request were submitted to DHEC. He indicated that letters were mailed out to adjacent and nearby landowners of the SWA's intent to file for a permit. Mr. Bessant stated notices were advertised in the Sun News April 14-16, 2019 as required by DHEC. He commented the SWA was waiting on a response from DHEC before proceeding forward.

**Scale House Upgrade** – Mr. Bessant indicated that a mandatory pre-bid meeting was held on April 11, 2019 for the Scale House upgrade. He stated that three contractors attended the pre-bid meeting. Mr. Bessant commented the proposals should have been returned by April 24, 2019 but the deadline was extended until May 5, 2019.

**Waste Characterization Study Update** – Mr. Bessant indicated the SWA was conducting another Waste Characterization study with the first waste study sampling held in July 2019 and the second sampling completed in December. He commented this would determine Horry County waste stream.

**C&D Grinding Demo Update** – Mr. Bessant stated on April 11, 2019 at 9:00 A.M. landfill staff, administrative staff and several Board Members observed the demonstration of a construction and demolition grinder. He commented that a 12% compaction rate was reached by the grinding of the construction and demolition material. Mr. Knight asked Mr. Bessant to explain this process.

Mr. Bessant explained the trial started with two piles both totaling 75 tons each of construction and demolition material. He indicated one pile was completely ground, graded and compacted. Mr. Bessant stated the other pile was graded then compacted. He commented the elevation of both piles had been measured before hand in order to have a distinct correlation between the two. Mr. Ives asked if Mr. Bessant had any concerns about the loader and how could staff streamline the operation or process. Mr. Bessant commented the loader was needed to sift through the material and sort any metals or bulk materials that would cause damage to the machine.

Chairman Hughes asked how long did it take to grind 75 tons of material. Mr. Bessant commented that it took a little over one hour.

Mr. Bessant indicated that Vance Moore would have the specifics of the cost saving for the grinding of the material versus grading and compacting the material. Chairman Hughes asked Mr. Bessant if Mr. Moore would have a breakdown for the maintenance and equipment repair. Mr. Bessant replied that Mr. Moore would have that information. Chairman Hughes asked Mr. Bessant if he had found a company that has used the construction and demolition grinder over one year. Mr. Bessant commented he had not received that information but would keep them informed.

### **Executive Director Update**

Mr. Knight indicated that all of the ongoing projects were covered by staff on the agenda items. He indicated that he would discuss the North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce and the Bag Bill during the Roundtable discussion.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Special Projects Committee Meeting Update** – Committee Chairman Carl Schwartzkopf stated the Special Projects Committee met on April 4, 2019 at 1:00 P. M. Mr. Schwartzkopf indicated Committee Members Bo Ives and W. Norfleet Jones were present.

**The Store** – Chairman Hughes stated that the Board had asked for a comprehensive review of The Store. Mr. Schwartzkopf stated the report for the Special Project Committee Meeting was very detailed and he said whomever transcribed the report did a great job.

Mr. Ives commented that he was glad that the SWA would now measure the amount of airspace saved by diverting the material from the landfill to The Store. He wanted Mr. Moore to quantify what a days' worth of airspace saving was worth. Chairman Hughes indicated he wanted to know from a revenue standpoint. Mr. Ives commented that a storage facility was needed for The Store and asked if an expiration date could be placed on the merchandise so the material could have a short shelf life.

Mr. Jones commented he did not want to spend more funding on labor trying to determine the airspace savings. He did not want the cost to overcome the benefit. He stated he trusted Mr. Moore to give the SWA his best educated guess. Mr. Knight commented that next month The Store would have a ledger to explain how many items are sold and an average weight of these items.

Chairman Hughes commented he was concerned about overburdening the staff at The Store. Mr. Knight stated the ledger would have a daily tally of the items sold each day. He indicated the ledger would help Mr. Moore calculate the monthly airspace savings. Mr. Campbell asked if the advertising for The Store would be increased after the upgrade. Mr. Knight indicated that there were signs and brochures for The Store at the Recycling Centers. Mr. Schwartzkopf reminded the group this was not a typical retail store there were similarities but they were not the same.

Ms. Creech commented that The Store was a feel good she understood the Meals on Wheels and the other services that the Council on Aging provided. She said The Store had been discussed several times during her tenure on the Board. Ms. Creech stated she did not agree with the methodology of The Store. She pointed out that the SWA purchased the property that The Store occupies. Ms. Creech commented that the SWA purchased trailers to haul the merchandise from the Recycling Centers and now the SWA was going to spend an additional \$130,000 for storage facility.

Ms. Creech indicated that the SWA no longer received revenue from Charleston County and that commodity prices were down; consequently, the SWA would soon start the next phase of the Piggyback Expansion. She stated that tipping fees would need to be increased in the future. Mrs. Creech reminded the group that the entrance road needed fixing but that was delayed due to decreased revenue. She commented that The Store kept all of its revenue except 6.8% but the SWA covered all of its expenses. Mrs. Creech stated this was something she could not support.

Chairman Hughes indicated he reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that stated the SWA will provide the building for The Store, an office and a storage building for the facility. Chairman Hughes informed the group this MOU was written and agreed upon in 2011. He stated the Special Projects Committee discussed in detail that the SWA would move forward with the purchase of a storage building for The Store.

Chairman Hughes commented that The Store storage building design would meet their specification and needs. He commented that The Store and the Horry County Council on Aging (HCCOA) do a great service to the community. Chairman Hughes indicated the HCCOA has also promised to pay for the storage facility over time. He stated that The Store gives the SWA 6.8% overall after the expenses were paid. Chairman Hughes indicated that Mr. Ives suggested that the 6.8% was used for an advertising match for The Store. Mr. Ives stated the Special Projects Committee did not formally adopt the Motion.

Mr. Johnson said it was his understanding that all deposits were handled by the SWA Finance department. He mentioned that The Store would make more money if the merchandise were not outside in the elements. Mr. Johnson commented that The Store received merchandise that would be otherwise landfilled. He stated the SWA was responsible for the storage facility at The Store and the Horry County Council on Aging has agreed to repay the SWA for the storage facility. Mr. Johnson commented if The Store closed he was sure landfill staff would be able to utilize the storage building.

Mr. Jones asked if the storage building was in the budget for FY2020. Chairman Hughes commented that it was. Mr. Jones asked if the Motion would be to remove it from the budget. He indicated that since the FY2020 budget has included the storage building then no approval was necessary. Chairman Hughes agreed and said the Special Projects Committee report was for informational purposes only and the full Board would vote on the FY2020 budget at the May Board meeting.

Mr. Ives suggested that the MOU stated that the SWA received 6.8% of total revenue from The Store. He proposed that the SWA use the revenue to promote and match The Store's advertising. Mr. Jones stated that the SWA was able to promote advertising for The Store at any time. Mr. Knight commented that the SWA has funding for signage in the existing budget. He indicated that any changes to the SWA FY2020 budget would have to go before Horry County Council. Mr. Knight stated the SWA could match any funding needed for the advertising at The Store.

Ms. Creech commented that the SWA pays The Store expenses and furnished material through the Recycling Centers. She said that everything was given to them.

**Ms. Creech made a Motion to remove the storage facility for The Store out of the FY2020 Budget. The Motion did not pass for lack of a second.**

Chairman Hughes thanked the Horry County Council on Aging for coming and he thanked the Special Projects Committee for giving an overview of information and services offered by the Horry County Council and Aging and The Store.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**There was no Old Business to come before the Board.**

#### **NEW BUSINESS.**

- a. **Roundtable Discussion** – Mr. Knight informed the group that on May 3, 2019 the North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce was hosting a breakfast which the SWA was sponsoring. He indicated that Mr. Hughes would open the meeting and Kendra Hooks and Victoria Johnson would give a presentation. Mr. Knight commented that a least 80 businesses would be in attendance.

Mr. Knight suggested that Mr. Campbell and Mr. Jones both attend since they both lived in the area. Mr. Schwartzkopf indicated he wanted to attend. Mr. Knight commented that the North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce was awarded and received a recycling grant from the SWA. Mr. Jones asked where would this event take place. Mr. Knight replied at the conference center at Barefoot Landing.

**Santee Cooper** – Chairman Hughes informed the Board that he had sent a response back to Santee Cooper informing them that at the SWA stood firm in their discussion not to take the soil from the ash ponds.

**Anniversary Letter** – Chairman Hughes sent a letter to Reverend James Cokley on his 25<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary

**Annual Review** – Chairman Hughes commented that the Annual Review for the Executive Director was due. He distributed the information and asked the group to please forward them to the appropriate person.

**Plastic Bag Bill** – Mr. Knight thanked Ms. Creech for representing the SWA in Columbia during the discussion on the plastic bag bill. He commented that any county that bans plastic bags the state might withhold their revenue sharing money. Chairman Hughes thanked Ms. Creech for attending the meeting. Ms. Creech asked staff to please give the packet information she distributed to the Senators to the full Board.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Mr. Ives moved, seconded by Mr. Schwartzkopf to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was carried** and the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

Minutes approved on May 28, 2019.

HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_ (L. S.)  
Michael H. Hughes, Chairman

ATTEST:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Michael Campbell, Secretary

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Pam J. Creech (L. S.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bo Ives (L. S.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Samuel T. Johnson, Jr. (L. S.)

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W. Norfleet Jones (L. S.)

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Carl H. Schwartzkopf (L. S.)