

WEST ST. MARY PARISH PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

September 5, 2023

6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Greg Paul, President of the Port Commission. Mr. Paul led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Lanceslin gave the Invocation. A roll call resulted in the following:

Present:

Greg Paul  
Joseph Phillips  
Wilson Terry  
Joseph Tabb  
Murphy Pontiff  
Sam Jones  
Joe Foulcard, Jr.  
Donna Lanceslin

Absent:

Joel Authement

Also present at the meeting were Mr. Eric Duplantis, Port Attorney, Ms. Marguerite Robinson of Teche Talk, Mr. Clarence Vappie, Mayor of Baldwin, Mr. Eddie Bodin, Mr. Jude Hebert of CLECO, Mr. Kevin Caffery, Ms. Joy Naquin, Mr. Reid Miller of Miller Engineers, Mr. David Naquin, Interim Assistant Director and Ms. Rebecca Pellerin, Office Manager of the Port Commission.

A motion was made by Mr. Terry to dispense with the reading of the August 2, 2023 meeting and August 25, 2023 AD HOC Committee meeting minutes and to accept them as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lanceslin. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Mr. Phillips to name the SLCC Training Facility as the David J. Allain Workforce Center at Port of West St. Mary in memory of Mr. Allain who passed away in July of this year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Terry with a unanimous second. Mr. Paul asked if there was discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Joseph Tabb, Chairman of the AD HOC Committee formed to name a permanent Executive Director for the Port Commission, reported that the Committee met on August 25, 2023. He further reported that at the meeting it was discussed that four people had expressed interest in the position and after some discussion it was recommended by the Committee that Mr. David Naquin be offered the position of Executive Director of the Port Commission for a three-year contract with a three-year option to renew. Also pursuant to the salary package that was approved by the Committee, the total salary package will be approximately \$25,000 annually less than what the previous Port Director was making.

Mr. Tabb recommended to the Commission that Mr. Naquin be hired as Executive Director. A motion was made by Mr. Jones to hire Mr. Naquin. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pontiff. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Tabb also reported that the Committee discussed advertising for the position of a parttime Assistant Director but as it was not on the agenda, it was suggested that Mr. Naquin would need some time to develop a job description for this position.

Regarding the Sugar Warehouse, a motion was made by Mr. Terry to authorize Mr. Lennel G. Paul or Mr. David Naquin to sign and execute an Intergovernmental Agreement between the State of Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Port of West St. Mary for Project H.014893 (322), The motion was seconded by Mr. Phillips. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Naquin gave the following report:

- that a new roll door and new walk-in door have been installed on the white warehouse at the Baldwin facility and that ARL has begun to utilize that building for storage
- Tyler Brothers levelled an area at the Baldwin Campus on the side of white warehouse
- Progress continues toward the installation of the gate at the Industrial Park
- that he continues to negotiate with Bayou Bend Hospital for the purchase of the old Capital One building on Northwest Boulevard for the possible relocation of the Port Administrative office

Mr. Naquin read a thank you note from Lisa Allain to the Port Commission.

With reference to the Sugar Warehouse/LA DOTD – Project H.014893 (322) – A motion was made by Mr. Jones to pay the Contractor’s Application for Partial Payment #2 to ARL Construction, Inc. for \$324,277.09. Mr. Terry seconded the motion. Mr. Paul asked if there was discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jones made a motion to pay Miller’s Engineers Request for Payment #9 for Professional Services in the amount of \$10,780.36. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. Mr. Paul asked if there was discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Eric Duplantis reminded the Commission to complete the required Ethics and Preventing Sexual Harassment training before the end of the year.

Mr. Reid Miller reported on the Sugar Warehouse project that everything is on schedule and that the biggest building is scheduled to be delivered during the last week of September and will be stored on site until the slab is ready to accept the framing.

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Mr. Terry to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Murphy Pontiff, Secretary