

NATCHITOCHEES PARISH PORT COMMISSION
July 15, 2019, Regular Meeting

Present were Nettles Brown, Ralph Ingram, Dan Simmons, William Allen, and K. David Zachary, Commissioners. Also, present were Travis Tyler, Executive Director of the Port and Mark A. Begnaud of McCoy Roberts & Begnaud, Ltd., legal counsel to the Commission, Kenneth Folden and Alayna Huckaby.

Alayna Huckaby of Kenneth D. Folden & Company presented the Port's 2018 Audit Report to the Commissioners, stating: 1) there were no findings; 2) there were a few minor exceptions, but appropriate changes are being made; 3) the Port's Financial Statements were presented fairly; 4) the audit reported on the Executive Director's compensation; 5) the Port has implemented required procedures; 6) the auditor reviewed procedure related to disbursements; 7) there are minor issues with the approval of expenses and leave, but these are being remedied; and 8) the Port staff must review its ethics policy and sign off on it annually. A motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Simmons, and duly passed to accept the 2018 Audit Report.

A motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Zachary, and duly carried to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2019, Commission meeting.

As part of the Director's Activity Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) tonnage is approximately 250,000 tons year to date. A tonnage report was available for review; 2) Madden has a rock train currently at the Port; 3) Custom Commodities is back up and running on the Matriculated site; 4) Matriculated has not paid the penalty portion of its rent. The Port's staff has followed up regarding payment; 5) Terral Riverservices has renewed its chip pad agreement and its warehouse agreement; and 6) Terral has not signed off on the rockyard agreement.

Also, as part of the Director's Activity Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) maintenance was done on the locomotives; 2) the Port has submitted on a manufacturing project called "Project

Pony”; 3) the Port also submitted on a project called “Project Hermes”, which is a petrochemical company that will need approximately 160 – 240 acres and access to rail and barge. The project would have approximately \$1.2 million in capital investment and provide approximately 430 jobs; 4) the Port received financial funding approval for the overland conveyor project. If the project does not materialize, funds may be able to be redirected; and 5) Fire District 6 is still moving equipment off the Port’s property, but at a slow pace. The Port will review the agreement to determine a deadline for completion of removal.

A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Simmons and duly carried to accept the May 2019 Treasurer’s Report, a copy of which was available for review. The Port is running ahead of budget.

In Old Business, a motion to amend the agenda to include the Terral rockyard lease in Old Business was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Mr. Allen, and after a unanimous roll call vote, was added to the agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Simmons and was duly passed authorizing Mr. Tyler to give Terral a deadline of Friday, July 19th to execute the rockyard lease or it will be withdrawn.

Also, in Old Business, Mr. Tyler reported the following: 1) 2015 Flood Impacts – sand has built up on the River side of the old dock; 2) there are no changes related to capital improvements projects; and 3) appraisers have looked at property that might be available to expand the Northport tract and should have the appraisals by the next meeting.

In New Business, Mr. Tyler reported the following regarding the proposed road adjacent to the existing rail spur: 1) he has reached out to contractors for quotes; 2) the Port will comply with all required public bid requirements related to the road construction; and 3) a motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Allen and duly passed approving the road construction at the price quoted.

A motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Mr. Allen, and after a unanimous roll call vote, the Board entered executive session to discuss pending litigation.

After exiting executive session, there was additional discussion regarding the potential road to be used by Custom Commodities.

A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Simmons and duly carried that the meeting be adjourned.