

NATCHITOCHE PARISH PORT COMMISSION
December 19, 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, Ronnie Blewer and Mark A. Begnaud of McCoy Roberts & Begnaud, Ltd., legal counsel to the Commission.

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

As part of the Director's Activity Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) up to approximately 570,000 tons of material has moved through the Port through the end of November; 2) he expects more aggregate to come through the Port this year; 3) he is still working on a proposed agreement with Custom Commodities and American Soda; 4) the Port will relocate Custom Commodities to the warehouse spur after the first of the year; 5) K&H is expanding its operation and may build a permanent structure and request a longer term lease; 6) there are still parties interested in bringing pipe through the Port; and 7) the Port did not get approval for the full funding related to the waterline grant, but a smaller percentage may be approved. No word on when construction on the bridge will begin.

Also, as part of the Director's Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) he had a follow up call regarding Project Deuce (a CLECO based project). There has not yet been a visit to the Port by the prospect; 2) he has been in contact with representatives of the prospect for Project Green and the prospect continues to show interest; 3) interest has been shown in the Port's truck dump and conveyer; 4) the valves for the locomotives need to be changed. The cost should be \$8,000.00 to \$10,000.00 range; 6) a meeting is scheduled with engineers to plan a potential Port Priority application; 7) a prospect has shown interest in bringing barite in raw form through the Port; 8) a prospect is still looking at potentially shipping soybeans; 9) a prospect is looking at bringing in

mats for pipeline projects, which could utilize 2,000 +/- rail cars.

After reviewing the November 2022 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) there has been no further information from DEQ regarding elevation of the Northport tract and the National Guard to construct the levee around the site; 2) regarding the rail spur on the Northport tract and additional storage, the Port will meet with an engineer related to potential Port Priority funding; 3) Dock 3 repairs were discussed and 4) discussion was had related to a potential additional 150,000 square foot warehouse.

In New Business, 1) a motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Simmons, and was duly carried accepting the 2022 Budget Amendments; and 2) a motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Mr. Ingram, and was duly carried accepting the 2023 Budget, which included a cost of living increase for existing employees of 8.7% and the cost of a new full-time employee at \$41,600 per year and \$30 per hour overtime.

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

After exiting the executive session, a motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Mr. Ingram and duly passed approving a settlement for previous contractor to stabilize the bank at the existing Dock 3 site for the amount of funds remaining in the project.

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