

West Calcasieu Port Board Meeting Minutes

200 Old Ferry Road, Sulphur, LA 70665

May 4, 2021

1. Call to order

In accordance with JBE 2020-30, the West Calcasieu Port's meeting was held via video/telephone conference for anyone not able to attend in person and in a manner that will allow for observation and input by members of the public, as set forth in the notice posted on November 30, 2020. All other Open Meetings Law requirements have been met.

President Dick Kennison called to order the regular meeting of the West Calcasieu Port at approximately 3:00 p.m. on May 4, 2021.

2. Invocation

Invocation was led by Tim Dougherty.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge led by Lynn Hohensee and recited by all board members and guests.

4. Roll call

Tim Dougherty conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

Dick Kennison
Wilmer Dugas (via conference call)
Buddy Reams (via video conference call)
Tim Dougherty
Scott Foreman

Also present in person at 200 Old Ferry Road, were Darla Perry, Chuck Stutes, Lynn Hohensee, Jackson Schrupf, and Joanne Coleman.

5. Approval of minutes of the April 6, 2021 regular monthly meeting

President Dick Kennison entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2021 regular monthly meeting. A motion was made by Tim Dougherty to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2021 regular monthly meeting, 2nd by Scott Foreman. No opposition. Motion carried.

6. Amendments, additions, and deletions to the proposed agenda

There were no amendments, additions, or deletions to the agenda.

7. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given at this time.

8. Port Director Report

Port Director Lynn Hohensee reported that fleet numbers continue to be depressed, primarily due to the pandemic's impact on the transportation industry, as well as business and industry across the country.

Last week, with the push by the Port Association of Louisiana, the governor did allocate 50 million from Federal Covid dollars for state ports that can demonstrate financial loss due to the pandemic. He is waiting for the DOTD to come with more information on this.

Mr. Hohensee pointed out that they have had nothing but great cooperation from the staff at the DOTD Port Priority Program as they have worked with them to help with justification for additional DOTD dollars that comes in the matching form, not only for the EDA project, but also to help fund the port's part to do the dredging in the west barge basin as a result of the damages occurred with the hurricanes.

It was also reported that Lynn, working with Matt Mize's law firm, has established a relationship with Genesis who caused the damage to the barge loading ramp nearly two years ago, and they have agreed to pay up to \$70,000 for another repair company to come in and fix the ramp. Chuck Stutes has worked with them on the paperwork, and Jackson Schrupf has reviewed it.

Mr. Hohensee received a phone call from Rita LeBleu with the American Press, asking about the relationship between the Port and the City of Sulphur and the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement. He referred her to the website.

The floor was opened to questions regarding the Port Director Lynn Hohensee's Report. No questions were asked at this time.

9. Announcements/Reports (Legal, Financial, Engineer)

- a. **Engineer:** Chuck Stutes reported that he and Darla sent an addendum to the DOTD to dredge the entire west barge basin and received an informal approval via e-mail. The construction costs, in round numbers, is 1.4 million, and the entire project is 1.6 million. The state would fund 1.3 million and the port would be responsible for 300,000. FEMA has agreed to pay for the cost of the incremental silting that happened during the hurricane. The port has soundings that were done right before the hurricane, and they were done again right after the hurricane, so the port can ascertain what silting happened during the hurricane.

Dick stated that it was a shame that they didn't do any more investigative work than they did to ascertain that those folks are liable for some of that.

Chuck also reported that the EDA project Corp permits that were submitted in February are supposed to be out for public comment.

- b. **Legal:** No legal report was given at this time.
- c. **Financial:** Darla Perry reported that the port took in \$346,000 during the month of March and expended \$260,000. \$220,233 came from insurance, but it's not nearly sufficient. As of now, most of the buildings are not insured. We may be able to pick up a builder's risk policy once a contractor is secured.

Under expenditures, \$7,070 for prepaid insurance was for the general liability and errors and omissions for the directors, \$10,000 was for the annual audit, \$5,050 for repairs and maintenance was for Fincher and Joffrion, which was for plumbing repairs on some backflow preventers. \$110,000 was paid to First Federal, and that note will be paid off within three years. \$81,254 was paid to Meyer for the bulkhead project. Even will all the expenditures, the net cash flow was \$85,632.

From July '20 through March '21 we are down 1,325 barge days compared to the prior fiscal year.

Darla also reported that she is still working with FEMA on Laura and she is also doing an ice storm claim because there was about \$5,000 of plumbing bills. She is also continuing to work with Corey Dunn with EDA.

She also reminded board members to complete their Tier 2.1 reports.

President Dick Kennison entertained a motion to accept the Port Director's report, as well as the Legal, Financial, and Engineer reports presented above. A motion was made by Tim Dougherty to accept the Port Director's report, as well as the Legal, Financial, and Engineer reports presented above, 2nd by Scott Foreman. No opposition. Motion carried.

10. Public Comments

There were no public comments given at this time.

11. Adjournment

President Dick Kennison adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:27 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joseph Kevin", written over a horizontal line.

President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Dougherty", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary