

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.  
September 24, 2019**

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. held a Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 24, 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.

David Gilreath, Director of Horry County Infrastructure and Regulation and Representative Mike Ryhal were present. There were no members of the media in attendance.

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Hughes called the meeting to order and Mr. Bo Ives rendered the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ms. Creech 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. Jones and the Motion was carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Hughes asked for any questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the August Board Meeting held on August 20, 2019, as contained in the Agenda Packet.

**Mr. Campbell moved to approve the Minutes of the August 20, 2019 Board Meeting. There was a second by Mr. Ives and the Motion was carried.**

**PUBLIC INPUT**

There were no requests to present Public Input.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

**Recycling and Corporate Affairs Update** – Esther Murphy, Director of Recycling and Corporate Affairs offered an update of various projects in the Recycling and Corporate Affairs Division that were included as pages 11-19 in the Board Packet.

**Hurricane Dorian Update** – Mrs. Murphy informed the group that Hurricane Dorian made landfall on September 6, 2019 in North Carolina. She indicated that the days leading up to Hurricane Dorian making landfall the recycling centers were overrun with material. Mrs. Murphy commented that Horry County residents cleaned up everything around their property.

Mrs. Murphy thanked the SWA staff for working so diligently to provide disposal service for the residents of Horry County. She expressed her appreciation for not only UCS division but all SWA staff for going above and beyond during these times to ensure all SWA facilities were operating and servicing the residents of Horry County. Mrs. Murphy gave a special thanks to Mr. Truman Dewitt (HEO II), Mr. Warren Rowell (Maintenance Tech), Mr. Jeff Mishoe (Supervisor), and Mr. Jamie Suggs (Manager) for their tireless efforts during the past few weeks.

**Public Education/Information Update** – Mrs. Murphy presented an overview of the operations of the Public Education department. She commented that the two (2) Recycling Coordinators primary responsibility was to educate all citizens on all things regarding waste disposal, recycling and diversion. Mrs. Murphy explained that each month a summary of their monthly activities was included in the Board Packet.

Mrs. Murphy stated that Mr. Schwartzkopf mentioned on numerous occasions about the SWA having media coverage on local television stations. She advised the group that the SWA advertised on every major local television station, advertised specific recycling/waste reduction messages with local newspapers and produced and forwarded news releases to all media outlets.

Mrs. Murphy commented that at the direction of Mr. Knight the SWA has a new sponsorship with RiverTalk 2.0. She stated one component of the sponsorship is a video segment that highlighted recycling and waste reduction in Horry County. Mrs. Murphy indicated the segments would be airing on RiverTalk 2.0 and on the SWA Facebook page. Chairman Hughes asked if there would be interviews. Mrs. Murphy replied interviews were a possibility.

Mrs. Murphy showed several segments of recycling tips and information recorded by the Recycling Coordinators which would air on RiverTalk 2.0.

**Caught Green Handed Update** – Mrs. Murphy informed the group that the August “Caught Green Handed” winner was Ms. Cathy Foisy. Mrs. Murphy indicated that Ms. Foisy used the Landfill Center and that she was very mindful about trying to reduce the amount of waste being landfilled. Mrs. Murphy stated Ms. Foisy received a SWA prize pack and media recognition.

**Upcoming Events Update** – Mrs. Murphy informed the Board of the following upcoming events:

- **United Way** – Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that at their place setting she left a United Way pledge card along with United Way information. She commented that any member who desired to give to please see her with the completed pledge card. Mrs. Murphy stated that the SWA did not meet their intended pledge goal of \$4,000. She commented that the organization was going to have three (3) fundraisers: 50/50 raffle, hot dog lunch and the Pie in the Eye lunch, which included 11 management employees getting whip cream pies thrown in their face for a good cause.
- **November 1, 2019 – SWA 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Employee Dinner** – Mrs. Murphy said the SWA Annual Employee Dinner would be held at 7:00 P.M. on Friday, November 1, 2019, at Cherry Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Conway, SC.

## **Financial Reports**

Mrs. Bitting offered an update of the following which was included as pages 20-34 in the Board Packet.

**Flu Shots** – Mrs. Bitting mentioned that Mrs. Powell wanted to remind the Board Members that flu shots would be given on October 9, 2019 between 8:00 A.M. and 9:00 A.M. here at the Administrative Building for all members who wished to receive them.

**Monthly Finance Reports** – Mrs. Bitting stated for the period ending August 31, 2019, overall revenue was at 16.66% of budget. She indicated MSW revenue was at 21.92% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated Construction and Demolition revenue was at 17.01% of budget and Yard Waste revenue was at 14.41% of budget. She stated the sale of recyclables revenue was at 13.70% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated the Construction and Demolition Processing Facility revenue for August was \$67,507.27 and expenses were \$102,818.31 with airspace saved equating to 10.65 days. Mrs. Bitting commented the MRF revenue year-to-date was \$356,250.91 and the expenses year-to-date were \$529,691.87 with a savings of 17.01 days of airspace. She indicated net income for August was \$242,453.71 and year-to-date was \$888,143.72.

Mr. Ives commented that the Horry County Treasurer was doing a great job with the SWA's investments and on interest earned. Mrs. Bitting stated she hoped to have the treasurer come and give an update on the SWA's investments at the beginning of the year.

Mrs. Bitting stated that the SWA had completed the draft audit would be ready in October. She indicated that staff would contact the Finance and Administration Committee to schedule a meeting to receive the draft audit.

Ms. Creech asked Mrs. Bitting why were commodity prices decreasing. Mrs. Bitting replied that pricing overall was down as compared to last year. She explained that this fiscal year material was being stockpiled because the MRF facility could not find a buyer.

## **Operations Update**

Mr. Bessant presented the following update which was included as pages 35-52 of the Board Packet.

**Landfill Update** – Mr. Bessant stated the landfill had two (2) inspections this month. He informed the group that a piece of equipment caught fire on the landfill. Mr. Ives asked what was the cost to repair the equipment. Mr. Bessant replied that the cost would be between \$20,000 to \$30,000. Chairman Hughes asked who would be responsible for the repairs the SWA or Caterpillar. Mr. Bessant replied that the insurance would cover most of the cost. He informed the group that the landfill had to rent a bulldozer at a cost of \$12,000 per month.

Mr. Jones asked about the anticipated time for repairs. Mr. Bessant replied about 30-days. He stated the equipment had been stripped and the problem was identified. Ms. Creech asked how could this have happened. Mr. Bessant speculated it could have been an electrical problem or a spark from the engine might have ignited compost under the equipment.

**Solid Waste Advisory Council** – Mr. Bessant informed the group that he attended the State Solid Waste Advisory Council meeting. He participated in a question and answer session about the decline of commodity pricing. Mr. Bessant commented the Solid Waste Advisory Council awarded recycling grants throughout the state.

**Construction and Demolition Facility Update** – Mr. Bessant indicated that the Construction and Demolition Facility processed 77% of material through the facility.

**Scalehouse Upgrades Update** – Mr. Bessant stated the scalehouse upgrade should be completed by October 14, 2019. He commented that the scalehouse had been elevated eight (8) inches and has a new roof and vinyl siding.

**MRF Storage Facility Update** – Mr. Bessant presented a drone video of the MRF storage facility. He commented that the MRF storage facility was complete and ready to process electronics for shipment. Mr. Bessant indicated that various materials will be stored in the facility until the commodities prices increase.

**MRF Update** – Mr. Bessant informed the group that staff has met with MachineX on the MRF upgrade. He commented that the upgrade would start on January 9, 2020. Mr. Bessant said the upgrade would be completed by February 9, 2020. He commented that staff discussed the storage of incoming materials which will be baled, and some will be processed at the construction and demolition facility. Mr. Bessant stated that two shifts will be operating during this time. He commented there had been a slight increase in newspaper and office paper. Mr. Bessant indicated that commodity prices overall were still decreasing.

General discussion ensued about how to make retailers responsible for the disposal of the merchandise sold here in Horry County, and how the legislature could enact some constraints to help with the cost of disposing the material. Questions were raised concerning the Annual Report for Horry County with regards to the tourism population along the Grand Strand during the summer months. Mr. Knight stated the Annual Report only considers the permanent population of Horry County. Concerns were voiced about the state only requiring municipalities and governmental agencies to report their recycling efforts and not businesses.

**Driver of the Month Update** – Mr. Bessant stated the August Driver of the Month was Mr. Preston Neathery from Trebor Industries. Mr. Bessant commented Mr. Neathery has been driving for two years. He commented that Mr. Neathery worked well with staff.

Mr. Johnson thanked Mr. Bessant for a tour of the MRF facility.

### **Executive Director Update**

Mr. Knight offered an update of the following which was included as pages 53-79 in the Board Packet.

**2019 SWANA Quad State Conference** – Mr. Knight indicated that the 2019 SWANA Quad State Conference was held in Asheville, NC. He commented that a lot of good information was given. Mr. Knight stated this year's conference focus was on employee productivity and workplace accidents. He commented that he toured a MRF facility in Asheville.

**NMB Republican Party Meeting** – Mr. Knight informed the Board that he, Kendra Hooks, Victoria Johnson and Board Members Mike Campbell and Norfleet Jones attended the NMB Republican Party meeting. He commented about 20 people were in attendance including NMB City Councilman Bob Cavanaugh. Mr. Knight invited Mr. Cavanaugh to come and tour the landfill.

**Hurricane Dorian – Inclement Weather Policy** – Regarding Hurricane Dorian, Mr. Knight indicated that all SWA facilities were closed on Thursday and reopened on Friday on a delayed schedule. He commented the landfill opened about 10:00 A.M. and stayed open later to accommodate the public. Mr. Knight stated that only essential staff worked on Friday after the Hurricane Dorian.

**Disposal Fee Participation Policy** – Mr. Knight commented on the request for fees waived from Spokes of Hope. He indicated that the restoration group was helping an elderly woman in Little River who had damage to her home. Mr. Knight stated under the Disposal Fee Participation Policy the SWA would waive the fees for this organization.

**Green Tie Luncheon** – Mr. Knight commented that the Green Tie Luncheon was held in Columbia on September 18, 2019. He indicated that he and Board Members Campbell, Creech, Ives and Schwartzkopf were in attendance. Mr. Knight asked the Board Members if they wanted to comment. Ms. Creech said she spoke with Senator Sabb from Williamsburg County about the Plastic Bag Bill and said he was very supported. Mr. Jones asked if the senator was willing to visit SWA facilities and asked if the group had extended an invitation. Chairman Hughes commented that you can extend an invitation but will they come. Mr. Campbell commented that he invited Governor McMaster to come and visit SWA facilities but did not get a response.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Recycling & Corporate Affairs Committee Update** – Committee Chairman Carl Schwartzkopf stated the Recycling & Corporate Affairs Committee met on September 17, 2018 at 10:00 A.M. He indicated Committee Members Pam Creech and Bo Ives were present. He said discussion was held on the following items:

**SWA Recycling Grant Application Consideration** – Mr. Schwartzkopf stated the Committee discussed the approval for grant applications for the City of North Myrtle Beach, Curbside Compost and Recycling and Smart Recycling.

**Mr. Campbell moved to accept the Recycling & Corporate Affairs Committee recommendation to award the SWA Recycling Grants to the City of North Myrtle Beach, Curbside Compost & Recycling and Smart Recycling in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 each. There was a second by Mr. Schwartzkopf and the Motion was carried.**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Roundtable Discussion** – Mr. Ives thanked Mr. David Gilreath for attending the Board Meeting. He acknowledged Representative Mike Ryhal for attending.

Chairman Hughes asked who would be attending the SWANA Conference in Phoenix, Az. Mr. Knight answered that he would have that information soon. Mr. Schwartzkopf asked who would the Board contact to invite the Quad State Conference to Horry County. Mr. Knight commented the same group that hosted SWANA at Pawleys Island.

### **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 7:10 P.M.

Minutes approved on October 22, 2019.

HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.

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

ATTEST:

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J. Michael Campbell, Secretary

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Pam J. Creech

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Bo Ives

\_\_\_\_\_  
Samuel T. Johnson, Jr.

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W. Norfleet Jones

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Carl H. Schwartzkopf