

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.
February 25, 2020**

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. held a Board Meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 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; J. Michael Campbell, Secretary; Pam J. Creech, Treasurer; and Board Members Samuel T. Johnson, Jr., W. Norfleet Jones and Carl H. Schwartzkopf.

Steve Gosnell, Horry County Administrator, Carlyle Berry 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 Stephanie Todd.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Campbell 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.

Ms. Creech moved to approve the Agenda as presented. There was a second by Mr. Campbell and the Motion was carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Hughes asked for any questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the January Board Meeting held on January 28, 2020, as contained in the Agenda Packet.

Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to approve the Minutes of the January 28, 2020 Board Meeting as presented. There was a second by Mr. Jones 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 12-19 in the Board Packet.

SC DHEC Grants Update – Mrs. Murphy informed the group that the FY2020 SC DHEC Waste Tire Grant had been increased an additional \$22,823.75. She indicated that grant funding from SC DHEC was initially limited due to the Berkley County tire clean up. Mrs. Murphy stated that the SWA had been awarded 75% of the contractor costs that was originally requested on the Waste Tire Grant. She commented that she would keep the Board apprised of any additional awards.

2019-2020 Grinding of the Greens Program Update – Mrs. Murphy informed the Board that Horry Electric Cooperative again partnered with SWA for the Annual Grinding of the Greens campaign. She stated that 3,000 trees were collected and recycled into Christmas tree mulch. Mrs. Murphy commented that this annual event was advertised through print media and over 1,200 public service announcements which ran on local television stations promoting the program.

Spotlight on Environmental Awareness Update – Mrs. Murphy stated that during the month of February, SWA staff recognized two local area businesses which were the recipients of the Spotlight on Environmental Awareness program. She indicated that Mashalle and Mike Bailes, the owners of Sassy Fish and Sharon Saunders the owner of Vintage Flatware Jewelry were both recipients of the SEA award.

Caught Green Handed Update – Mrs. Murphy informed the group that the January “Caught Green Handed” winner was Mr. Gary Seybold. She indicated that Mr. Seybold used the Loris Recycling Center. Mrs. Murphy stated Mr. Seybold received a SWA prize pack and media recognition.

Mrs. Murphy informed the Board Members who would be attending a conference in March that she had their information at their place setting.

Ms. Creech said she had a call from a resident about not being able to see the signs for the recycling center from the road. She asked Mrs. Murphy if she had plans for the signage as of yet. Mrs. Murphy replied that staff was looking into the matter and may attempt to use solar powered flood lights for better night visibility. She commented that staff would also look at any shrubbery that maybe blocking and impeding the view.

Mr. Knight commented that he worked the Home Show on Saturday and Sunday. He indicated that only positive comments were received about the recycling centers on how clean they were and how friendly the site attendants were. Mr. Knight stated many comments were received from City of Myrtle Beach residents about the material the City of Myrtle Beach no longer recycles.

Finance and Administration Update

Mrs. Bitting offered an update of the following which was included as pages 20-35 in the Board Packet.

Mr. Bitting said that Mrs. Powell wanted the Board to know that the health screening would be on March 3, 2020. She commented the Mrs. Powell said that all the Statement of Economic Interest were completed.

Monthly Finance Reports – Mrs. Bitting stated for the period ending January 31, 2020, overall should be at 58.31% of budget. She indicated MSW revenue was at 61.04% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated Construction and Demolition revenue was at 61.77% of budget and Yard Waste

revenue was at 55.48% of budget. She stated the sale of recyclables revenue was at 43.53% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated the Construction and Demolition Processing Facility revenue for January was \$229,221.48 and expenses were \$410,585.26 with airspace saved equating to 34.91 days. Mrs. Bitting commented the MRF revenue year-to-date was \$1,323,826.51 and the expenses year-to-date were \$2,318,301.48 with a savings of 57.92 days of airspace. She indicated net income for January was \$28,809.19 and year-to-date was \$1,670,431.72.

Operations Update

Mr. Bessant presented the following update which was included as pages 36-45 of the Board Packet.

Landfill Update – Mr. Bessant presented a video of the Municipal Solid Waste Landfill using the SWA’s drone. He commented the fly over showed clear pictures of the landfill.

MRF Update – Mr. Bessant informed the Board that the MRF was up and running but still had issues to work out. He commented that staff was processing the material that was baled during the retrofit. Mr. Bessant stated that the MRF was currently processing 15 to 18 tons per hour. He informed the group that MachineX would return in March to review any questions or issues that the MRF might have.

Mr. Bessant stated that Richie Stetter and the maintenance department did a wonderful job. He commented that Rodney Cannon did an excellent job learning how to operate this new system and had the whole plant painted within a three-week time span. Ms. Creech asked if the equipment was performing up to standards. Mr. Bessant commented that the equipment was up to standards but needed a bit of fine tuning. He indicated that the reject material has been greatly reduced.

Mr. Ives asked about the number of staff at the MRF facility. Mr. Bessant explained that with the current amount of material coming in and the material baled during the retrofit it would take a few months to sort and process all the material. He commented that the current workforce was 24 laborers and that would drop to about 14 employees. Mr. Ives asked how were the employees adjusting to the new equipment. Mr. Bessant stated the employees were doing well. Mr. Knight commented that MRF staff did a wonderful job.

Mr. Bessant informed the group that fiber and office paper had increased but newspaper had decreased by \$6.00 per ton. Mr. Bessant commented that aluminum and PET prices had decreased. He indicated that since the MRF facility’s material was clean he did not foresee any difficulty selling the material.

Mr. Bessant informed the Board that he had been asked to speak at the EPA Regional IV Conference in Columbia. He was asked to give a presentation on SWA operations. Mr. Bessant commented that he had asked to speak at the CRA Conference in Raleigh, NC. The Board congratulated Mr. Bessant for being chosen by these two groups to do a presentation about the SWA.

Chairman Hughes thanked the Mr. Bessant and his staff for the great work during the MRF retrofit.

Driver of the Month Update – Mr. Bessant stated the January Driver of the Month was Mr. Levester McCray from Waste Management. Mr. Bessant commented Mr. McCray has been

driving for 3 years and enjoyed fishing and singing. He commented that Mr. McCray worked well with staff.

Executive Director Update

Mr. Knight offered an update of the following which was included as page 46 in the Board Packet.

Plastics Conference – Mr. Knight stated that he and Mr. Jones attended the plastics conference in Nashville, Tennessee. He remarked that industries had undergone a drastic change in their thinking about the plastic usage. Mr. Knight commented that he had compiled information and a list of speakers from the conference. He stated that legislation and other proposed bills had been introduced by Senator Tom Udall. Mr. Knight informed the group this new legislation would take place nationwide.

General discussion ensued about nationwide bottle bills and how the state of Oregon was taking the initiative on recycling bottle/cans with an 85% return rate on the bottle recycling. It was mentioned that single use plastic bags were being phased out. Mr. Knight commented the consensus was that the government was trying to get the manufacturers to take responsibility for the packaging on their product instead of the end-users being held responsible. Mr. Jones said that none of the legislators from South Carolina were sponsoring any of the recycling bills or proposed legislation.

Mr. Schwartzkopf suggested writing letters to the senators and representatives from this state. He said organizations such as the Chirping Birds and Keep Horry County Beautiful could write letters asking the representatives to help with this proposed recycling legislation.

Mr. Jones asked Ms. Creech if she would represent the SWA being its liaison for recycling. He asked Ms. Creech if she would contact these individuals on behalf of the SWA and monitor any proposed recycling bills or legislation. Mr. Jones commented that he knew that Ms. Creech was passionate when it can to recycling and the environment. He said that Ms. Creech could choose whoever she wanted to assist her in this endeavor.

Mr. Jones made a Motion to have Ms. Creech represent the SWA as their liaison with regards to observing and monitoring any legislation dealing with solid waste, recycling or environmental concerns. There was a second by Mr. Ives and the Motion was carried.

Chairman Hughes commented that the Board wanted Ms. Creech for the liaison and to have her keep in communication with the plastic council and maybe incorporate some of the ideas that Mr. Schwartzkopf had. He said that the SWA having a liaison would keep the lines of communication open.

Mr. Knight informed Ms. Creech that all of the information was online. Ms. Creech thanked the Board for their vote of confidence.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports to come before the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no Old Business to come before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Roundtable Discussion – Chairman Hughes reminded the group about their RePower tour on February 26, 2020 and the group would be leaving at 7:00 a.m. He commented that he would send the group a link about a video he had seen called The Earthship. Chairman Hughes remarked that this video was about building house with tires in New Mexico. He said the segment was about sustainable living.

Mr. Knight commented that he and Ms. Creech would complete the Litter Index on Friday, February 28, 2020.

Chairman Hughes reminded the Board about the Budget Workshop in March 10, 2020 at 10:30 A.M.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Mr. Ives moved, seconded by Mr. Campbell to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was carried** and the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

Minutes approved on April 28, 2020.

HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.

BY: _____ (L. S.)

Michael H. Hughes, Chairman

ATTEST:

_____ (L. S.)

J. Michael Campbell, Secretary

_____ (L. S.)
Pam J. Creech

_____ (L. S.)
Bo Ives

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

_____ (L. S.)
W. Norfleet Jones

_____ (L. S.)
Carl H. Schwartzkopf