

NATCHITOCHEs PARISH PORT COMMISSION
December 20, 2021, 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, Mickey Chambers, Assistant to the Executive Director of the Port, Ronnie Blewer, Sr., Ronnie Blewer, Jr. and Mark A. Begnaud of McCoy Roberts & Begnaud, Ltd., legal counsel to the Commission.

A motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Zachary, and duly carried to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2021, Commission meeting.

As part of the Director's Activity Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) over 488,000 tons of material have moved through the Port year to date (through November); 2) ADA and Kisatchie Chips are back to full operations; 3) KNH has begun to bring in dirt and concrete into the Port by trucks and may begin utilizing the rail; and 4) Madden has been receiving two trains per week and plans to do the same in January and February.

Also, as part of the Director's Report, Mr. Tyler reported he has been in contact with the following potential tenants: 1) a company interested in chip storage on the existing pad; 2) a company interested in using the rail and warehouse dock for unloading OSB from rail directly to trucks; 3) a company interested in unloading containers and loading the empty containers onto rail cars. The project could last for 10 to 12 years. The Port is considering leasing a forklift to assist this potential tenant; 4) a cement business is interested in locating here to meet demand in this area; 5) a grain storage facility; 6) a party interested in loading soybeans; and 7) other parties that have shown interest in the Port in the past month.

Also, as part of the Director's Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) he continues to work on the revetment issue at the north end of the oxbow. He has met with representative of the

Congressional delegation and is receiving positive feedback; and 2) the Commissioners may need to be trained on ethics and sexual harassment.

After reviewing the October and November 2021 Treasurer's Reports, a motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Ingram and duly carried to accept the report, a copy of which was available for review. Revenue was up as of November. The Port applied for relief funding due to COVID.

In Old Business, Mr. Tyler reported the following: 1) Elevating and protecting the Northport tract remains at the top of the list of potential capital improvements; and 2) the rail spur, repairs to Dock 3 and the expansion of the North port tract also remain possibilities.

Also in Old Business: 1) the Port is still in application process for the National Guard levee project; and 2) there are no further developments related to the potential purchase of the truck scale from Terral.

In New Business, 1) a motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Simmons and duly passed authorizing a Resolution to Approve Execution of Short-Term Lease with Custom Commodities Logistics, LLC. After the conclusion of short term agreement, Custom Commodities will look at a long-term agreement; 2) a motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Allen and duly passed authorizing aerial hog gunning over the Port's property as requested by the Natchitoches Soil and Conservation District; 3) a motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Simmons and duly passed approving the 2021 budget amendments; 4) a motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Simmons and duly passed approving the 2022 Operating Budget

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

After exiting executive session, a motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Mr.

Allen and after a unanimous roll call vote, the Board approved a salary increase of \$15,000.00 per year for Travis Tyler, a salary increase of \$4,000.00 per year for Mickey Chambers, a seven percent (7%) increase for Sam Baker and a \$2.00 per hour increase for Aydan Jackson.

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