

**PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE MORGAN CITY HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT
August 14, 2023**

The Board of Commissioners (“Board”) of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (“District”) met in regular session at the District’s office at 7327 Highway 182, Morgan City, Louisiana on August 14, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Pete Orlando, President, convened the meeting with Commissioners, Ben Adams, Steven Cornes, Joseph Cain, Troy Lombardo, Matthew Glover, Matthew Tycer and Adam Mayon in attendance. Deborah Garber was absent. Also present in the meeting were Raymond Wade, Executive Director; Tori Henry, Office Manager; Cindy Cutrera, Economic Development Manager, Michael Knobloch, Knobloch Professional Services; Gerard Bourgeois, Board Attorney; Eric Matte, T. Baker Smith; Mayor Lee Dragna and Councilman Louis Tamporello, City of Morgan City; Councilman Mark Duhon, St. Mary Parish; along with members of the general public.

The meeting was called to order and the presence of a quorum was noted. Raymond Wade led the invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

It was moved by Mr. Tycer and seconded by Mr. Lombardo that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 12, 2023 and minutes of the Special Meeting of July 25, 2023 be approved and adopted, with said motion carrying unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. Mayon that the report of receipts and disbursements for the month of July, 2023 be received and accepted and that all invoices presented to the Board for the month of July, 2023 be paid. Mr. Cornes seconded that motion, which carried unanimously.

Timothy Connell reported that: (i) the Great Lakes cutterhead dredge for the lower bar channel, expanding the width to 400’ and -24’, should be arriving by the end of the month or next month; (ii) the current contract with Brice’s Dredge *Arulaq* will be expended prior to the re-procurement of the new \$40 million, multi-year contract; (iii) the contract for Dredge *Orion* is in the process of being awarded for Berwick Harbor/Stouts Pass and should arrive sometime in August; and (iv) the *Crosby Dredger* continues to work Bayou Chene.

Lee Dragna reported that his business, LAD Services, needs water depth for projects he has extending through 2025. He noted that Mr. Connell answered his questions with his report. Mrs. Cutrera encouraged him to report all tonnage to the Corps so that we continue to justify funding.

Michael Knobloch reported that: (i) we received the waivers of match on our capital outlay requests, but are awaiting the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement from the State before we can begin the projects; (ii) we did not receive funding from the Port Security Grant program, but were notified in late July that we were awarded Community Project Funding of \$2,300,000; (iii) we are still waiting to hear about our PIDP and Maritime Highways applications and will also be applying for INFRA grant next week. It was moved by Mr. Mayon and seconded by Mr. Lombardo that the following resolution be adopted, and that the requested \$5,315,914 Cargo Transloading Equipment, Aggregate Cargo Transloading Area and Rail Spur Extension projects be matched by \$3,543,943 of Port funds, which resolution was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the above does hereby authorize the submission of its proposed funding request entitled “*Cargo Transloading Equipment, Aggregate Cargo Transloading Area, and Rail Spur Extension*” to the US Department of Transportation’s (USDOT’s) “*FY 2023 INFRA*” grant program (*Federal Assistance Listing No. 20.934 -- Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects*) and request \$5,315,914 for its implementation. If fully-awarded, the proposal will assist with funding *Phase 4* of its informal “*Port of Morgan City Terminal Facility Infrastructure Improvement Master Plan*.” Additionally, the Port District Commission agrees to be responsible for providing a local, non-federal match of \$3,543,943.

Charles Brittingham reported that (i) members are currently in August recess but not before the Senate kept the \$62.5 million in FY24 president’s budget; and (ii) he encouraged publishing a “feel good” story about the Port’s funding received as well as ongoing business opportunities.

Eric Matte reported that: (i) all cap sills have been set, rip rap is being installed along sheet pile wall, sheet pile caps are formed with rebar set and waiting on pour; (ii) we are still waiting on the permit for fill material under the dock; (iii) they are very much ahead of schedule, with contract date to end in February. Mr. Wade commended T. Baker Smith for catching the wrong material being used; and (iv) They had a MARAD progress call and are still receiving agency review letters for the West Dock project. The final Geotech report was received but expect the NEPA process to be completed by 1st quarter 2024. Mr. Matte also presented Sealevel Construction’s Payment Application No. 6 in the

amount of \$914,968.75, with Mr. Mayon moving for payment, seconded by Mr. Tycer and carried unanimously.

Cindy Cutrera reported that: (i) the Corps Low Water events are upcoming and urged all commissioners to respond as to what events they will attend, while encouraging them to “stay engaged” as Mr. Cain would say; (ii) Congressman Higgins spoke at today’s AIC luncheon and Chip Kline, formerly of CPRA, has reappeared working for GIS; (iii) she, Shelley and Mike attended Coast Guard Day and recognized Mr. Tamporello for helping organize it; (iv) she and Mac attended the Gulf Intercoastal Canal Association Conference where CPRA did a presentation on Increase Atchafalaya to Terrebonne, which was overwhelmingly opposed by waterway operators; (v) she attended the Ouachita River Valley Association Conference where she was able to network with Corps officials from Vicksburg and waterway operators; and (vi) David Allain, Executive Director of Port of West St. Mary, lost his brief battle to ALS. Mr. Wade noted that Mr. Allain was his counterpart, and a very good friend of the Port and David Naquin will be his replacement.

Gerard Bourgeois reported that Mr. Beam will be phasing out of his Facility Security Officer duties over the next six months, with Mr. Knobloch assuming those duties full time. He presented: (i) an amendment to the contract between the District and Knobloch Professional Services, which Mr. Mayon moved to accept said amendment, seconded by Mr. Cornes and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

A Resolution providing for the amendment of a consulting agreement with Knobloch Professional Services, L.L.C. and the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District and granting the authorization therefor.

WHEREAS, this Board of Commissioners is authorized by the provisions of LSA-R.S.34:324 to “contract with the employ attorneys, clerks, engineers, deputy commissioners, superintendents, stevedores and other agents and employees and shall fix their compensation and terms of office or employments” and,

WHEREAS, this Board of Commissioners, after due deliberation deems it necessary to amend its agreement with Knobloch Professional Services, L.L.C. for services related to the Facility Security Plan, particularly as its Facility Security Officer and related services.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the President, Pete Orlando, is hereby authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District an amendment to the said contract and that Consultant serve the District as its Facility Security Officer in exchange for the additional compensation of Fifteen Hundred Dollars per month.

(ii) an amendment to the contract between the District with Lazer Claims Investigation and Security Services, L.L.C. and Mr. Mayon moved to accept said amendment, which was seconded by Mr. Cornes and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

A Resolution providing for the amendment of a consulting agreement with Lazer Claims Investigation and Security Services, L.L.C. and the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District and granting the authorization therefor.

WHEREAS, this Board of Commissioners is authorized by the provisions of LSA-R.S.34:324 to “contract with the employ attorneys, clerks, engineers, deputy commissioners, superintendents, stevedores and other agents and employees and shall fix their compensation and terms of office or employments” and,

WHEREAS, this Board of Commissioners, after due deliberation, deems it necessary to amend its agreement with Lazer Claims Investigation and Security Services, L.L.C. for services related to the Facility Security Plan, particularly as its Facility Security Officer and related services.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the President, Pete Orlando, is hereby authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District an amendment to the said contract to extend it through December 31, 2023 and that Consultant continue to serve the District as its assistant Facility Security Officer in exchange for compensation of Five Hundred Dollars per month.

With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:


Steven W. Cornes, Secretary