

NATCHITOCHEs PARISH PORT COMMISSION  
April 18, 2022, Regular Meeting

Present were Nettles Brown, Ralph Ingram, William Allen, 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 and Erika F. Cedars of McCoy Roberts & Begnaud, Ltd., legal counsel to the Commission.

A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Ingram, and duly carried to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2022, Commission meeting.

As part of the Director's Activity Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) over 210,000 tons of material have moved through the Port through the end of March. The majority of the material has been aggregate and wood chips; 2) Madden, ADA and Custom Commodities remain active; 3) he has been discussing a service agreement involving receiving materials through the Port with Weyerhaeuser and has not heard back from them after revisions were made to the agreement by legal counsel; 4) Weyerhaeuser visited the Port regarding shipping out headers and I-beams and utilizing the chip pad for storage; 5) received a quote from Hug-n-Haul for leasing a forklift; 6) he spoke to cement group regarding its interest in the Port and the group stated due to the shortage of cement, it is sold out for at least a year. Therefore, any facility at the Port would not occur until a later date; and 7) the Port is waiting on representatives of Project Green to submit a grant application. Also, as part of the Director's Report, Mr. Tyler reported the Port submitted on two new projects: 1) Project 1776, a vegetable oil manufacturing company, needing approximately 30 to 50 acres, providing an estimated 25 to 50 jobs and a capital investment of approximately \$20 to \$50 million dollars; and 2) a lithium battery manufacturing company.

Also, as part of the Director's Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) Four (4) new grain entities have expressed interest in the Port (a couple being larger grain handlers); 2) the Port met with the

NEDA Commission regarding the Port having a seat on the Board at no cost; and 3) the Port submitted an application to the URAF (utilities relocation assistance funding) for grants opportunity for the relocation of the waterline running along the Grand Ecore bridge. He also had conversations with the head of the administration and reached out to Louie Bernard and other local representatives.

After reviewing the March 2022 Treasurer's Report, a motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Mr. Ingram 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 Port continues to work with the National Guard on a training project for construction of a levee on the Northport tract; and 2) the Port is gathering information related to a rail spur extension to the Northport tract. Currently the Port has only a rough estimate; 3) Interest in grain handling at the Port will require increased storage, related to which the Port is waiting on cost estimates; 4) the Port is waiting on estimate from a contractor for the salvage of the upper deck of Dock 3. A cost analysis and feasibility study requested by FEMA has been submitted; and 6) the request for bids related to the purchase of a truck scale was advertised.

In New Business, 1) A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Simmons, and was duly approved to hire Posten to pump the septic tank and replace the two (2) septic pumps; 2) a motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Simmons and duly passed authorizing the Port to sign audit engagement letters with Kenneth D. Folden & Co.; and 3) a motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Simmons and duly passed authorizing an agriculture lease being put out for bid if the property is, in fact, available.

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