

NATCHITOCHEs PARISH PORT COMMISSION

January 16, 2023, 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. Simmons, seconded by Mr. Allen, and duly carried to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2022 Commission meeting.

As part of the Director's Activity Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) approximately 620,000 tons of material moved through the Port in 2022; 2) an increase in oil & gas activity in the area has lead to an increase in aggregate coming into the Port; 3) wood inventory is low due to weather and maintenance issues; 4) Project Milton remains positive; 5) Project Green – the appraisal is complete on the contiguous property. There remains interest in acquiring the Northport tract.

Also, as part of the Director's Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) a proposal for a water treatment facility was received. The evaluation would cost \$75,000.00; 2) CLECO is working on getting power to the Northport tract; and 3) the Port is looking at issues related to the closure at the top of the bendway and potentially raising the revetment. Cost would be \$17,000.00 +/- to conduct a study. Engineers are consulting with the Corps of Engineers regarding the study.

There was no Treasurer's Report to review.

In Old Business, Mr. Tyler reported the following: 1) the Port has received approval from DEQ regarding elevation leveeing of the Northport tract and is moving forward with submittal to the National Guard; 2) the rail spur on the Northport tract and additional warehouse storage are being pursued with a potential Port Priority Project grant. The grant would pay up to 90% of the construction in phases. The warehouse seems to be more in demand at this point; and 3) the contractor is mobilizing to stabilize Dock 3.

In New Business, 1) a motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Mr. Ingram, and duly passed for a resolution to approve a Short Term Lease Agreement with Battle Lumber, LLC; and 2) a motion was made by Mr. Ingram, seconded by Mr. Zachary, and duly passed for a resolution to approve a Short Term Lease Agreement with Custom Commodities Logistics, LLC; and 3) a motion was made by Mr. Zachary, seconded by Mr. Ingram, and was duly carried approving a 10% increase of the locomotive rates.

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 matters.

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