

NATCHITOCHEs PARISH PORT COMMISSION
May 15, 2023, Regular Meeting

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

A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Zachary, and duly carried to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2023, Commission meeting.

As part of the Director's Activity Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) approximately 180,000 tons of material moved through the Port through the end of April; 2) ADA is moving forward with its expansion project; 3) potential tenants continue to show interest in the Port; 3) one group is still interested in transporting slag into the Port and shipping it out; 4) a potential tenant would need a conveyor that could be used for other materials; 5) another potential tenant could potentially ship logs or lumber; and 6) he is meeting with a group that is interested in loading out wood chips.

Also, as part of the Director's Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) there is continued interest in OSB being transported into the Port (quantity is uncertain at this time); 2) he has a follow up meeting with a potential tenant related to grain; 3) he received the feasibility study on the water facility. An aquifer is the most viable option. The river is not as feasible for potable water. Further studies are needed and a cost estimate will be provided to the Port; 4) the Port's locomotive maintenance group has located a 1,000 hp engine that could be rented for \$4,000 per month. They are not interested in selling the locomotive at this time. The Port needs all three engines it has to operate efficiently; 5) the Federal Railroad Administration inspected the Port last week and no issues were conveyed to the Port; and 5) he will meet with KCS representatives this week regarding potential site for its operations.

After the Commissioners reviewed the April 2023 Treasurer's Report, a motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Zachary 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 is submitting the documentation for a permit to the Corps of Engineers related to work on leveeing the Northport tract. This is the last permit needed before the National Guard can begin work on the levee; and 2) the cost for the rail spur on the North Port tract will be approximately \$400 per foot and the Port would need about 15,000 feet; 3) he is waiting on the cost estimate for additional enclosed storage; and 4) the Dock 3 repairs will be discussed in executive session.

In New Business, 1) the Louisiana Ethics Board said that rebidding the grazing lease again would be best. A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Zachary, and duly passed approving the grazing to be rebid; 2) a motion was made by Mr. Zachary, seconded by Mr. Allen and duly carried approving a 6-month lease agreement with Custom Commodities; 3) a motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Zachary and duly passed approving the two (2) options to extend warehouse space lease with ADA for one year; 4) a notice of intention was approved pursuant to La. R.S. 33:4717.2 (B) stating that a resolution will be considered at the June 2023, regular meeting to approve a lease agreement with KNH Trucking & Contracting, LLC.

A motion was made by Mr. Zachary, seconded by Mr. Allen, and after a unanimous roll call vote, the Board entered executive session to discuss litigation matters related to the Dock 3 repairs.

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