

NATCHITOCHEs PARISH PORT COMMISSION  
August 16, 2021, Regular Meeting

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

After requesting public comment, of which there was none, the Commissioners unanimously voted by roll call vote to amend the agenda to allow the auditors to present the results of the audit at the beginning of the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Mr. Allen, and duly carried to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2021, Commission meeting.

Ms. Alayna Huckaby of Kenneth Folden & Company presented the 2020 Audit to the Commissioners. There were no findings related to compliance or internal controls and the auditors noted their opinion was an unqualified/unmodified on material issues. Revenues for the Port was down from 2019, and expenditures were about the same as 2019. A motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Mr. Ingram and duly passed accepting the 2020 Audit Report.

As part of the Director's Activity Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) over 300,000 tons of material have moved through the Port year to date (through July); 2) Kisatchie Chips has a new manager; 3) Custom Commodities has been active; 4) the Port applied for Project Lloyd, a steel facility that would provide approximately 200 jobs and infuse \$400 - \$500 million in capital investment; 5) the Port applied for Project Ecosphere, which would provide approximately 1,100 jobs, infuse approximately \$2.5 million in capital investment and potentially use the 3,000 square foot warehouse space. There have been some conversations with ADA regarding a possible

sublease.

Also, as part of the Director's Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) Terral is not renewing its lease on the rock site. A couple of entities are interested in the site for rock, concrete, etc.; 2) Project Drill remains a potential tenant; 3) the Shreveport-Bossier Port wants \$250,000.00 for its two locomotives, which is more than the Port wants to spend; and 4) Project Green continues to express interest in the Port. The Port has been coordinating with the company's consultants.

After the Commissioners reviewed the July 2021 Treasurer's Report, a motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Simmons and duly carried to accept the report, a copy of which was available for review.

In Old Business, Mr. Tyler reported the following: 1) the National Guard will visit this week to do a potential feasibility study to build a levee around the NorthPort site as part of a training exercise; 2) regarding the Dock 3 Repair, the deadline is this week to receive a stabilization plan from the engineers. The Port must provide the plans to FEMA by October. The Corps of Engineers is visiting on August 17 to review erosion and other issues; 3) no developments regarding the Northport expansion; 4) reviewed the premiums from Brown & Brown on property and equipment insurance, which were slightly less than the quote from BOM Financial; and 4) regarding the purchase of Terral's truck scales, the Port has been unable to obtain an appraisal on the scale as it sits. A new scale would be \$61,000.00, plus \$8,000 for installation and \$2,500.00 for freight and would also need a concrete base. Terral is asking \$70,000.00 for its five year old scales.

In New Business: 1) a motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Allen and was duly passed a short-term agreement resolution authorizing a three-month ground lease with Custom Commodities; 2) a motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Simmons and was duly passed adopting a semi-monthly pay schedule for the new hire, who is helping with the yard

and locomotives. There is no additional charge for the bookkeeping for this change.

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

After exiting executive session, a motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Zachary and duly carried that the meeting be adjourned.