

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.
December 5, 2024**

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. held a Board Meeting on Thursday, December 5, 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; Pam J. Creech, Vice Chairman; W. Norfleet Jones, Secretary and Board Member Dr. Albert G. Hayward. Board Member Samuel T. Johnson, Jr. attended the meeting via conference call. Amos C. Berry, Treasurer and Board Member Wayne Fox were not in attendance due to an illness.

Horry County Administrator, Steve Gosnell; Horry County Assistant Administrator, Barry Spivey; Corporal Eric Zink from Horry County Police Department, Michael Hughes and Grace Gifford represented the public in attendance. There were no members of the media present.

The following individuals were also in attendance: Danny Knight, Executive Director; Esther Murphy, Director; Jan Bitting, Director; Stephanie Todd, Director and staff members Chris Calhoun, Drake Morris, Trina Cooke, Cindy Keith, Katherine Bell and Monica Collier.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kemp called the meeting to order and Mr. Jones rendered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Kemp led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Jones moved to approve the Agenda as presented. There was a second by Ms. Creech. Mr. Johnson said that he wanted to protest the approval of the minutes of the November Meeting due to everything he said at the last meeting not being included in the November minutes. The Motion was carried with Mr. Johnson voting in opposition.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Kemp asked for any questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 12, 2024. Mr. Johnson said that he made a mistake earlier and would now like to protest the approval of the minutes of the November Meeting due to everything he said not being included in the November minutes. **Mr. Jones moved to approve the Minutes of the November 12, 2024, Regular Meeting. There was a second by Ms. Creech and the Motion was carried with Mr. Johnson voting in opposition.**

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Gifford thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. She thanked staff for continuing and expanding the food waste program. Ms. Gifford informed the Board that she went to the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services website, formally DHEC, and noted that they listed the Grainger Plant as a location to drop off used motor oil, but when she arrived, there were signs stating that you are not allowed to enter unless you have permission from Santee Cooper. Ms. Gifford stated that after

reporting that there was no location to drop of used motor oil, she received two emails from the state regarding her concerns. She said she was pleased to share the emails with staff.

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 13–16.

Grinding of the Greens Update – Mrs. Murphy reported that the Annual Grinding of the Greens program was available to all residents commencing December 26. She indicated that municipalities would pick up trees at the curb for their residents, while residents living in unincorporated Horry County would utilize the recycling centers. Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that the tree collecting period would run until January 29th. Mrs. Murphy advised the Board that the Grinding of the Greens television advertisement had been updated, and shared it with the Board. She indicated that the new PSA would run from roughly December 16th until January 2025. Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that the SWA would not be charged to run the commercials on various television channels, and that print ads would be published in several local newspapers. Mrs. Murphy stated that the overall quantity of trees had decreased as many individuals purchased artificial trees that could be reused. She expressed optimism that the SWA would have another great year of Grinding of the Greens.

Holiday Schedule – Mrs. Murphy reviewed the holiday schedule and advised the Board that all facilities would be closed on Christmas Day and New Year’s Day. She stated that the complete holiday schedule was in the Board Packet and on the SWA website.

Caught Green Handed Update – Mrs. Murphy informed the Board the November “Caught Green Handed” recipients were Betsey and John Dubois. She stated the Dubois’ were recyclers at the Brooksville Recycling Center and they were thankful to be recognized.

Mrs. Murphy wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. She also wished Mr. Steve Gosnell a happy retirement, and stated that this would be his last official meeting with the SWA as Horry County Administrator.

Finance and Administration Update – Mrs. Bitting commented that due to the early Board Meeting no financial reports would be presented at this time. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Operations and Planning Update – Mrs. Todd provided the following update on page 21.

Driver of the Month Update – Mrs. Todd said the December Driver of the Month was Billy Creveling who works for Coastal Carolina University.

Chairman Kemp thanked Mrs. Todd for recognizing Coastal Carolina, and said he appreciated what the University does in terms of recycling and the help that the SWA receives from them.

Executive Director /Assistant Executive Director – Mr. Knight provided an update on the UCS Recycling Centers Hours of Operation.

UCS Recycling Centers Hours of Operation Update – Mr. Knight said at the previous meeting, there was a discussion concerning convenience centers hours of operation. He stated staff met with Horry County's David Gilreath about the prospect of early closure and closing the centers on Sunday.

Mr. Knight stated that several neighboring counties are closing as early as 4:30 p.m. Mr. Knight

advised the Board that the recommendation regarding convenience centers hours of operation would need to go to the I&R Committee for approval. Mr. Knight advised the Board that he would provide an update once he had more information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There was no Committee Meetings during the month.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to come before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Proposed Transfer of Designated Funds – Mrs. Bitting reported that staff reviewed the Unrestricted Fund Transfer Policy and said the funds at the end of every quarter maintained 15% of estimated annual revenues. She stated if the balance falls below the 15% a plan to resolve this shortage must be presented to the Board of Directors. Mrs. Bitting said at the end of the quarter ending June 30, 2024 there was a surplus of \$2,151,082. She stated that the SWA was in compliance with policy regarding our Unrestricted Fund Transfer Policy, and staff was requesting that the Board approve the transfer of \$1,000,000 to the Landfill Construction Designated account for Piggyback Expansion; \$750,000 to the Equipment Replacement Designated account; and \$401,082 to the General Construction and Development Designated account.

Ms. Creech motioned to postpone voting on the Designated Transfer Fund until after December 10, 2024, and she recommended that the Finance & Administrative Committee meet at a later date to discuss the transfer. There was a second by Mr. Jones and the Motion was passed.

b. FY2024 Financial Assurance – Mrs. Bitting provided an update on the FY2024 Financial Assurance. She stated that the SCDHEC Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 requires all permitted landfills, transfer stations, incinerators, composting facilities, and tire processors to have a financial assurance mechanism in place to ensure that funds are available for facility clean-up at the time of closure to cover any post-closure care that may be required. Mrs. Bitting informed the Board that the material was included in the Board Packet. She said that the auditor reviewed the figures to ensure accuracy and that all conditions for meeting the local government financial test were satisfied.

Mr. Jones made a motion to approve sending the FY2024 Financial Assurance to SCDES. Ms. Creech seconded the Motion. The motion was carried.

c. Roundtable Discussion – Mr. Jones warmly welcomed Dr. Hayward back to the SWA Board of Directors. Dr. Hayward expressed gratitude to the Board for the opportunity.

Chairman Kemp distributed the new Board Committee list and expressed appreciation to those who were appointed. He asked that if anyone had any questions, to please let him know.

Chairman Kemp thanked Horry County Administrator, Steve Gosnell for his service to the SWA and wished him well in his retirement.

Chairman Kemp thanked Mr. Knight and the SWA and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Ms. Creech moved, seconded by Mr. Jones, to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was carried,** and the December Board Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Minutes approved on January 28, 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.