

WEST ST. MARY PARISH PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 5, 2017

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. Ralph Longman led in the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call resulted in the following:

Present:

Tad Blevins
Calvin Deshotel
Greg Paul
Willie Peters
Ralph Longman
Will Terry
Joseph Tabb

Absent:

Phil Bell
Wayne Stevens

Also present at the meeting were Representative Sam Jones, Mr. Casey Collier of the Franklin Banner, Mr. Eric Duplantis, Port Attorney, Mr. Reid Miller of Miller Engineers, Mr. David Allain, Executive Director and Ms. Rebecca Pellerin, Office Manager of the Port Commission.

A motion was made by Mr. Tabb to dispense with the reading of the November 7, 2017 meeting minutes and to accept them as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Terry and carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Allain gave the following report:

- a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Port Commission and the South Louisiana Community College was presented to the Commission. The MOU is a requirement of the EDA application the Port is submitting for the construction of a welding school at the Industrial Park. The Port was invited to submit a full application. Mr. Duplantis reported that the MOU is a procedural requirement. A motion was made by Mr. Tabb to authorize Mr. Allain to enter into a MOU with SLCC contingent upon the Port acquiring funding. The motion was seconded by Mr. Deshotel and carried unanimously.

- LA DOTD state project - Mr. Miller reported that one of the components was a large air compressor at DLS - as it comes in under the bid threshold, quotes will be requested and submitted to LA DOTD for their review. He said that he anticipates advertising on this project right after the holidays. The overhead crane in the building and the bulkhead will be worked on at the same time. He said that he hopes to get all out to bid sometime in early Spring and have the projects working through the Summer.

Mr. Allain reported that he attended a Ports Association of Louisiana meeting recently in New Orleans and that the Secretary for the Economic Development Administration in Louisiana is proposing a change to the Port Priority Program. He said, basically, there are seventeen projects in the Port Priority Program at the moment - eight of the seventeen projects would be taken out and put into a PTT - a bonding agent. This would allow for projects to be funded in a more efficient manner. Mr. Peters added that Dr. Wilson was at a meeting recently and spoke about this being in the works for St. Mary Parish.

Mr. Peters told that the Commission that Mr. Armada, Superintendent of the St. Mary Parish School Board, expressed an interest in the proposed welding school and a desire to participate with the project. Mr. Allain said that the Port plans to work with the industry in the area and the area schools to make presentations on the proposed school.

A motion was made by Mr. Deshotel to approve the proposed 2018 budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Terry and carried unanimously.

Election of Officers:

A motion was made by Mr. Longman to nominate Mr. Joseph Tabb for the office of Secretary/Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Will Terry. There were no more nominations. Mr. Deshotel moved that nominations be closed. Mr. Tabb was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

A motion was made by Mr. Deshotel to nominate Mr. Wilson Terry for the office of Vice President. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tabb. There were no more nominations. Mr. Longman moved that the nominations be closed. Mr. Terry was elected Vice President.

A motion was made by Mr. Deshotel to nominate Mr. Wayne Stevens for the office of President. The motion was seconded by Mr. Will Terry. There were no more nominations. Mr. Tabb moved that the nominations be closed. Mr. Stevens was elected President.

Mr. Allain reported that as everyone knows, Mr. Stevens has been dealing with medical issues and that he spoke with him earlier in the day and that he looks forward to serving as President of the Port Commission.

Mr. Peters welcomed Representative Sam Jones to the meeting. Representative Jones said that project to build the welding school at the Industrial Park is very important. He reported that South Louisiana Community College is interested in adding a CDL training school to the welding school project. He said he has spoken with members of the St. Mary Parish Council about possible additional funding if needed. Discussion followed. Representative Jones said he would like to see a taskforce committee created to involve area businesses.

Mr. Duplantis reminded the Commission that the annual Ethics training must be completed by the end of this year. Mr. Allain reported that everyone had completed the required training.

Mr. Peters wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

A motion was made by Mr. Deshotel to request that Mr. Longman remain as a signatory on financial documents. The motion was seconded by Mr. Paul and carried unanimously.

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Mr. Paul to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Deshotel and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Signed Wilson Terry
Wilson Terry, Secretary