

WEST ST. MARY PARISH PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2022

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. Donna Lanceslin gave the Invocation. A roll call resulted in the following:

Present:

Absent:

Greg Paul  
Joseph Tabb  
Donna Lanceslin  
Joseph Phillips  
Wilson Terry  
Murphy Pontiff  
Sam Jones  
Joel Authement

Willie Peters

Also present at the meeting were: Mr. Nicholas Molaison of Miller Engineers, Mr. Eric Duplantis, Port Attorney, Ms. Brandy Pennison, Administrative Assistant, Ms. Marguerite Robinson of Teche Talk and Mr. David Allain, Executive Director.

A motion was made by Mr. Tabb to dispense with the reading of the minutes of February 1, 2022 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.

Executive Director's Report – Mr. Allain requested to Consider and Take Action on a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between South Louisiana Community College and the Port of West St. Mary. Mr. Allain reported that everything seems to be in order to sign the agreement. Mr. Allain reported that the Port has built the building and has to provide the insurance for the building. A motion was made by Mr. Tabb to execute the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lanceslin. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

With reference to the Sugar Warehouse/Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development funded project #H.014893, Mr. Allain reported that due to limited property at the Baldwin facility, the Port is looking at several options to construct the proposed 100,000 square foot facility. Mr. Molaison reported that there were constraints of the height and Miller Engineers was looking into different alternatives as to whether it would be a better option to build two buildings to store as much sugar as needed, but the square footage may go over budget due to the extra support the concrete would need, or to build three long slender buildings that may be a better option as opposed to two square buildings. Miller Engineers is still working on the different options on how to accomplish the capacity that is

needed. Mr. Allain reported one of the problems occurring is the price of steel and to hold the bid for the steel. Discussion followed about the tonnage that is needed per square foot. Mr. Allain stated that the contract is calculated on tons stored. He continued with that if the bids come in over budgeted costs, the Port has the right to renegotiate or terminate the lease. Mr. Jones asked how long the Port has been working on the lease and how much longer it will take to get it resolved. Mr. Allain reported that the Port has been working on this lease for a year now and the Port has been working on different configurations to get it resolved.

Mr. Allain reported that the Port office bathrooms are in need of repair. Mr. Jones made a motion to authorize the Executive Director, Mr. Allain, to allow the necessary repairs. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lanceslin. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Allain suggested a time change for the Monthly Meeting to accommodate other members, which is held at 6:00 P. M. After discussion, the time will remain at 6:00 P. M.

Mr. Allain reported that contact has been made with Daniel Edgar regarding a bait processing station. As they are still in discussion on this item, he will let the Commission know when something changes. Also, Mr. Allain contacted Tommy LeBlanc about property he may have for sale and is waiting to hear back from him. Mr. Allain also contacted Louisiana Economic Development about different contacts and will let the Commission know after the meeting he has with them.

Mr. Jones stated that the federal government is planning to establish 20 – 30 scientists in the Atchafalaya Basin and is looking for a home office in either Lake Pontchartrain, Barataria or Morgan City. He hopes to share additional information at next month's meeting.

EDA/Facility Planning (Training Facility) – A motion was made by Mr. Terry to approve Payment #12 to ARL Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$34,232.30. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lanceslin. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Continuing with the Training Facility, a motion was made by Mr. Tabb to approve Miller Engineers Request for Payment # 14 in the amount of \$1,386.74. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phillips. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Tabb to issue a Letter of No Objection to the Corps of Engineers as requested by Harold Bienvenu. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lanceslin. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Tabb to issue a Letter of No Objection to the Corps of Engineers as requested by Michael LaSalle. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lanceslin. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Paul asked about the height of the Sugar Warehouse building. Mr. Molaison replied that it has to be more than 44 feet with equipment.

Mr. Jones reported that he had a conversation with a builder about hydrogen battery construction and is hoping it will be located in St. Mary Parish.

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Mr. Jones to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tabb. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:24 P.M.

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