

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.
January 28, 2020**

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. held a Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 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; Pam J. Creech, Treasurer; and Board Members Samuel T. Johnson, Jr., W. Norfleet Jones and Carl H. Schwartzkopf. Board Member J. Michael Campbell was not in attendance.

Steve Gosnell, Horry County Administrator, Renee Hobart, Sadie Phillips and Rita Writesel represented the public in attendance. 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 to include Wayne Martin, Cecil Terry, and Susie Wofford.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Johnson 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 Ms. Creech and the Motion was carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Hughes asked for any questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the December Board Meeting held on December 12, 2019, as contained in the Agenda Packet.

Mr. Jones moved to approve the Minutes of the December 12, 2019 Board Meeting as presented. There was a second by Mr. Schwartzkopf and the Motion was carried.

Chairman Hughes asked for any questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the Pre-Budget Workshop held on December 17, 2019, as contained in the Agenda Packet.

Mr. Jones moved to approve the Minutes of the Pre-Budget Workshop on December 17, 2019 as presented. There was a second by Mr. Schwartzkopf and the Motion was carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Renee Hobart stated she was a resident of Horry County and lived behind the North Myrtle Beach Recycling Center. She said she wanted to find out if the rumors were true about relocating the North

Myrtle Beach Recycling Center to a larger facility. Ms. Hobart indicated with the amount of growth in the area the center has outgrown its present location. Ms. Hobart commented that in the early morning hours she could hear trucks coming in and out of the center before it opens. She complained about the trucks having to use their backup signals and how loud they were. Ms. Hobart asked the Board about building a barrier or buffer between the two properties.

Chairman Hughes commented that staff had contacted the hauler about the trucks entering the center before 7:00am. He indicated the backup signals were a precaution for safety reasons. Mr. Knight commented that staff was gathering information about the Recycling Center for Horry County for the new proposed impact fees. He stated the North Myrtle Beach Recycling Center did not have room for growth. Mr. Knight said he would recommend to the County that the site be moved to a larger facility. Chairman Hughes commented that Ms. Hobart needed to address her concerns about the recycling centers to Horry County Council.

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 17-22 in the Board Packet.

Mrs. Murphy thanked the Board and her SWA family for the cards, phone calls, prayers and well wishes during her recovery.

Statement of Economic Interest Update – Mrs. Murphy reminded the Board of the Statement of Economic Interest which was due by March 30, 2020. She stated if any member needed assistance to please contact Ms. Powell.

UCS Quarterly Meetings Update – Mrs. Murphy stated that on January 21-22, 2020, 63 UCS staff members attended the quarterly meeting held at the SWA Administrative Office. She indicated that staff discussed and reviewed various items to include the UCS Convenience Center Operating Manual, compactor procedures and the use of personal protective equipment. Mrs. Murphy informed the group that a copy of the agenda was included in the Board Packet.

Caught Green Handed Update – Mrs. Murphy informed the group that the December “Caught Green Handed” winner was Mr. Anthony Rosaves. She indicated that Mr. Rosaves used the North Myrtle Beach Recycling Center. Mrs. Murphy stated Mr. Rosaves received a SWA prize pack and media recognition. She commented that Mr. Rosaves spoke so passionately about recycling and that everyone should recycle.

Mr. Schwartzkopf asked Mrs. Murphy about the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce presentation. Mrs. Murphy commented that this meeting was organized by a business in Myrtle Beach who wanted to inform other area businesses about the recycling programs.

Mr. Ives commented about the letter from Jeremy Monday the Interim Director of Sustain Coastal and Custodial Services that was included in the Board Packet. He said Mr. Monday thanked Mrs. Kendra Hooks for the tour of SWA facilities. Mrs. Murphy commented that both Mrs. Kendra Hooks and Mrs. Victoria Johnson were passionate about recycling. She indicated that both loved what they do and have a positive attitude at all times.

Finance and Administration Update

Mrs. Bitting offered an update of the following which was included as pages 23-37 in the Board Packet.

Monthly Finance Reports – Mrs. Bitting stated for the period ending December 31, 2019, overall should be at 50% of budget. She indicated MSW revenue was at 53.44% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated Construction and Demolition revenue was at 51.73% of budget and Yard Waste revenue was at 47.83% of budget. She stated the sale of recyclables revenue was at 37.26% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated the Construction and Demolition Processing Facility revenue for December was \$194,391.56 and expenses were \$347,803.89 with airspace saved equating to 29.82 days. Mrs. Bitting commented the MRF revenue year-to-date was \$1,160,837.74 and the expenses year-to-date were \$1,891,831.25 with a savings of 49.91 days of airspace. She indicated net income for December was \$255,731.194 and year-to-date was \$1,641,622.53.

Mr. Ives asked Mrs. Bitting about the Construction and Demolition Facility and why it had a 16% decrease from last year. Mrs. Bitting explained that the prices had decreased tremendously from the previous year on the revenue side. She commented that tipping fee had increase from last year.

Mr. Johnson asked Mrs. Bitting about the deficit with the Construction and Demolition Facility as well as the Material Recycling Facility and how long the SWA would continue to fund these two operations. Ms. Bitting explained that the SWA would raise tipping fees to cover the cost of the deficit of these two facilities. She commented that at the Pre-Budget Workshop the increasing of the tipping fees was discussed to cover the cost of the SWA recycling programs. Mrs. Bitting stated that the upgrades at the MRF would help decrease some of the cost. She reminded the group that the drastic drop in market prices contributed to the loss of revenue.

Mr. Johnson said his question was how long was the SWA willing to pay to save landfill airspace. Mr. Ives commented that the reason for the Pre-Budget Workshop was to get the Board's consensus about increasing of the tipping fees. He explained that the doing away with recycling programs was not on option. Chairman Hughes commented that the Board was reviewing other alternatives other than the closing of these facilities. He said that he hoped that the market prices would increase to offset of some of the deficit. Mr. Knight indicated that the processing of the Charleston County material had an impact on the MRF's increased revenue.

Mr. Johnson asked about the raising of the tipping fees and how long would it offset the cost. He said that the SWA was bleeding and what was the point of no return. Mr. Knight commented that the private sector can close its doors at any time but the SWA was recycling to try to save the valuable airspace. Chairman Hughes said that Horry County would experience tremendous growth in the upcoming years and the SWA landfill airspace needed to be protected.

Operations Update

Mr. Bessant presented the following update which was included as pages 38-47 of the Board Packet.

Landfill Update – Mr. Bessant indicated that the landfill had an inspection on the air quality control. He commented that everything was in order and the monthly inspection had been great. Ms. Creech stated at some of the conventions she has attended she received some good feedback about the SWA landfill.

Mr. Bessant remarked he wanted to clarify something for Mr. Ives who asked about the dirty cardboard from the Construction and Demolition Facility. He explained that the dirty cardboard was mixed in with the clean cardboard from the MRF. Normally it is shipped out when a buyer was found for material from the Construction and Demolition Facility. Mr. Bessant indicated the revenue was credited to the MRF. He commented that since a buyer could not be found for the Construction and Demolition OCC material that staff decided to incorporate and ship the material with the MRF material.

MRF Update – Mr. Bessant informed the Board that the MRF upgrade was going well and a second shift was processing material at the Construction and Demolition Facility that was normally processed at the MRF. He explained that the wiring was completed, and the testing of the equipment would commence shortly. Mr. Bessant commented that MRF employees were cleaning and painting the facility while the retrofit was taking place.

Mr. Bessant commented that the MRF prices were well above the national average on commodities. Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Bessant if he had followed up with Grand Strand Water & Sewer Authority. Mr. Bessant replied that with the holidays he had not heard back from GSW&SA but would contact them again.

Driver of the Month Update – Mr. Bessant stated the December Driver of the Month was Mr. Scott Cox from Trebor Industries. Mr. Bessant commented Mr. Cox has been driving for 3 years and enjoyed surfing. He commented that Mr. Cox worked well with staff.

Executive Director Update

Mr. Knight offered an update of the following which was included as page 48-49 in the Board Packet.

The Store Update – Mr. Knight informed the group that building had been torn down and the site was leveled and seeded. He commented that he created a payment schedule for the storage facility that the SWA was building for the Horry County Council on Aging. Mr. Knight explained the first five-years HCCOA would pay \$5,000 per year. He said the next five years the HCCOA would pay \$6,000 per and finish paying the balance by the end of twenty-years. Mr. Knight stated that The Store had a yearly revenue of \$10,000 per year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Operations and Planning Committee Meeting Update – Mr. Jones stated the Operations and Planning Committee met on January 8, 2020 at 10:00 A. M. Mr. Jones indicated Committee Chairman Mike Campbell, Committee Member Michael Hughes and himself were present. Mr. Schwartzkopf, Mr. Ives and Ms. Creech were also present at the meeting.

FY20 Compactor Purchase – Mr. Bessant indicated that the process to purchase a compactor would take approximately six months, so he was requesting permission to request proposal for the compactor to be purchased in FY21. Mr. Bessant commented that the approved budget for the recertified compactor was \$650,000. He stated that the Aljon steel wheeled compactor #345 had engine failure and he would like to refurbish the compactor #345 by installing remanufactured wheels and a new motor with a 10,000-hour warranty.

Mr. Jones moved to accept staff's recommendation to utilize saving of \$175,000.00 to repair #345 and to allow staff to release a Request for Proposal for a recertified Tier 3 compactor. There was a second by Mr. Schwartzkopf and the Motion was carried.

SWA Recycling Grants – Mr. Schwartzkopf stated the Operations and Planning Committee discussed approval for grant applications for the City of Myrtle Beach, Buck Creek Foundation and City of Conway.

Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to accept staff recommendation to award the SWA Recycling Grants to the City of Myrtle Beach, Buck Creek Foundation and the City of Conway. There was a second by Mr. Jones and the Motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no Old Business to come before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Roundtable Discussion – Mr. Knight commented that he had prepared information that he was sending to the SWA lobbying group. He stated that he would keep the Board apprised on the SWA lobbying efforts. Ms. Creech commented that members of the State Senate had a joint resolution about the microplastic in our food source. She wanted to be proactive and have the SWA lobbyist aware of this resolution and keep the Board informed.

RePower – Mr. Knight asked the Board if they wanted to attend the RePower tour in Monks Corner. Mrs. Murphy informed the group that seating was limited, and the tour was on Wednesday, February 26, 2020. Several Board Member remarked that they would like to tour the Repower facility.

Upcoming Conferences – Chairman Hughes discussed the upcoming conference and who would attend.

Plastics Conference in Nashville, Tennessee-February 15-19, 2020 – Chairman Hughes indicated that Mr. Norfleet Jones and Danny Knight would be attending the Plastic Conference in Nashville, Tennessee at cost of \$2,300 per person.

CRA Carolina Recycling Association in Raleigh, North Carolina-March 23-26, 2020 – Chairman Hughes indicated along with staff that he, Michael Campbell, Pam Creech, Bo Ives, Norfleet Jones and Carl Schwartzkopf would be attending the CRA Conference in Raleigh. He stated the approximate cost for the Board to attend would be \$10,000.

Southeast Conference in Miramar Beach, Florida-March 15-18, 2020 – Chairman Hughes commented that he did not know how much information the Board would get from this conference. He remarked that the conference agenda had information on plastics, domestic markets and glass recycling. Chairman Hughes stated that Mr. Bessant did a great job moving the material at the MRF facility. He commented that with the new MRF retrofit the facility would not be purchasing any equipment for years to come.

Chairman Hughes indicated that Mr. Campbell, Ms. Creech and Mr. Ives wanted to attend this conference. He commented that only one Board Member could attend and the Board Members would decide who would attend. Chairman Hughes stated that the conference would cost \$2,300 per person to attend.

SWANA Conference at Pawleys Island, South Carolina-May 5-7, 2020 – Chairman Hughes stated that the only Board Members not planning to attend the SWANA Conference at Pawleys Island were Mr. Jones and Mr. Johnson. He commented that the estimated cost for the Board to attend was \$3,500.00.

Chairman Hughes asked Mr. Johnson about the composting conference. Mr. Johnson commented that he would be attending on Friday. Chairman Hughes asked if SWA staff attended the conference. Mr. Bessant replied that SWA staff would be attending the conference.

Mr. Schwartzkopf commented that as Board Members the Board sets the policy then staff carries it out and staff was responsible for making the recommendations. Chairman Hughes remarked that he was not against the Board attending conferences he wanted the Board to attend conference and bring back resourceful information.

Mr. Ives commented that Keep Horry County Beautiful wanted residents to fill out the survey about banning plastic and wanted them to complete the survey on the website. He reminded the Board that Keep Horry County Beautiful was having the litter index on February 25, 2020.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Mr. Schwartzkopf moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was carried** and the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 P.M.

Minutes approved on February 25, 2020.

HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.

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

ATTEST:

J. Michael Campbell, Secretary

Pam J. Creech (L. S.)

Bo Ives (L. S.)

Samuel T. Johnson, Jr. (L. S.)

W. Norfleet Jones (L. S.)

Carl H. Schwartzkopf (L. S.)