

**MINUTES
HARRISON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
September 26, 2024**

A regularly called meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 1:02 p.m., at the Harrison County Development Commission, Gulfport, Mississippi.

Commissioners Present: Billy Thornton, Frankie Castiglia Jr., James Moody, Jimmy Levens, Mike Leonard, John Carter, Rip Daniels, Mark Schloegel, and Ollie Bailey Jr.

Commissioner's Absent: Warren Conway, Windy Swetman III, and Brian Gollott.

The staff members present were Executive Director Bill Lavers, Lori Frazier, Brandi Hough, Pamela Washington, Jason Gibson, and Michelle McGraw, who was the recording secretary.

Consultant present: Legal Counsel Victoria Neal.

Public notice of this meeting was posted on the <http://mscoast.org> website.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE – OPEN MEETING & CALL TO ORDER

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance and the acknowledgment of the public notice, Billy Thornton called to order, and the meeting opened at 1:02 p.m.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

Long Beach Water.

The Ave A. Long Beach paving project.

Executive session - Real Estate and Personnel matters.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve the agenda adjustments, and Commissioner Mark Schloegel seconded it. There was no discussion; all favored Aye, and the motion carried.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve the **August 16, 2024**, meeting minutes for the special called meeting, and Commissioner Frankie Castiglia Jr. seconded. There was no discussion; all favored Aye, and the motion carried.

VOTE ITEMS

MOU Tax Incentive for Huber

Commissioner James Moody motioned to approve a 5-year 100%, and Commissioner Frankie Castiglia Jr. seconded it. There was no discussion; all favored Aye, and the motion carried.

Executive session - Real estate and personnel matters.

Commissioner Mark Schloegel motioned to go into executive session regarding real estate and personnel matters, and Commissioner Frankie Castiglia Jr. seconded the motion. There was no discussion; all were in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Mark Schloegel motioned to go into executive session regarding real estate, and Commissioner Mark Schloegel seconded the motion. There was no discussion; all were in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

The executive session began at 1:09 pm and ended at 2:00 pm.

The Executive Director's fy 2025 salary increase was approved by all commissioners.. Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve, and Commissioner Mark Schloegel seconded it. No further discussion occurred; all Commissioners voted favorably, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned for the Executive Director to sign the LOI on Project Helio and continue working with legal moving forward. Commissioner Frankie Castiglia Jr. seconded it. No further discussion occurred; all Commissioners voted favorably, and the motion passed.

The Ave A. South Long Beach paving project.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve the spending of \$25,000.00, and Commissioner Frankie Castiglia Jr. seconded it. No further discussion occurred; all Commissioners voted favorably, and the motion passed.

City of Long Beach Water Bill.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to begin negotiations to pay for the water from October 1 to October 1, billed at \$1 per billable 1000 gallons. When the amount is negotiated and agreed upon, the monthly payment will begin with the Commission's final approval. Commissioner Frankie Castiglia Jr. seconded it. No further discussion occurred; all Commissioners voted favorably, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to negotiate with the City of Long Beach regarding the back pay of water owed and not to exceed \$75,000.00 for back billing. Commissioner Frankie Castiglia Jr. seconded it. No further discussion occurred; all Commissioners voted favorably, and the motion passed.

Finance

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve **Exhibits E and F**, and Commissioner James Moody seconded it. No further discussion occurred; all Commissioners voted favorably, and the motion passed.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Marketing & Industrial, Administrative, Engineering & Maintenance

HCDC's letter to SRT Properties to show intent to entertain a purchase agreement so the city of Pass Christian can go through the standard procedures to approve the purpose of the property for SRT Properties.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve the letter, and Commissioner Frankie Castiglia Jr. seconded it. No further discussion occurred; all Commissioners voted favorably, and the motion passed.

The discussion for the HCDC's holiday party was agreed to proceed as planned.

The GoBox LLC notice of cancellation to the lease agreement was received and accepted.

Engineering updates:

BID PACKET – ANNUAL Dirt, Sand, Aggregate Hauling 2025.

BID PACKET – ANNUAL Grass Cutting 2025.

BID PACKET – ANNUAL Land Clearing & Grubbing 2025.

BID PACKET – ANNUAL Rail Tiers Removal & Disposal.

BID PACKET – BACKUP Generators Prj. 01-25

Sales Quotation for Generator.

Mobilization of Equipment and Material Facility.

Executive Director Bill Lavers gave updates on Helio, SRT, and Sand projects.

Executive Director Bill Lavers pcoming educational meeting on Fee In-Lieu and Oshea certificates.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS

LEGAL

The HCDC is working on an agreement with the Seabee Base to receive a Grant to rehabilitate the railroad.

The title work for GST is in the draft stages.

The real estate transaction with HCDC and Jeff Posey has not closed, and the last attempt has been unsuccessful.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/NOTICES

The Next Marketing & Engineering meeting is **on Wednesday, October 2, 2024, @ 8:30 a.m.**

The Next Board of Commission Meeting is **on Wednesday, October 23, 2024, @ 1:00 p.m.**

ADJOURN

There was no further business to come before the Commission. Commissioner Frankie Castiglia Jr. motioned to adjourn, and Commissioner Jimmy Levens seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m. on September 26, 2024.


Billy Thornton, President


Windy Swetman III, Secretary