

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.
June 24, 2025**

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. held a Board Meeting on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, 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; W. Norfleet Jones, Secretary; Amos C. Berry, Sr., Treasurer; and Board Members Dr. Albert G. Hayward and Wayne Fox. Board Member Samuel T. Johnson, Jr. was not in attendance.

Corporal Eric Zink and Lieutenant Crystal Buckingham from the Horry County Police Department, Horry County Administrator Barry Spivey, Tom Roth and SWA Environmental Liaison Bo Ives, 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; Jan Bitting, Director; Stephanie Todd, Director, Richie Stetter, Director and staff members Chris Calhoun, Josh Nesbit, Drake Morris, Victoria Johnson, Jamie Suggs, Trina Cooke, Cindy Keith, Katherine Bell, and Monica Collier.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Hayward 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 Dr. Hayward and the Motion was carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Kemp asked for any questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting for the Board Meeting held on May 27, 2025; however, there were none.

Mr. Fox moved to approve the Minutes of the May 27, 2025, Regular Meeting. There was a second by Mr. Berry and the Motion was carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Kemp stated there was no Public Input.

Recycling and Corporate Affairs Update – In Mrs. Murphy's absence Mr. Ed Marr and Mrs. Victoria Johnson offered updates of various projects in the Recycling and Corporate Affairs Division that were included on pages 14–31.

SWA Recycling Grant Update – Mr. Marr provided an update on the SWA Recycling Grant. He stated that all grantees were required to submit bimonthly progress reports, with the final report due

by May 15th. He also reported that six recipients were approved to receive \$8,333 each in SWA grant funding. Mr. Marr said that one grantee requested and was granted an extension for submitting the final report, with the new deadline set for June 2025. Below is an update on the status of each grant.

Burgess Elementary – Mr. Marr reported that Burgess Elementary held a reveal event for a Book Vending Machine. However, the reimbursement request for the project has not yet been submitted.

City of Conway – Mr. Marr reported that the City of Conway ordered and received 200, 65-gallon roll carts. He said during the grant reporting period, the City of Conway recycled over 720 tons of material through its roll cart recycling program. He stated that the project incurred a total cost of \$13,206.00 and qualified for a reimbursement of \$8,333.

Coastal Carolina University – Mr. Marr reported that Coastal Carolina University had completed the purchase of a 6x12 dump trailer and tarp, which will be used to collect large volumes of recyclables. He stated that the project incurred a total cost of \$9,716.21 and qualified for a reimbursement of \$8,333.

Conway Architectural Salvage & Heritage Project – Mr. Marr reported that the Conway Architectural Salvage & Heritage Project completed structural repairs on the McIver-Shaw Lumber Company. He stated the goal of these improvements was to enhance the volume of materials being recycled at the facility. Mr. Marr stated that the project incurred a total cost of \$16,898.00, of which \$8,333.00 was reimbursed.

Spokes of Hope – Mr. Marr reported that Spokes of Hope was in the process of finalizing the purchase of a shrink wrap machine and a portable fryer. He noted that the reimbursement request for the project had not yet been received.

Town of Surfside – Mr. Marr reported that the Town of Surfside had ordered and received three dual recycling stations to place in public areas, including beach access points and parks. He stated that the project incurred a total cost of \$9,077.40 and qualified for a reimbursement of \$8,333.

Mr. Marr noted that staff was just \$2 short of reaching the \$50,000 spending threshold for FY2025.

Waste & Recycling Workers Week Update – Mr. Marr reported that the SWA recognized Waste & Recycling Workers Week in appreciation of the staff's efforts throughout the year. He said the official observance took place from June 16–24, with all staff members wearing commemorative t-shirts on Tuesday, June 17, to honor the occasion.

Mr. Marr reported that staff at the scales house distributed approximately 250 bottles of water and thank you cards to the haulers in recognition of Waste & Recycling Workers Week. He said thank you cards were created by students from five local elementary schools.

Mr. Marr acknowledged Ms. Monica Collier and Mr. Mark Kennedy as recipients of Walmart gift cards in appreciation of Waste & Recycling Workers Week.

Mr. Marr informed the Board that he sent a thank you note to Senator Hembree in appreciation of

his sponsorship of Senate Resolution 358, which supports the Solid Waste Recycling Workers Week. He also shared that a copy of the Board report was submitted to the National SWANA and the State Chapter to assist in their promotional materials and recognition efforts.

Ms. Creech expressed that she thought the gesture was very thoughtful.

Mr. Marr extended his thanks to Mrs. Murphy, Victoria Johnson and Kendra Dickerson for their support. He said that they did an excellent job and their efforts were greatly appreciated.

Mr. Jones shared that he was pleased to receive a thank you card from his great-granddaughter, which made the card meaningful for him.

Talkin' Trash 2024-2025 Update – Mrs. Johnson provided an update on the Talkin' Trash Finale. She stated the successful completion of its 24th year. She announced the grand finale winners: Riverside Elementary, Conway Elementary, and Palmetto Bays Elementary. Mrs. Johnson reported that Riverside Elementary won all six months of the competition. She stated that each school was awarded a field trip to 810 Bowling Alley, sponsored by WBTW. Mrs. Johnson added that the students received tie-dyed t-shirts and she shared that the children had a wonderful time celebrating their achievements.

Caught Green Handed Update – Mrs. Johnson informed the Board the May “Caught Green Handed” recipient was Mr. William Whaley. She stated Mr. Whaley was a recycler at the Carolina Forest Recycling Center and he was thankful to be recognized.

Mrs. Johnson shared with the Board that the recycling sorting video mentioned in the Annual Meeting Report had gone viral on Facebook, reaching approximately 544,000 people. She indicated that this figure exceeded the current estimated population of Horry County, which stands at about 413,000. Mrs. Johnson said when the report was initially prepared just a week prior, the video had already reached 451,000 views.

Chairman Kemp expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Johnson.

Finance and Administration Update – Mrs. Bitting offered an update of the following items which were included as pages 31 – 47 in the Board Packet.

Monthly Finance Reports – Mrs. Bitting reported that overall tipping fees had increased 10% over last year at the same time. Mrs. Bitting said that Solid Waste revenue was at 95.12% of budget, Mixed Construction revenue was at 96.62% of budget projection and Yard Waste revenue was at 103.04% of budget.

Mrs. Bitting said that Recyclable Sales were at 115.07% of budget. She Mrs. Bitting stated the C&D Processing Facility saved 36 days of airspace. Mrs. Bitting reported that the Material Recycling Facility saved 87 days of airspace.

Mrs. Bitting reviewed the Income Statement and reported revenues were at 93.04% of budget. She stated that expenses were at 81.45% of budget. Mrs. Bitting reported for the month, revenue over expenses was \$178,058.53. She said the SWA's year-to-date revenue over expenses was \$4,600,478.98.

Mrs. Bitting provided an update on SWA's interest income, commending Treasurer Angie Jones and her staff for a wonderful job with the investments. She informed the Board that interest income had become one of SWA's largest sources of revenue this year.

Mrs. Bitting gave an overview of the landfill tonnage and reported that Solid Waste was up by 1.49%, Yard Waste was 2.60%, and Mixed Construction was down by 5.54% as compared to the same time last year.

Chairman Kemp expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Bitting and her staff for their dedication and the outstanding work they perform.

Mr. Knight commended staff for doing an excellent job.

Operations and Planning Update – Mrs. Todd presented the following updates which were included on pages 48 – 69 in the Board Packet.

Landfill Update – Mrs. Todd reported the landfill had its monthly inspection on Tuesday, June 3rd. She stated that all evaluated areas had been inspected and found to be satisfactory.

HHW – Mrs. Todd reported that staff completed the 8th Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) pickup on May 21st. She stated that this brought the total amount of HHW collected and disposed of for the FY2025 to 233,104 pounds, with a total disposal cost of \$83,520.84

Driver of the Month Update – Mrs. Todd said the July Driver of the Month was Keith Park who works for UFP Transportation.

C&D Recycling Update – Mrs. Todd reported that material processed at the C&D Recycling Facility in May 2025 increased by 63.85% compared to May 2024.

Mrs. Todd commended the scaleshouse staff for their effective efforts in sending material to the C&D Recycling Facility.

MRF Update – Mrs. Todd reported a 2.65% decrease in the amount of recyclables received at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in May 2025 compared to May 2024.

Mrs. Todd provided a comparison of the fiber market, reporting a decrease in cardboard and mixed paper prices for the month of May 2025.

Miscellaneous – Mrs. Todd reported continued instability in the recycling market, contributing it to the effects of tariffs and reduced consumer spending. She indicated the lack of demand for items such as pizza boxes and bottled water was due to consumers not spending money.

Mrs. Todd reported that the national average for OCC was currently \$72 per ton, while staff was able to secure it for \$125 per ton. She added that the national average for mixed paper stands at \$39 per ton, but the last five loads sold by staff averaged \$82 per ton. Mrs. Todd also stated that staff continues to achieve above-average pricing for plastics and metals.

Mrs. Todd commended the staff at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) for their diligent efforts in maintaining high cleanliness standards.

Ms. Creech commended Mrs. Todd and her staff for their excellent work and ongoing dedication.

Executive Director Update – Mr. Knight offered an update which was included as page 70 in the Board Packet.

HCC Board Appointments – Mr. Knight informed the Board that Mr. Bo Ives had been reappointed to the SWA Board by County Council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominations Committee Meeting – Mr. Jones advised the Board that the Nominations Committee had met prior to the Board Meeting and said he would be presenting the results to the full Board. He reported that the Committee recommended the following slate of officers for FY2026: Mr. Bob Kemp as Chairman, Ms. Pam Creech as Vice Chairman, Mr. Norfleet Jones as Secretary, and Mr. Amos Berry as Treasurer.

Mr. Jones called for a motion; however, Chairman Kemp clarified that the motion would be made during the Annual Meeting, scheduled to take place following the conclusion of the Board Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Sale of Property Request – Chairman Kemp informed the Board that information regarding the value of the Rhonda Loop property was included in their agenda packet. He stated, that he was not in favor of selling the property.

Ms. Creech expressed that she was not in favor of selling the Rhonda Loop property at this time, due to its location and the likelihood of continued appreciation in value. She suggested that when the organization begins work on the other three projects and additional funding may be needed, and that may be a more appropriate time to consider selling.

Mr. Jones stated that the SWA should not consider selling any property unless there was an immediate need or a clearly defined purpose for the funds. He expressed that he was not in favor of selling the Rhonda Loop property at this time.

Mr. Knight stated that establishing a clear position on the Rhonda Loop property would help guide decisions regarding all SWA-owned properties. He stated that the SWA would not consider selling any property for less than the original purchase price. Mr. Knight said that the decision to sell the Rhonda Loop property ultimately rests with the Board.

Chairman Kemp inquired whether the matter should be brought forth in the form of a motion. Mr. Knight recommended that the Board proceed with a motion to deny the sale of the Rhonda Loop property.

Mr. Fox made a Motion for the SWA to retain ownership of the Rhonda Loop property and not pursue the sale. There was a second by Mr. Jones. The Motion passed.

Chairman Kemp asked if all members of the Board understood the motion. There was no response.

NEW BUSINESS

Horry County Easement Request – Chairman Kemp advised the Board that each Member had a copy of an updated easement at their place setting, granting access through SWA property, Horry County property, and the mitigation property. He stated that a paragraph highlighted on page three had been added to reserve the SWA's right to relocate the road, if necessary, at the SWA's expense. Chairman Kemp explained that a portion of the easement crosses the 100-Acre Site cell site. Chairman Kemp also shared that, according to an email from the engineers, there was currently no conflict and if future circumstances require relocation, the SWA would retain the ability to do so.

Mr. Knight informed the Board that there was a discussion about the easement document regarding potential commercial development on the County side. He expressed doubt that such development would occur and said if a portion of the property was sold or if the conservation easement was removed, the access easement being signed would be terminated. Mr. Knight said that a discussion had taken place regarding insurance and liability, clarifying that each party involved is required to maintain insurance coverage for the SWA property with policy limits of no less than \$1 Million.

Ms. Creech informed the Board that she had spoken with Mr. Knight about several issues, and he had addressed her questions to her satisfaction. She stated that, regarding any commercial lands, she assumed the SWA engineers are aware that relocating the road was unnecessary, as the SWA does not wish to incur the associated expense. Ms. Creech also expressed confidence that there would be no issues with selling the property. She stated that she was hopeful that the county would not utilize the easement for recreational purposes such as hunting, fishing, or four-wheeling, given that such activities are not permitted on the property itself. General discussion ensued.

Mr. Knight advised the Board that everyone should be aware of the challenges ahead. He explained that the three sites in question are located on SWA property within designated wetlands. He said that relocating the fence would be necessary, but at this time, he is unsure how many mitigation credits would be required. Mr. Knight expressed hope that the county would cooperate moving forward. Mr. Knight stated that he would greatly appreciate the Board's approval regarding the matter at hand.

Chairman Kemp made a Motion to approve the Mutual Access Agreement. There was a second by Mr. Berry and the Motion was carried.

Green Sea Property Depredation Permit Renewal Request – Mrs. Todd informed the Board that on May 15th, a representative from the Green Sea property contacted her to request permission from the SWA Board to renew the depredation permit they were issued last year through the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (DNR), due to ongoing issues with deer damaging their bean crops. Mrs. Todd clarified that the depredation permit was managed through DNR and was valid from the date of issuance until the start of antlerless deer season. The property owners are requesting authorization to proceed with renewing the permit through SCDNR.

Chairman Kemp made a Motion to approve the renewal of the Depredation Permit. There was a second by Ms. Creech and the Motion was carried.

Roundtable Discussion – Ms. Creech expressed her concerns regarding individuals discarding tires along the roadside.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Mr. Fox moved, seconded by Mr. Berry, to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was carried,** and the June Board Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

Minutes approved on July 22, 2025.

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

Albert G. Hayward, Dr.

Samuel T. Johnson, Jr.