

WEST ST. MARY PARISH PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 1, 2016

6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Willie Peters, President of the Port Commission. Mr. Peters gave an invocation. Mr. Wayne Stevens led in the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call resulted in the following:

Present:

Calvin Deshotel
Ralph Longman
Greg Paul
Willie Peters
Wayne Stevens
Will Terry

Absent:

Phil Bell
Tad Blevins
Joseph Tabb

Also present at the meeting were Ms. Marguerite Robinson of Teche Talk, Mr. Roger Stouff of the Franklin Banner, Mr. Reid Miller of Miller Engineers, Mr. Eric Duplantis, Port Attorney, Mr. David Allain, Executive 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 October 4, 2016 meeting minutes and to accept the same. The motion was seconded by Mr. Paul and carried unanimously.

Mr. Peters asked for any Public Comment - there was none.

Mr. Allain presented the Commissioners a copy of a proposed employment contract between him and the Port Commission for the position of Executive Director, that was negotiated with the Port's Executive Committee. The terms of the contract would be for four years and includes a 2% pay raise each year of the contract. Mr. Allain stated that he has agreed to the terms of the contract. A motion was made by Mr. Terry to table this item to allow the Commission to review the contract and to place it on the agenda for the December meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Longman and carried unanimously.

Mr. Allain presented the Commissioners with the Proposed Budget for 2017. Before addressing the 2017 proposed budget, Mr. Allain recommended that the Commissioners consider adjusting the 2016 budget by increasing the Advertising budget item by \$13,544 to allow for payment of the new sign to be erected at the old Superior Fabricators site. The Commission had previously approved the cost of the sign and the cost to install the sign. A motion was made by Mr. Deshotel to approve the adjustment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stevens and carried unanimously.

Mr. Allain reviewed several items of the Proposed Budget for 2017 and the Commission agreed to table this item and requested that it be placed on next month's agenda to allow them time to further review the Proposed Budget.

Mr. Allain reported that Daicham USA, Orion Chemical plant, has expressed an interest in leasing property from the Port adjacent to their existing plant. Mr. Allain has been communicating with Daicham who is the selection group that is picking the land for Orion. The company was looking at three possible sites and has narrowed their selection to two sites - the Port of West St. Mary and the second site is in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana. Mr. Allain was advised that a decision should be made sometime in January of 2017.

Mr. Allain reported on the Industrial Park pumping station right of way. He has been negotiating with the landowners for the past three months for a right of way and approximately one half acre of land to put the pump on. The landowners are proposing that the Port pay \$15,000 for a one hundred year lease. Mr. Duplantis and the Commission agreed that the offer was excessive. The Commission advised Mr. Allain to decline the offer and to continue negotiations with the landowners.

Mr. Allain reported that he has received a letter from Gulf Coast Broadband informing him that they want to renew their lease with the Port for another five years. Renewal of their lease includes an escalation factor that brings their lease rate from \$200 per month to \$400 per month.

Mr. Allain reported that the sign for the old Superior location will be ready soon and hopefully installed shortly.

Mr. Duplantis reminded the Commissioners to complete the required Ethics Training if they have not done so by the end of this year.

Mr. Duplantis also asked for a moment of silence for Mr. Al Lippman , a local attorney who passed away recently. Mr. Duplantis said that Mr. Lippman was not only a tremendous asset to the legal community in St. Mary Parish and the State of Louisiana but he was also a longtime member of the Port of Morgan City. Mr. Peters also noted that Mr. Louis Lipari, 26 year St. Mary Parish School Board Member who passed away recently.

A motion was made by Mr. Terry to adopt a Resolution of Respect in honor of Mr. Lippman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stevens and carried unanimously.

Mr. Reid Miller reported on the bulkhead at the Industrial Park - sand is being hauled to the bulkhead on the Industrial Park. There was about a week delay hauling the sand because of the recent flooding in the Lafayette area (where the sand pit was located). Flood water had to be pumped from the sand pit. The sand is almost to water level and there should be approximately one more week of hauling. He is monitoring the sheet pile and it is moving as expected. The bulkhead should be completed within the next few weeks. Mr. Allain asked if the weeds and lilies were being removed from the containment wall and how did they get there? Mr. Miller said that yes they were removing the weeds and the lilies and they were trapped inside the bulkhead when they began constructing the containment wall.

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Mr. Deshotel to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stevens and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Signed _____
Wilson Terry, Secretary/Treasurer

