

AVOYELLES PARISH PORT COMMISSION

(APPC)

170 HONEY BEE LANE
POST OFFICE BOX 126
SIMMESPORT, LA 71369

The Avoyelles Parish Port Commission, located at 170 Honey Bee Lane in Simmesport, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, June 17, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m., by Commission Vice Chairman Scott Williams, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Melanie Barr, followed by the prayer delivered by Commissioner Tony Pierite.

Commissioners present were Melanie Barr, Stephanie Carmouche, Craig Foster, Tony Pierite, Marshall Sampson, and Scott Williams.

Commissioner absent was Michael Moras. **Barry Laiche, although not physically present, was participating by telephone due to a prior scheduling conflict, and differed chairing the meeting to Scott Williams.**

Public comments regarding agenda items were welcomed by Commission Vice Chairman Scott Williams. APPC's attorney, Mr. Stacey Auzenne, introduced the newly appointed town of Simmesport's Attorney, Mr. Kurt Lacour. Mr. Lacour stated his purpose of attending the meeting on behalf of Mayor Draper and is looking forward to developing a productive relationship with APPC.

On motion of Mr. Scott Williams, seconded by Ms. Stephanie Carmouche, the Commission approved the treasurer's report and the posting of proposed 2019-2020 budget in official journal to announce for a public hearing to be held on Monday, July 15, 2019, at 5:00 p.m., at the Port.

On motion of Mr. Scott Williams, seconded by Ms. Melanie Barr, the Commission approved the minutes of May 3, 2019.

The Vice Chairman's report was presented by Mr. Scott Williams. Report included a discussion of port goals to secure a prospective port tenant, Mr. Ned White, who has been in contact with Vice Chairman Williams.

Port Director Mr. Sammy Ducote informed the Commissioners that a representative from the Delta Natural Gas Pipeline Project would be in attendance at the next regular meeting to be held on July 15, 2019. Commissioner Marshall Sampson requested the Port Director provide the Commission with a list of ongoing projects for the July meeting.

There was a discussion to consider a pay raise for Mr. Billy Ducote, an employee of the Port. Mr. Ducote's current rate of pay is \$12.50 per hour. On motion of Mr. Craig Foster, seconded by Mr. Marshall Sampson and Ms. Stephanie Carmouche, the Commission approved to increase Mr. Billy Ducote's rate of pay to \$15.00 per hour effective July 1, 2019.

On motion of Ms. Stephanie Carmouche, seconded by Mr. Tony Pierite, the Commission authorized Treasurer Melanie Barr to pay bills and waive a reading of the whole.

With no further business to come before the Commission, on motion by Mr. Marshall Sampson, and seconded by Mr. Craig Foster, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Mr. Barry Laiche, Commission Chairman

Mr. Craig Foster, Commission Secretary