

NATCHITOCHEs PARISH PORT COMMISSION
January 15, 2024, Regular Meeting

Present were Nettles Brown, K. David Zachary and Dan Simmons, Commissioners. Absent were Mary Ann Motter 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.

A motion was made by Mr. Zachary, seconded by Mr. Simmons, and duly carried to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2023, Commission meeting.

As part of the Director's Activity Report, Mr. Tyler reported: 1) he met with representatives of a group that wants to ship industrial hemp to Michigan and construct a potential industrial facility; 2) Project Red River – potential tenant is looking at new legislation and requested a one month pause. The potential tenant seems to be moving forward, but wants to confirm the impact of the legislation. An appraiser has been engaged for the project; 3) the Port has been approached by a solar facility; 4) Project Red River Waste – continues to show interest; 5) Water Treatment Facility –samples have been pulled for analysis and a pump test was scheduled, but the pump had power issues. They plan on moving forward with a generator, if necessary; 6) he spoke with International Paper and Weyerhaeuser regarding potential storage, which may only be outdoor storage; and 7) tonnage was over 632,000 tons at year end for 2023.

No Treasurer's Report was presented for December 2023. The Port is waiting on end of year figures to close out the financials for 2023. LAMP is still performing well.

In Old Business, Mr. Tyler reported the following: 1) Red River Parish Port Commission Cooperative Endeavor Agreement has been approved by the RRPC, but still needs to be approved by Natchitoches Parish Port Commission; 2) National Guard currently still plans to move forward in 2025 with elevating the North Port tract. The Port continues to work on the Corps of Engineering 404 Permit, although the Corps may determine no permit is required; 3) regarding the rail spur -

he met with CPKC and they may be trying to divest some storage track, in particular the storage space currently leased to ADA. Port will investigate the ability and cost/benefit of constructing additional storage track, which may be an opportunity to obtain Port Priority funding; and 4) regarding the Dock 3 repairs, the Port resubmitted to FEMA after obtaining a time extension and is waiting on additional time extension. Once approved, there should be no issue with additional funding to return the dock to original state.

In New Business: 1) a motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Zachary and duly passed approving an engagement letter to Kenneth D. Folden & Company to perform an audit for \$3,000.00 and a special audit for \$7,000.00; 2) a motion was made by Mr. Zachary, seconded by Mr. Simmons and duly passed approving short term lease agreement with KNH Contracting & Trucking, LLC; 3) a motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Zachary and duly passed approving a short term lease agreement with Battle Lumber Company, Inc. for transloading mats; and 4) a motion was made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Zachary and duly passed approving short term lease with Masterflow Technologies, LLC.

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