

**Avoyelles Parish Port Commission**  
**170 Honeybee Lane**  
**P.O. Box 126**  
**Simmesport, Louisiana 71369**

**Regular Meeting**

October 17, 2022

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman, Barry Laiche called to order the regular meeting of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission 5:31 p.m. on October 17, 2022, at Port Commission Headquarters 170 Honeybee Lane, Simmesport, Louisiana, 71369.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

By Commissioner Scott Williams

**III. PRAYER:**

By Commissioner Patrick Deshotels

**IV. ROLL CALL:**

Port Director Sam Ducote conducted the roll call. The following individuals were present giving the meeting a quorum of three of commissioners present:

Chairman Barry Laiche

Commissioner Scott Williams

Commissioner Patrick Deshotels

Stacy Auzenne (Port Counsel)

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS:**

There were no members of the public present to comment.

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## **VI. TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The treasurer's report was passed as this position has not been filled.

## **VII. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

Minutes for the September 19, 2022, meeting was reviewed by all commissioners present. Commissioner Williams motioned to approve and adopt the minutes for the September budget meeting, Commissioner Deshotels seconded the motion. The motion to accept the minutes for the September 19, 2022, meeting passed unanimously.

## **VIII. DELEGATES FIVE MINUTE RULE:**

There were no members of the public present.

## **IX. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Chairman Laiche informed the other commissioners of meetings with the Canadaville Group. Chairman Laiche believes that at this time the current business model proposed by Canadaville is not in the best interest of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission. There were no other comments on this subject.

## **X. VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Commissioner Williams updated the Port Commission on the status of the Helena tank project. Chairman Laiche, Commissioner Williams and Director Ducote attended a meeting with the Red River Waterway Commission. During the meeting it was decided that the Red River Waterway will fund the Helena tank project. Port Chairman Mr. Barry Laiche voiced his appreciation to Red River Waterway for their support of the Avoyelles Parish Port. Red River Waterway Commission will be funding the project in the amount of \$850,000.00. The Port of Avoyelles will receive \$150,000.00 in funding from the State of Louisiana in the form of capital outlay funding also. Without the funding from Red River Waterway, this project would not have been continued, therefore the members of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission are extremely appreciative to Red River Waterway Commission for its assistance.

## **XI. PORT DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Director Ducote has not received any response from Henderson Auction concerning the monies owed to the Port of Avoyelles for cleanup of trailers sites due. At this point the Chair entertained a motion to engage Mr. Auzenne as legal counsel to first and foremost send a demand letter to put Henderson on notice of

the demand and to trigger whatever that is needed to trigger to recover the monies owed. The amount owed is \$8,000.00. Commissioner Williams made the motion to engage Mr. Auzenne and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Deshotels. The motion passed unanimously.

## **XII. CONSIDERATION OF OTHER MATTERS:**

### **A) Discussion and approval to accept bids for cleanup as a whole or in phases.**

The commissioners authorized Mr. Auzenne to work and place notice of bid for proposal of the cleanup of concrete, utility infrastructure, culverts, light poles, and asphalt where the old trailers existed.

### **B) Authorize Commission President, Barry Laiche to execute liquid tank design contract with GEC.**

Chairman Laiche entertained a motion consistent with agenda item 12-B. Commissioner Williams motioned to authorize Commission President, Barry Laiche, to execute liquid tank design contract with GEC. Commissioner Deshotels seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **C) Approval of cooperative endeavor between Red River Waterway Commission and the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission.**

Chairman Laiche informed the board that this concerns the Port to receive the \$850,000.00 from Red River Waterway. The Port of Avoyelles will be entering a cooperative endeavor government-to-government agreement with the Red River Waterway Commission. Commissioner Williams motioned to authorize Port Commission President, Barry Laiche, to move on the behalf of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission to facilitate the cooperative endeavor with Red River Waterway Commission. Commissioner Deshotels seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **XIV ADJOURN MEETING:**

Commissioner Williams made motion to adjourn meeting. Commissioner Deshotels seconded the motion. The next regular meeting of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission will take place on November 21, 2022, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Port Headquarters. The meeting adjourned.