

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.
October 22, 2024**

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. held a Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 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; Amos C. Berry, Treasurer; W. Norfleet Jones, Secretary. Vice Chairman, Pam J. Creech, attended the meeting via conference call. Board Members Wayne Fox and Samuel T. Johnson Jr., were not in attendance.

Horry County Administrator, Steve Gosnell; Horry County Assistant Administrator, Barry Spivey; Lieutenant Kevin Cast from Horry County Police Department, Michael Hughes and 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; Esther Murphy, Director; Jan Bitting, Director; Stephanie Todd, Director and staff members Rodney Cannon, Chris Calhoun, Ron Rizzo, Drake Morris, Toni Leggett, Jamie Suggs, Cole Cox, Trina Cooke, Cindy Keith, Katherine Bell and Monica Collier.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. 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 September 24, 2024; however, there were none.

Mr. Berry moved to approve the Minutes of the September 24, 2024, Regular Meeting. There was a second by Mr. Jones and the Motion was carried.

Chairman Kemp asked for any questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the Board Workshop held on October 10, 2024, as contained in the Agenda Packet; however, there were none.

Mr. Berry moved to approve the Minutes of the October 10, 2024; Board Workshop as presented. There was a second by Mr. Jones and the Motion was carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Kemp stated there was no Public Input.

Recycling and Corporate Affairs Update – Mrs. Murphy offered an update of various projects in the Recycling and Corporate Affairs Division that were included on pages 36–44.

UCS Training Meeting Update – Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that on October 8 and 9, 2024, 82 of 86 UCS staff members attended the training meetings that were held at the SWA Administrative Office. She reported that there was a 95% attendance rate. Mrs. Murphy stated that she, along with Jamie Suggs and Cole Cox, reviewed the operations handbook with site attendants. Mrs. Murphy stated that Corporal Eric Zink and Officer Andrew McSpadden from the Horry County Police Department were also in attendance to update the site attendants on their work at the centers. Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that the UCS Employee Recognition Events were held as a part of the meetings. She stated that service awards and annual bonuses were given to those in attendance. Mrs. Murphy thanked Chairman Kemp for attending and participating in each of the meetings, as well as assisting with distributing of service awards

Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that Mrs. Toni Leggett was honored and recognized as the UCS Employee of the Year for 2024. Mrs. Murphy stated that Mrs. Leggett had been with the SWA since 2018 and was the full-time site attendant at Dogbluff Recycling Center, and having previously worked at Socastee Recycling Center. Mrs. Murphy thanked Mrs. Leggett for her hard work and dedication.

Mrs. Murphy invited Mrs. Todd to come forward for additional presentations.

Mrs. Todd expressed her eagerness in presenting the non-exempt Employee of the Year Award to Mr. Ron Rizzo. Mrs. Todd reported that Mr. Rizzo had been with the SWA for seven years, working in the Collection & Hauling Department.

Mrs. Todd said that she was pleased to present the Exempt Employee of the Year Award to Mr. Drake Morris, who has worked for the SWA for four years working in the Environmental Service Department. All three Employee of the Year recipients were honored with a plaque.

Employee Recognition Drive Through Event – Mrs. Murphy provided an update on the SWA Employee Recognition Event that was held on October 9th, 2024. She reported that an Employee Drive Through Event was held for the SWA staff. Mrs. Murphy stated that these events were held in lieu of the Annual Employee Dinner. Mrs. Murphy thanked Chairman Kemp and Mr. Jones for attending the Drive Through event. She stated that each employee was presented with their annual bonus and \$100 in lieu of food/refreshments/door prizes that they would typically receive at the dinner. Mrs. Murphy further stated that those who attended the event were entered into a Grand Prize drawing for a 65” Smart TV. Mrs. Murphy reported that Mr. Stephen Cerretta was the UCS employee winner and Mr. Johnston Long was the SWA winner.

Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that several staff members received service awards. She stated that Truman Dewitt earned a twenty-year service award, Victoria Johnson received a ten-year service award, and several others won had five-year service awards, including John Kilmer, Willie Johnson, Allycia Richardson, Toni Leggett, Thomas Bain, Trina Cooke, and Dustin Rabon. Mrs. Murphy said that she had the pleasure of presenting Executive Director Danny Knight with a 15-year service award.

Mrs. Murphy thanked the Board for recognizing employees through annual bonuses and service awards in addition to other incentives.

Caught Green Handed Update – Mrs. Murphy informed the Board the September “Caught Green Handed” recipient was Ms. Mary Bishop. She stated Ms. Bishop was a recycler at Kates Bay Recycling Center and she was thankful to be recognized.

Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that the Homewood Recycling Center would be closed on October 30-31 due to the removal of the fence for the Hwy 701 widening project.

Mrs. Murphy advised Board Members that at their place settings was a United Way pledge card, and if they would like donate, please feel free to do so.

Finance and Administration Update – Mrs. Bitting offered an update of the following items which were included as pages 45 – 61 in the Board Packet.

Monthly Finance Reports – Mrs. Bitting reported that overall tipping fees had increased 14.77% over last year at the same time. Mrs. Bitting said that Solid Waste revenue was at 30.28% of budget, Mixed Construction revenue was at 25.68% of budget projection and Yard Waste revenue was at 27.63% of budget.

Mrs. Bitting said that Recyclable Sales were at 36.88% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated the C&D Processing Facility saved 9 days of airspace and Material Recycling Facility saved 26 days of airspace. Mrs. Bitting reported for the month, revenue over expenses was \$463,803.59. She said the SWA’s year-to-date revenue over expenses was \$2,468,260.55. She reported revenues were at 26.88% of budget.

Mrs. Bitting provided an overview of the interest revenue, reporting that the SWA was at 69% of budget. She complimented staff at the Horry County Treasurer’s Office for doing an excellent job with the SWA investments.

Mrs. Bitting gave an overview of the landfill tonnage and reported that Solid Waste was up by 3.01%, Yard Waste was up by 7.26%, and Mixed Construction was 2.31% more than the same time last year. Mrs. Bitting reported a 2% increase in overall tonnages over last year. Mrs. Bitting commended staff for a job well done.

Operations and Planning Update – Mrs. Todd presented the following updates which were included on pages 62 – 83 in the Board Packet.

Landfill Update – Mrs. Todd reported the landfill had its monthly inspection on Tuesday, October 8th. She stated that all evaluated areas had been inspected and found to be satisfactory.

Driver of the Month Update – Mrs. Todd said the October Driver of the Month was Dewayne Hellem who works for the Horry County Solid Waste Authority.

C&D Recycling Update – Mrs. Todd stated that the amount of material processed at the C&D Recycling Facility in September 2024 had decreased by 45.22% as compared to September 2023.

MRF Update – Mrs. Todd reported that September 2024 saw a 3.39% decrease in the number of recyclables received at the MRF as compared to September 2023.

Mrs. Todd provided a comparison of the fiber market and stated that prices have increased on the commodities. Mrs. Todd informed the Board that the national average for corrugated containers was \$86 per ton, but the SWA price was \$125.02. She stated that the average for mixed paper was \$55 per ton, with the SWA receiving \$85.00. Mrs. Todd stated that bales of steel cans average \$160 per ton, and staff sold it for \$225 per ton.

Chairman Kemp informed Mrs. Todd that the Board appreciated her work and what it takes to accomplish the job, and that he values her and her staff.

Executive Director /Assistant Executive Director – Mr. Knight provided an update on various projects.

Miscellaneous – Mr. Knight asked the Board to keep the Florida & North Carolina hurricane victims in their thoughts and prayers. He complimented a staff member for delivering a pallet of materials to the victims, who had sustained enormous losses.

Waste Tire Update – Mr. Marr provided an update on the proposed Waste Tire Legislation and the activities of the committee. Mr. Marr updated the Board on the Waste Tire Consortium group which consisted of state and local representatives, and tire manufactures. He also stated that they have created a smaller group which would primarily focus on developing a new legislation. Mr. Marr stated that the purpose of this group was to get legislation ready for pre-file by December 2. Mr. Marr informed the Board that the \$2 per tire fee would increase to \$4 and that the cap on the current \$150 disposal fee per ton would be removed. Mr. Marr said that the committee also considered another alternative, which was to include new car sales and the revenue it could provide.

Chairman Kemp asked Mr. Marr whether the committee was aware of the Horry County delegation's position. Mr. Marr stated that they had not reached the stage where it would be voted on to pass it out of the committee. He stated that they would soon start those discussions as part of the pre-file process.

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

Proposed SWA Position Letter to Horry County – Chairman Kemp asked Board Members if they had any questions about the proposed SWA letter to Horry County that was in the agenda package. There were no comments.

Mr. Jones made a Motion to send the Proposed SWA Position Letter from Henrietta U. Golding to Horry County Attorney David P. Jordan. There was a second by Mr. Berry and the Motion was unanimously carried.

Roundtable Discussion – Chairman Kemp stated that last month, staff hosted a Board Workshop. He said that Mr. Fortner of Garrett & Moore provided information regarding the options available for future management of Class 2 Waste which identified critical issues that needed to be addressed. Chairman Kemp stated that at the workshop, it was agreed that staff would organize another workshop to further

explore other options regarding the SWA landfill. Chairman Kemp stated that staff had requested that the Board provide information of any concerns or problems that they would like to explore as part of the process.

Chairman Kemp informed the Board that Ms. Creech had prepared a list of concerns that she would like addressed. Ms. Creech requested that Chairman Kemp read over the list. Each Board Member was given a copy of the handout. Mr. Knight advised that only the second page of the handout be read out loud. Chairman Kemp informed Ms. Creech that staff would review the recycling and transfer station concerns. Chairman Kemp distributed copies of the handout that he prepared to each Board Member citing his concerns about a transfer station.

Chairman Kemp inquired whether staff could provide details of the breakdown of the Class 2 Waste coming from major suppliers, municipalities, recycling centers, and private haulers. Chairman Kemp said that at the Board Workshop, Mr. Marr offered some generalities and asked if it could be quantified. Mr. Knight informed the Board that the information had already been provided.

Chairman Kemp indicated that Mr. Moore posed a valid statement regarding how much time was needed in regards to future management of Class 2 Waste. Chairman Kemp inquired as to if the SWA was interested in prolonging the landfill's life by five years, ten years, or twenty years. Mr. Jones stated that he does not believe the SWA, would have enough information to choose a number. Discussion continued of how long would it take to extend the life of the landfill.

Chairman Kemp inquired about the 1187 property, and whether there was any section that could be used. Mr. Jones asked whether staff and SWA engineers to obtain the correct information. Chairman Kemp asked if there was any neighboring land that the SWA could purchase. Mr. Knight advised the Board that he was not aware of any neighboring land unless the County provided some input.

Mr. Berry inquired as to whether DNR land held any value. Mr. Knight stated that there was a restriction on the property. Mr. Berry asked if staff could find out additional information, and he urged that the Board hold another workshop to discuss a solution because time was of the essence.

Chairman Kemp advised the Board that part of the solution should be recycling, and that staff should develop new ways to promote recycling so that the numbers may increase.

Chairman Kemp asked Mr. Knight whether he had enough information to have another workshop. Mr. Knight replied probably not; however, staff would collect information on finding property to extend the life of the landfill. General discussion ensued.

Chairman Kemp asked Mr. Knight how long would it take for him to update the Board regarding property location. Mr. Knight stated that it would most likely take a month, maybe early December. He said that once staff had the information to schedule a meeting, he would notify them. Chairman Kemp stated that he would appoint a committee and inform Board Members of who would serve on the committee.

Chairman Kemp asked if anyone had any questions or concerns. Ms. Creech asked whether the SWA was required to follow State DES regulations on buffers or if it was County Council, and if staff could go to the Zoning Board of Appeals to review the buffers. Mr. Knight informed Ms. Creech DES handled buffer restrictions. General discussion followed.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Mr. Berry moved, seconded by Mr. Jones, to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was carried,** and the October Board Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Minutes approved on November 12, 2024.

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

Samuel T. Johnson, Jr.

Wayne Fox

Vacant