

WEST ST. MARY PARISH PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

August 2, 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:

Absent:

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

Also present at the meeting were Mr. Eric Duplantis, Port Attorney, Mr. John Trahan, Ms. Marguerite Robinson of Teche Talk, Mr. Arnold Watson, Mr. Steven Link with IBV Energy Group, Mr. Reid Miller of Miller Engineers, Mr. David Naquin, Interim Assistant Director and Ms. Brandy Pennison, Administrative Assistant of the Port Commission.

A motion was made by Mr. Tabb to dispense with the reading of the July 11, 2023 meeting minutes and to accept them as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Terry. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion to adopt a Resolution of Respect was presented by the Board for David J. Allain who passed away recently. It was seconded unanimously by the Board. Mr. Allain will be missed by all that knew him.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Steven Link with IBV Energy Group gave a presentation on new proposed routes for solar transmission lines. Mr. Link explained that they were working closely with the Parish to make sure the transmission lines would not interfere with any new developments. Discussion followed. Mr. Paul stated the Board would take it under advisement.

Mr. Tabb asked that the Ad Hoc Committee meet to go over all applicants for the Executive Director position. The meeting will take place before the regular monthly meeting so they can recommend someone for that position.

Mr. Terry made a motion to Consider and Take Action on a Resolution Authorizing David A. Naquin to sign all documents pertaining to the Port of West St. Mary's Hancock Whitney Bank accounts and all other necessary documents, including but not limited to contracts relating to the Port of West St. Mary and to remove David J. Allain, Former Executive Director, as signatory on all Hancock Whitney Banking documents, including but not limited to contracts, due to his unfortunate death. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. Mr. Paul asked if there was discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Jones to Consider and Take Action to Authorize Lennel G. Paul to Sign and Execute an Intergovernmental Replacement Agreement Between the State of Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Port of West St. Mary. Mr. Pontiff seconded the motion. Mr. Paul asked if there was discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Naquin reported that repairs are going to take a little longer on the White Warehouse as the roll door has not come in, yet. The gate at the Industrial Park is currently being repaired at DLS. As soon as it's finished, it will be installed. Mr. Jones made a motion to allow Mr. Naquin to purchase a new lawnmower for maintenance. Mr. Terry seconded the motion. Mr. Paul asked if there was discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Naquin explained that the current Web site for the Port needs to be updated and the Board agreed. Mr. Phillips asked if the Port would consider putting a cover over the water pump. Mr. Naquin agreed to look into it, find out the cost and then let the Board know.

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 #1 to ARL Construction, Inc. for \$87,866.59. Ms. Lanceslin 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 #8 for Professional Services in the amount of \$3,593.46. Ms. Lanceslin seconded the motion. Mr. Paul asked if there was discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Miller reported that the ground where the sugar warehouses are going to be located is pretty well levelled off. He stated that they will be doing dirt work for the next three weeks. The north side is pretty cleared up, also. The soil is being tested and results are coming back good. He stated that everything is moving as planned.

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

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. Tabb. Mr. Paul asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Signed _____
Murphy Pontiff, Secretary