**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING**
**HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.**
**April 28, 2026**

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. held a Board Meeting on April 28, 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; Pam J. Creech, Vice Chairman; Amos C. Berry, Sr., Treasurer; and Board Members Bo Ives, Dr. Albert G. Hayward, and Wayne Fox.

Sgt. Eric Zink from the Horry County Police Department, Highway 90 Liaison Michael Hughes, Russ Moody and Elbert Moody from Capital Waste Services and Amelia Wood represented the public in attendance. Members of the media in attendance included Kara Riskus from WPDE News 15.

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 Trina Cooke, Chris Calhoun, Drake Morris, Katherine Bell, and Monica Collier.

## CALL TO ORDER

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

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Dr. Hayward moved to amend the Agenda by removing the April 16, 2026, Finance & Administration Committee Report. There was a second by Mr. Fox and the Motion was carried.**

**Dr. Hayward moved to approve the revised Agenda. There was a second by Ms. Creech 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 March 24, 2026, and the Budget Workshop held on March 26, 2026; however, there were none.

**Mr. Fox moved to approve the Minutes of the March 24, 2026, Regular Meeting and the Budget Workshop held on March 26, 2026. There was a second by Ms. Creech and the Motion was carried.**

**Mr. Fox moved to approve the Minutes of the April 28, 2026, Special Meeting. There was a second by Ms. Creech.** Mr. Ives provided a correction, stating that the intended wording to extend Mr. Knight's contract should state three years with no minimum. **There being no further discussion, the Motion was carried.**

## PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Kemp 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 36-42 in the Board Packet.

**UCS Training Meeting Update** – Mrs. Murphy provided an update on the Unincorporated Collection System Training Meetings. She said that two separate meetings were held, with the first taking place on April 7 and the second on April 8. She reported that 82 of the 88 site attendants were present. Mrs. Murphy stated that herself, staff members Cole Cox and Jamie Suggs, reviewed the operating manual that each site attendant received and confirmed that the manual was updated at every meeting.

Mrs. Murphy added that the Annual Training was also completed during these sessions. She stated that Captain Robert Bays with the Horry County Fire Department conducted the fire extinguisher training, and Ms. Katherine Bell covered annual bloodborne pathogen training, sexual harassment training, and accident reporting procedures.

Mrs. Murphy concluded by saying that the Socastee Recycling Center was named the Recycling Center of the Quarter and stated that staff was doing an excellent job.

**FY2027 SCDES Grant Update –** Mrs. Murphy provided an update on the FY2027 DES Grants, stating that staff submitted two grant applications for the upcoming fiscal year totaling $69,785. She explained that the applications were submitted under the Used Oil Grant and the Solid Waste Grant categories. She also stated that staff would be notified during the May – June time period regarding whether the grants were awarded and the amounts approved. Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that she would provide an update once that information becomes available.

**Earth Day 2026 –** Mrs. Murphy provided an update on Earth Day 2026, which was held on Wednesday April 22, 2026. She reported that staff participated in Coastal Carolina University's Earth Day Fair and Farmers Market. She stated that the event had a strong turnout, with many attendees stopping at the booth, where recycling information and prizes were distributed. Mrs. Murphy also shared that a $25 gift card was awarded to a CCU student, Ashley Simmer, and that her photo was posted on the SWA website and Facebook page.

Mr. Ives commented that he believed that the SWA was one of the best environmental organizations in the country. He expressed his appreciation for the work being done in the Environmental Education Department. Mrs. Murphy thanked him and said she would share his remarks with staff.

**Caught Green Handed Update –** Mrs. Murphy informed the Board the March "Caught Green Handed" recipient was Ms. Patricia Kiziu. She stated Ms. Kiziu was a recycler at the McDowell Shortcut Recycling Center and she was thankful to be recognized.

**SWANA Conference –** Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that information about the upcoming South Carolina SWANA Conference had been placed at each of their seats. She stated that the conference would be held May 13–15 and asked Board Members to let her know if they were interested in attending.

Mr. Ives asked about the registration deadline, and Mrs. Murphy responded that it would be around the second week of May.

Ms. Creech asked whether staff ever applied for federal grants in addition to state grants. Mrs. Murphy explained that staff had not applied for federal grants in the past few years, indicating that the last major environmentally focused grant they pursued was a SWIFR Grant, which was highly competitive.

Ms. Creech then asked whether staff had applied for the grants mentioned by the Carolina Recycling Association representative at the last conference. Mrs. Murphy said that staff had worked with that organization on at least two grant applications, including one through the Carton Council for milk carton recycling, but neither application was successful.

Mr. Knight said he recently learned that some national companies offer grant opportunities, and he added that staff would continue searching for additional grants.

**Finance and Administration Update** – Mrs. Bitting offered an update of the following items which were included as pages 43 – 59 in the Board Packet.

**Monthly Finance Reports** – Mrs. Bitting reported that the SWA should be at 75% of budget. She reported that tipping fees overall show a 21.81% increase compared to the same time last year. Mrs. Bitting said that Solid Waste revenue was at 74.70% of budget, Mixed Construction revenue was at 82.41% of budget and Yard Waste revenue was at 83.00% of budget.

Mrs. Bitting reported that recyclable sales were budgeted at 74.08%. She commended Mrs. Keith and the MRF staff for all they do to acquire the best possible prices for the material. She said the C&D Processing Facility saved 31 days of airspace. Mrs. Bitting reported that the Material Recycling Facility saved 66 days of airspace. Mrs. Bitting said that the MRF and Collection & Hauling Program continues to have revenue over expenses.

Mrs. Bitting reviewed the Income Statement and reported that the total revenue was at 73% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated that the Operating Expenses continued to remain well below at 65.19% of budget. She commended staff for keeping expenses down. Mrs. Bitting reported revenue over expenses of $544,638.24. She said the SWA's year-to-date revenue over expenses was $3,484,795.98.

Mrs. Bitting reported on The Store's performance, stating that revenue had reached $110,000, and she stated that the results were remarkable.

Mrs. Bitting gave an overview of the landfill tonnage and reported that Solid Waste increased by 2.03%, Yard Waste increased by 14.51%, and Mixed Construction increased by 16.51% compared to last year.

**Operations and Planning Update** – Mrs. Todd presented the following updates which were included on pages 60 – 79 in the Board Packet.

**Landfill Update** – Mrs. Todd reported that SCDES conducted the Title V Air Quality inspection on

Tuesday, March 31, 2026, and received a satisfactory rating from the inspection.

Mrs. Todd reported the landfill had its monthly inspection on Wednesday, April 1st. She stated that all evaluated areas had been inspected and found to be satisfactory.

**Household Hazardous Waste –** Mrs. Todd reported that the seventh HHW pack-and-ship with MXI resulted in the collection of 28,436 pounds of material. She stated that this brings the total collected to 194,580 pounds (97.28 tons) to date, and that the cost of disposal had totaled $73,702.72.

**Driver of the Month Update** – Mrs. Todd said the April Driver of the Month was Mr. Russell Carran who works for GFL.

**C&D Recycling Update –** Mrs. Todd reported that material processed at the C&D Recycling Facility in March 2026 decreased by 23.57% as compared to March 2025.

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**MRF Update** – Mrs. Todd reported a 1.56 % increase in the amount of recyclables received at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in March 2026 as compared to March 2025.

Mrs. Todd reported that the national average price for PET was $28.80 per ton, while the SWA price was $46.00 per ton. She indicated that some regional contracts remain in the negative, meaning facilities were still having to pay to move that material.

Mrs. Todd reported that the UBC national average was $1,793.80 per ton, with the SWA price at $2,320 per ton. She also reported that steel cans had a national average price of $181 per ton, compared to the SWA sale price of $267.80 per ton. Mrs. Todd further reported that the HDPE–C national average was $170 per ton, while the SWA sale price was $346.60 per ton.

Mrs. Todd commended staff for doing an excellent job ensuring materials were clean, and she recognized Mrs. Keith for securing bids and helping maintain strong pricing and reliable movement of recyclable materials.

Ms. Creech commended Mrs. Todd, stating that her staff's efforts in maintaining the cleanliness of the material were helpful in securing prices well above the national average.

**Executive Director Update** – Mr. Knight provided an update, which was included on page 80 of the Board Packet.

**Corps of Engineers Update** – Mr. Knight informed the Board that staff meet with the Corps of Engineers regarding the alternatives analysis. He explained that staff had a list, and they continued to add to it and provide additional justification for each item. He stated that this work would be completed this week. Mr. Marr noted that the date was Friday, May 1, 2026. Mr. Knight added that the Corps would also be reviewing the site for which the SWA was requesting assistance.

**HC Council Workshop Update** – Mr. Knight informed the Board that staff had been provided with information at the County Council Workshop. He also distributed the materials to the Board. Mr. Knight indicated that some of the information was difficult to explain. He stated that staff was working to gather additional details regarding the 60–90 Ordinance. Mr. Knight added that staff expected to have a clearer understanding of the steps they would take moving forward.

## 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

**Board Secretary –** Chairman Kemp informed the Board that, under the SWA Bylaws, the Board must select a secretary to replace former Board Member Jones. **Mr. Berry Moved to appoint Mr. Fox as Board Secretary. There was a second by Mr. Ives and the Motion passed.**

Mr. Ives stated that he would miss Mr. Jones. Mr. Ives indicated that Mr. Jones was a great leader with an outstanding record of service.

**Roundtable Discussion –** Mr. Knight informed the Board that staff was organizing the Gathering of Friends for June 4, 2026, and asked Members to let him know if there was anyone special they have been working with whom they would like to invite. He indicated that last year's event had a strong turnout and said he expected an even greater participation this year.

Chairman Kemp stated that there were actions the organization could take throughout the year to demonstrate appreciation for the support the SWA received.

## 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 April Board Meeting was adjourned at 3:20 P.M.

Minutes approved on May 26, 2026.

HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.

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

ATTEST

________________________________ (L. S.)
Wayne Fox, Secretary

____________________________________ (L. S.)
Amos C. Berry, Sr.

____________________________________ (L. S.)
Pam J. Creech

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

__________________________________ (L. S.)
Bo Ives

__________________________________ (L. S.)
Vacant