

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.  
July 24, 2018**

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. held a Board Meeting on Tuesday, July 24, 2018, 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. Board Members Samuel T. Johnson, Jr., W. Norfleet Jones and Carl H. Schwartzkopf.

Steve Gosnell, Director of Horry County Infrastructure and Regulation was present. Donald Godwin, Vance Moore, Briana Pellicci, and Amelia Wood represented the public in attendance. Tyler Fleming from the Sun News and Paul Gable from the Grand Strand Daily represented 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 Chris Calhoun, Nannette Powell, Cecil Terry, Stephanie Todd and Susie Wofford.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Hughes called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Ives to render 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.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Hughes asked for any questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 26, 2018, as contained in the Agenda Packet; however there were none.

**Mr. Ives moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 26, 2018. There was a second by Mr. Schwartzkopf. There being no further discussion, the Motion was carried.**

Chairman Hughes asked for any questions on or amendments to the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on June 26, 2018, as contained in the Agenda Packet; however there were none.

**Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to approve the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on June 26, 2018. There was a second by Mr. Campbell. There being no further discussion, the Motion was carried.**

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Briana Pellicci a student intern from Coastal Carolina University gave a PowerPoint presentation on SWA operations. She commented she enjoyed working with staff and looked forward to graduating in August. The Board thanked her for the PowerPoint presentation.

## PUBLIC INPUT

Mrs. Wood thanked the Board and indicated she was not speaking on behalf of any environmental group but as a Horry County citizen.

She commented on the meeting the SWA hosted with several environmental groups to discuss the proposed expansion plans for the landfill. She stated a few questions were asked; however, the attendees were not prepared to ask questions because of the magnitude of what was being proposed. Mrs. Wood said since the meeting she spent a lot of time reviewing Board minutes and budgets and had a few more questions to ask.

Mrs. Wood commented that the budget information discussed at the meeting did not actually address the requirements listed in the Solid Waste Management Plan. She indicated the Plan required an estimate of the cost of implementing the entire solid waste management plan in the county or region, an estimate of the revenue that each county or local government needs to provide and intends to make available to fund the implementation of the plan and an estimate of the cost of siting, constructing, and bringing into operation any new facilities needed to manage solid waste within the twenty-year planning period. Mrs. Wood asked if the SWA was going to provide that information.

Mrs. Wood asked if the SWA's current budget difficulties would be a barrier to funding the construction of the planned \$53 Million expansion. She then asked how could the SWA justify an expansion of the landfill when they already had to delay some needed maintenance of the MRF and road improvements because of past budgetary constraints. She asked if the SWA had considered all the what if's and asked how staff would respond if somebody asked why Richland County pays only \$26.41 per ton to dispose of MSW and \$7.95 per ton to dispose of C&D at private landfills and the Horry County tipping fees are so much higher.

Mrs. Wood commented that the vote taken at the last Board Meeting was not consistent with the Horry County 2015 Solid Waste Management Plan. She strongly suggested that the Board rescind that vote and until they have a legitimately prepared county solid waste management plan that's in the hands of SC DHEC and is consistent with what was discussed with the environmental groups. She stated SC DHEC cannot legally give the SWA a letter of consistency and a demonstration of need until the new plan is in their hands. Mrs. Wood inquired as to whether all of the local and county government officials know what the SWA wanted to do and have they approved of it.

In closing Mrs. Wood stated that any Board action to approve moving ahead with the permit application is premature. She encouraged the Board to follow the proper procedures and to wait until the SWA has a legitimately prepared plan in the hands of DHEC before voting to move forward with any expansion plans.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

**Recycling and Corporate Affairs Update** – Mrs. Murphy offered an update of various projects in the Recycling and Corporate Affairs Division that were included as pages 16-21 in the Board Packet.

**FY2019 SCDHEC Grants Update** – Mrs. Murphy informed the group that the FY2019 SC DHEC Grants were awarded. She indicated that funding for the waste tire buyback and waste tire container grants was not granted because of limited funding. Mrs. Murphy stated that the SWA was awarded the following grants:

- Waste Tire Grant – \$96,970
- Used Oil Grant – \$39,450
- Solid Waste Grant: Public Education/Outreach – \$25,000
- Solid Waste Grant: General Recycling – \$25,000

Mrs. Murphy commented that the total DHEC grants received was \$186,420.

**2018 Environmental Banquet Update** – Mrs. Murphy thanked the Board for their attendance at the Environmental Luncheon held on July 10, 2018. She thanked Mrs. Kendra Hooks, Mrs. Victoria Johnson and Ms. Cecil Terry on a job well done. Mr. Ives commented that staff had done an exceptional job on the banquet

**Caught Green Handed Update** – Mrs. Murphy informed the group the June “Caught Green Handed” winner was Mr. Ronald Veshinski. She indicated that Mr. Veshinski used the Scipio Lane Center. Mrs. Murphy stated Mr. Veshinski received a SWA prize pack and media recognition.

### **Financial Reports**

Mrs. Bitting offered an update of the following which was included as page 22-42 in the Board Packet.

**Monthly Finance Reports** – Mrs. Bitting stated for the period ending June 30, 2018 the SWA revenue should be at 100% of budget. She indicated MSW revenue was at 101.85% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated Construction and Demolition revenue was at 166.24% of budget and Yard Waste revenue was at 98.49% of budget. She stated the sale of recyclables revenue was at 104.07% of budget. Mrs. Bitting stated the Construction and Demolition Processing Facility revenue for June was \$425,043.73 and expenses were \$623,585.89 with airspace saved equating to 73.86 days. Mrs. Bitting commented the MRF revenue year-to-date was \$5,463,060.07 and the expenses year-to-date were \$5,852,700.87 with a savings of 61.99 days of airspace. She indicated net income for June was \$516,112.02 and year-to-date was \$3,116,664.60.

Mrs. Bitting explained the MRF processed 4,455 tons for June. She stated the current market value for processed material was \$143.61 for June. Mrs. Bitting informed the group that tonnage sold for June was 2,092 tons. Mrs. Bitting indicated the total MRF revenue for material sold in June was \$313,761.86 and expenses were \$423,523.89 resulting in expenses over revenue of (\$86,163.23). She stated year-to-date total MRF revenue was \$4,641,909.81 and total MRF expenses were \$4,299,169.62 with revenue over expenses of \$342,740.19. Mrs. Bitting indicated the cost share from Charleston County would be \$10,026.06. She reminded the group that the figures were not complete since it was year-end.

**Capital Items Update** – Mrs. Bitting informed the Board that the SWA was able to purchase capital items or E items. She stated some of the capital items purchased were the water truck, cutter head, event trailer wrap and a front load dump truck. Mrs. Bitting commented that the Landfill Gas Expansion had not been included in the year-end-figures as it was not completed. Ms. Creech asked if funding was up-to-date in the closure/post closure accounts. Mrs. Bitting replied that the designated accounts were receiving \$6.25 per ton per Vance Moore the SWA’s engineer and the account was up-to-date. Mr. Ives thanked Mrs. Bitting for including a summary of the capital items in the Board packet.

### **Operations Update**

Mr. Bessant presented the following update which was included as pages 43-54 of the Board Packet.

**Collection & Hauling Update** – Mr. Bessant stated since the addition of extra routes the Collection and Hauling Department had increased from 800 to 1,100 cardboard customers. He explained the Collection and Hauling department increased 38% for the month of June.

**MRF Update** –Mr. Bessant commented that OCC price stabilized then increased as much as \$15.00 per ton. He indicated the MRF had approximately 1,500 bales of material on the floor last month. Mr. Bessant stated that staff stockpiled the material until the prices increased. Mr. Ives asked where was the material stored. Mr. Bessant commented at the MRF facility. He informed the group that a Committee meeting for the Operations Division would be held soon. Mr. Bessant commented that a steel structure would be needed. He indicated that steel prices had increased suddenly and direction from the Board was needed whether to proceed with the structure. Mr. Bessant stated he needed to have an Operations and Planning Committee meeting in August.

**Driver of the Month Update** – Mr. Bessant stated the June Driver of the Month was Everette Lumsden from the Lumsden Property Services. Mr. Bessant commented Mr. Lumsden has worked for Lumsden Property Services for 7 years. He informed the group that Mr. Lumsden worked well with staff.

**Charleston County Update** – Ms. Creech asked how many tons of Charleston County material was taken in at the MRF. Mr. Bessant indicated that the MRF had processed 2,500 to 2,600 tons per month since the closure of the Myrtle Beach recycling and the additional cardboard routes. He explained because of the extra material from Horry County the MRF could not adequately process the normal 3,000 tons from Charleston County's. Mr. Bessant commented that the contract stipulates that a minimum of 2,500 tons per month must be received from Charleston County.

### **Executive Director Update**

Mr. Knight offered an update of the following which was included as page 55 in the Board Packet.

**Conservation Meeting Update** – Mr. Knight informed the Board that a meeting with conservationist was held on July 12, 2018, and commented the following agencies were in attendance:

- Conservation Voters of SC
- Waccamaw River Keeper
- League of Women Voters
- Chirping Birds
- SC Environmental Law Project
- SC Coastal Conservation League

He asked the Board Members if they had any comments. Chairman Hughes indicated that the focus of the meeting was that the SWA wanted transparency in order to move forward with the Piggyback Expansion project. He commented that a lot of good questions had been asked and that staff would answer all the unanswered questions. Chairman Hughes asked staff to keep a record and compile a list all the questions that had been asked. He commented he wanted the public to give alternative ideals and resolutions. Chairman Hughes encouraged the public to submit their questions in writing and staff would review and have responses in writing. He thanked Ms. Creech for creating a dialog between the conservationist and the SWA.

Ms. Creech commented the meeting was a good idea. She stated she had two problems not resolved. Ms. Creech remarked that in Horry County recycling was not mandatory and the manufactures had not reduced the size of their packaging. She indicated she had gone to the State House to talk to legislators about reducing the amount of packaging that was disposed of in the landfill. Ms. Creech commented this could be accomplished with mandatory recycling laws.

Mr. Ives thanked Ms. Creech for organizing the meeting. He commented the purpose of the meeting was to keep the public informed and aware of the projects that were going on here at the SWA's landfill. Mr. Schwartzkopf commented he would meet with some engineering packaging students later in the year. He indicated he would encourage them to use less packaging.

Chairman Hughes stated this was an ongoing problem that many states were having. He wanted the community and the public to get involved in this process and look for alternatives.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no Committee Reports to come before the Board.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Capital Improvement Projects-Piggyback Expansion Phase 3 Update** – Vance Moore gave an overview of the process and a schedule of the Phase 3 Piggyback Expansion. He explained this was a two-fold process that entailed a Demonstration of Need and a Letter of Consistency which are required for the permitting process. Mr. Moore stated the Demonstration of Need and Letter of Consistency were requirements from the State on how to proceed with the application process. He indicated that this information must be submitted to DHEC for them to make their determination. Mr. Moore listed the requirements the SWA must provide:

- the name of the facility
- contact information
- name
- address
- telephone number
- geographical coordinates
- type of facility class 1 or class 2 C&D landfill or MSW landfill
- annual disposal rate
- name of the host region
- signature

Mr. Moore commented this information would be included in the Demonstration of Need. He explained for the Letter of Consistency that the SWA would need to submit this for the proposed project. Mr. Moore explained that the State would make the determination if the project was consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan. He commented that Horry County has a SWMP and the State also has a State Solid Waste Management Plan. Mr. Moore indicated that any information for the proposed project was to demonstrate the consistency of the location of the facility and certain criteria offsets.

Mr. Moore informed the group that a draft request for the Demonstration of Need and the Letter of Consistency had been prepared for the SWA's consideration. He asked if the SWA wanted to submit a letter with this information to DHEC. Mr. Moore explained that DHEC would acknowledge that

they had received the information and the letter was complete. He stated that DHEC was not making a judgement of whether or not they agreed with the application. Mr. Moore indicated DHEC was acknowledging the receipt of a complete application. He explained this starts a timeline and the SWA must place a notice in the local paper saying the SWA has the intent to file an application. Mr. Moore commented that DHEC has a two-week period in which to give its determination. He stated the SWA has two-weeks after receiving the notification then the SWA must advertise in the local daily paper.

Mr. Moore commented the SWA must inform DHEC that the notices had been published in the local daily paper and have proof. He stated that DHEC has approximately 45 days to make their determination as to whether the information the SWA submitted in the demonstration of need was consistent. Mr. Moore indicated that DHEC would then publish a Notice of Draft Determination. He explained that DHEC advertisement would go in a local newspaper and this will start the public comment period on DHEC's decision of the SWA's application. Mr. Moore commented during the public comment period if DHEC received enough responses then a public hearing would be needed. He stated that DHEC would require a public hearing in Horry County for the purpose of public input. Mr. Moore indicated after the public hearing, DHEC would have their notice of their determination which would be the final determination.

Mr. Moore commented that staff developed a timeline of how long the SWA would have for a maximum timeframe for each step of the process. He indicated during the public advertisement period the SWA must advertise for two-weeks period. Mr. Moore stated if SWA submitted an application the entire process would start immediately at the end of July through late November. He informed the Board that someone might appeal the application and that would extend this process.

Mr. Moore stated the first step included submitting a permit application based request for DON and LOC on the schedule. He indicated the application package would include a drawing and a report for the project this would be submitted by the December timeframe or by the end of the year. He commented this would start the FIN (Facilities Issue Negotiations) process. Mr. Moore remarked that staff had discussed that the SWA did not have to have an actual application submitted before the start of the FIN process.

Mr. Moore commented it would be beneficial to have the information to share if the SWA wanted to start this process. He indicated the schedule reflected the assumption that the SWA would not initiate the FIN process until after the application had been submitted. Mr. Moore stated there was a specific procedure on initiating the FIN process that included having notices in the local newspaper to announce the opportunity to begin this process. He commented the SWA would look for a threshold of request from the public for their desire to enter into this process. Mr. Moore remarked that assuming the SWA did reach that threshold then the SWA would form a committee that would have certain requirements. He explained the committee would meet a minimum number of times and publish the public notices as a result of the FIN process.

Mr. Moore stated this would take considerable time because of the steps that were involved in this schedule. He commented the entire FIN process would take 145 days and while the SWA was going through this process then DHEC would be reviewing the information submitted to them. Mr. Moore informed the Board that he could not predict the deadline but DHEC must review the application and they controlled the timeline. He commented he hoped that the SWA application review process would be easy because it was well prepared and organized.

Mr. Moore stated if the application was submitted in the December timeframe he did not think it was unreasonable for DHEC to make a determination on the permit and to give a decision or a review of

the permit. He commented if SWA submitted a permit application in the December timeframe it would be late September or early October timeframe to go through the process with DHEC. Mr. Moore reemphasized, based on historical data there was not a guarantee on these schedules with regards to DHEC's response time or if the permit application was appealed. He stated an appeal could prolong and add approximately 90 days to the process.

Mr. Moore informed the group if the SWA initiated a permit application tomorrow that going through the entire process could take until August 2020. He commented this was not a short-term process and it was very complicated. Mr. Moore stated any delay in the permitting process would prolong the next scheduled task. He commented that staff would have a calendar or schedule of routine updates and keep it maintained as each task progressed.

Mr. Schwartzkopf asked if DHEC had the forms for the SWA to fill out or if the SWA must draft them. Mr. Moore explained step one was the Demonstration of Need and the Letter of Consistency which have very specific information that the SWA must submit to DHEC. He stated the outline was very specific as to what DHEC required. That public notice, FIN process and the permit application process was per regulation.

Chairman Hughes asked about the 2020 deadline assuming there were no appeals. Mr. Moore stated the calendar and timeline was a general guide. He indicated that the SWA could control the task by expanding in some areas. Chairman Hughes asked about DHEC and the public hearing and how would the public respond to the questions or ask questions. He asked would the public respond by email or telephone. Mr. Moore explained that with each step of the public hearing DHEC would have the requirements on how and when the public could respond to the information in the advertisement.

Ms. Creech stated the problem she encountered was that the public did not generally read the information. She commented that this process should be advertised to make the conservationist and community aware that the SWA has started this process. Mr. Moore said if the SWA starts this process within 15-30 days it would require the SWA to advertise in the newspaper letting the public know of the SWA's Notice of Intent. He commented this was a requirement to start this permit application process.

Mr. Knight commented that DHEC held its own meeting and the SWA was not involved in this. He indicated in the past the FIN committee had several meetings here at the SWA and had the judge as a moderator. Mr. Knight stated several things were enacted by the previous FIN committee. He commented the speed limit on Highway 90 was changed, the turn lane into the facility off Highway 90 was constructed and the trees were planted on the property these were suggestions from the FIN committee.

#### **NEW BUSINESS.**

- a. Roundtable Discussion** – Chairman Hughes distributed the Committee assignment to the Board Members.

#### **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 6:50 P.M.

Minutes approved on August 27, 2018.

HORRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, INC.

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

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Michael Campbell, Secretary

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Pam J. Creech

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bo Ives

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
W. Norfleet Jones

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl H. Schwartzkopf