

NATCHITOCHEs PARISH PORT COMMISSION
August 19, 2019, Regular Meeting

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

Mr. Ronnie Blewer made public comment and provided a written statement to the Port regarding potential expansion of the Northport tract. Mr. Edgar Cason indicated his concern about pulpwood pricing because one company in the area has a monopoly on pulpwood. A competing mill would benefit local landowners. Mr. Tyler reported appraisals have been done regarding potential expansion of the Northport tract

A motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Mr. Zachary, and duly carried to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2019, Commission meeting.

As part of the Director's Activity Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) tonnage is approximately 300,000 tons year to date. A tonnage report was available for review; 2) Madden continues to bring in rock trains; 3) Terral is filling the warehouse with sand; 4) ADA installed concrete along rail spur to deal with the dust issue; 5) Matriculated has not paid the penalty portion of its rent. A demand letter will be sent; 6) construction has begun on a road adjacent the rail spur to service Custom Commodities; and 7) Fire District 6 has requested an extension until September 30, 2019, to remove its materials from the Port's property.

Also, as part of the Director's Activity Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) a biofuel refining company from Houston is considering locating a facility at the Port. It would need 30 +/- acres and a rail spur storage for up to 20 rail cars. It is potentially a \$250 million project that would produce \$80 million in revenue and provide 100 +/- direct jobs; and 2) he would like to work on a

new Master Plan for the Port and is gathering information and on how best to proceed.

A motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Mr. Zachary and duly carried to accept the July 2019 Treasurer's Report, a copy of which was available for review. Maintenance on the locomotives was a cost, but Port revenue remains favorable due to the receipt of FEMA funds that reimbursed the Port for last year's expenses paid related to the dock repair issue.

In Old Business, Mr. Tyler reported the following: 1) 2015 Flood Impacts – raising the revetment at the upper end of the bendway would be a long-term process. He is moving forward with the process; 2) there are no changes related to capital improvements; and 3) the Port now has appraisals related to the potential expansion of the Northport tract.

In New Business, Mr. Tyler reported Terral has requested the Ground Lease be revised to begin August 1, 2019.

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

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