

**PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE MORGAN CITY HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT
April 11, 2022**

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 April 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Joseph Cain, President, convened the meeting with Commissioners, Pete Orlando, Ben Adams, Troy Lombardo and Matthew Glover in attendance. Deborah Garber, Adam Mayon, Steven Cornes and Matthew Tycer were absent. Also present in the meeting were Raymond Wade, Executive Director; Cindy Cutrera, Economic Development Manager; Tori Henry, Office Manager; Michael Knobloch, Knobloch Professional Services; Gerard Bourgeois, Board Attorney; Lieutenant Hayley Gipson, United States Coast Guard (“USCG”); Councilman Louis Tamporello, City of Morgan City; Eric Matte, T. Baker Smith; 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. Orlando and seconded by Mr. Adams that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 14, 2022 and Special Meeting of March 24, 2022 be approved and adopted, with said motion carrying unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. Orlando that the report of receipts and disbursements for the month of March, 2022 be received and accepted and that all invoices presented to the Board for the month of March, 2022 be paid. Mr. Adams seconded that motion, which carried unanimously.

Lieutenant Hayley Gipson reported a total of 1,979 transits, averaging 63 per day through the VTS zone.

Michael Knobloch reported that: (i) we will be requesting funding from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program and the Port Infrastructure Development (PIDP) grant program, with applications due at the end of April and May. It was moved by Mr. Lombardo and seconded by Mr. Orlando that the following resolution be submitted for \$10 million to complete Phase 3B of the Western Dock Expansion project and be matched by the \$15,000,000 Port Priority Program funding and the \$3,000,000 port funds for Phase 3A, which resolution was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, To meet the demands of the domestic and international cargo industry, the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District is expanding its terminal facility dock to the west, and the estimated costs total \$28,000,000 to design, engineer, and construct and will result in positive local, regional and national economic impacts; and,

WHEREAS, The Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District divided its Western Dock Expansion Project into two separate phases, Phase 3A and Phase 3B, to effectively leverage various federal, state and local funding programs; and,

WHEREAS, The Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District Commission agreed at its May 10, 2021, meeting to prepare and submit an application entitled, “Western Dock Expansion – Phase 3A,” to the Louisiana *Port Construction and Development Priority Program* for financial assistance in the implementation of a port improvement project and for providing for the necessary documentation of the need for the port improvement; and providing for other matters in connection therewith; and, also, agreed to provide a \$3,000,000 local match; and,

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Joint Legislative Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works accepted Phase 3A into the state of Louisiana’s 2022-2023 Port Construction and Development Priority Program during its August 20, 2021, meeting in Jefferson, Louisiana, and agreed to provide \$15,000,000 in state monies to fund Phase 3A; and,

WHEREAS, The US Department of Transportation’s *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity* (RAISE) grant program is for capital investments in surface transportation that will have a significant local or regional impact.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the above, does hereby authorize the submission of its proposed funding request of **\$10,000,000** and titled "*Western Dock Expansion-Phase 3B*" to the US Department of Transportation's (USDOT's) *FY 2022 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity*" (*RAISE*); and, the Port District Commission, also, will provide its PHASE 3A funding as a local match of **\$18,000,000**, consisting of \$3,000,000 from the Port of Morgan City and \$15,000,000 from the state of Louisiana's "*Port Construction and Development Priority Program*," for its submitted FY 2022 RAISE grant project application.

It was moved by Mr. Lombardo and seconded by Mr. Orlando that the following resolution be submitted for \$10 million to complete Phase 3B of the Western Dock Expansion project and be matched by the \$15,000,000 Port Priority Program funding and the \$3,000,000 port funds for Phase 3A, which resolution was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, To meet the demands of the domestic and international cargo industry, the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District is expanding its terminal facility dock to the west, and the estimated costs total \$28,000,000 to design, engineer, and construct and will result in positive local, regional and national economic impacts; and,

WHEREAS, The Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District divided its Western Dock Expansion Project into two separate phases, Phase 3A and Phase 3B, to effectively leverage various federal, state and local funding programs; and,

WHEREAS, The Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District Commission agreed at its May 10, 2021, meeting to prepare and submit an application entitled, "Western Dock Expansion – Phase 3A," to the Louisiana *Port Construction and Development Priority Program* for financial assistance in the implementation of a port improvement project and for providing for the necessary documentation of the need for the port improvement; and providing for other matters in connection therewith; and, also, agreed to provide a \$3,000,000 local match; and,

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Joint Legislative Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works accepted Phase 3A into the state of Louisiana's 2022-2023 Port Construction and Development Priority Program during its August 20, 2021, meeting in Jefferson, Louisiana, and agreed to provide \$15,000,000 in state monies to fund Phase 3A; and,

WHEREAS, The US Department of Transportation's *Port Infrastructure Development Program* (PIDP) funds capital investments in surface transportation that will have a significant local or regional impact.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the above, does hereby authorize the submission of its proposed funding request of **\$10,000,000** and titled "*Western Dock Expansion-Phase 3B*" to the US Department of Transportation's (USDOT's) *FY 2022 Port Infrastructure Development Program* (PIDP); and, the Port District Commission, also, will provide its PHASE 3A funding as a local match of **\$18,000,000**, consisting of \$3,000,000 from the Port of Morgan City and \$15,000,000 from the state of Louisiana's "*Port Construction and Development Priority Program*," for its submitted FY 2022 PIDP grant project application.

(ii) of the three other grants announced, MEGA, INFRA, RURAL, we only qualify for INFRA. Mr. Adams moved to expand the agenda to allow for discussions and actions on the FY23 Community Project Funding request announced by Congressman Higgins a few hours ago, which was seconded by Mr. Glover, and motion carried unanimously after a roll call vote. Mr. Orlando moved and Mr. Lombardo seconded that the following resolutions related to FY23 Community Project Funding and the west dock expansion be adopted, which was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, To meet the demands of the domestic and international cargo industry, the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District is expanding its terminal facility dock to the west, and the estimated costs total \$28,000,000 to design, engineer, and construct and will result in positive local, regional and national economic impacts; and,

WHEREAS, The Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District divided its Western Dock Expansion Project into two separate phases, Phase 3A and Phase 3B, to effectively leverage various federal, state and local funding programs; and,

WHEREAS, The Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District Board of Commissioners agreed at its May 10, 2021, meeting to prepare and submit an application entitled, “Western Dock Expansion – Phase 3A,” to the Louisiana *Port Construction and Development Priority Program* for financial assistance in the implementation of a port improvement project and for providing for the necessary documentation of the need for the port improvement; and providing for other matters in connection therewith; and, also, agreed to provide a \$3,000,000 local match; and,

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Joint Legislative Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works accepted Phase 3A into the state of Louisiana’s 2022-2023 Port Construction and Development Priority Program during its August 20, 2021, meeting in Jefferson, Louisiana, and agreed to provide \$15,000,000 in state monies to fund Phase 3A; and,

WHEREAS, The *FY 2023 Community Project Funding Program* can be used for capital investments in surface transportation that will have a significant local or regional impact.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District, does hereby authorize the submission of its **\$10,000,000** proposed funding request for its *Western Dock Expansion-Phase 3B* project to the FY 2023 Community Project Funding Program; and, the said District approves a local match of **\$18,000,000**; consisting of \$3,000,000 of self-generated funds and \$15,000,000 from the state of Louisiana’s “*Port Construction and Development Priority Program*,” for its FY 2023 Community Project Funding Program grant project application.

Mr. Orlando moved and Mr. Lombardo seconded adoption of the following resolutions related to FY23 Community Project Funding and fire suppression system in its warehouse be adopted, which was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

A Resolution authorizing the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District to prepare and submit an application to the FY 2023 Community Project Funding Program for assistance in the implementation of a port improvement project; providing for the necessary documentation of the need for the port improvement; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District has a need for port improvements; and,

WHEREAS, Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District desires to apply for federal funds to implement a project to improve its port operation, specifically funding for a new fire suppression system in its warehouse; and,

WHEREAS, Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District is a political body duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Louisiana and is eligible to apply for funds under said Statute,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District as follows:

- Section 1. That Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District acknowledges that an application will be prepared and submitted to the *FY 2023 Community Project Funding Program* requesting \$500,000.
- Section 2. That at the appropriate time, upon approval of funding assistance and prior to commencement of work on the project, the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District agrees to execute any necessary federal documents related to the *FY 2023 Community Project Funding Program*.
- Section 3. That Raymond “Mac” Wade, Executive Director, is hereby designated Authorized Representative for Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District to effect the preparation of an application to the *FY 2023 Community Project Funding Program* for funding assistance of port improvement project.
- Section 4. That said Authorized Representative’s responsibilities shall pertain to technical matters only and shall not include any official act on behalf of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District.

Eric Matte reported: (i) they began advertising for bids on March 30th for the InterMoor rehabilitation project and have already received two inquiries; (ii) they are finalizing construction documents for the East dock; and (iii) they will be submitting permits this week for the West dock.

Cindy Cutrera reported that: (i) we received word that we were awarded \$10,096,000 for FY23 President’s budget but none from FY23 Infrastructure Investment Bill because we received funding in

FY22. We are still waiting to hear if we've received FY22 workplan funding of \$24.4 million and was told it is on the Assistant's Secretary of the Army's desk awaiting approval. Mr. Wade noted that he visited with the Secretary at the Mississippi River Commission public meeting and personally handed him a packet outlining that request. He also noted that the Corps is pushing very hard for us on that \$24.4 million workplan funding, along with our federal delegation. (ii) Upcoming events to remember are Commissioner training on May 3rd, Atchafalaya/Red River MARAD roundtable on June 7th & 8th and our hurricane preparedness meeting on April 19th. We did receive word that Congressman Clay Higgins will attend the meeting in person, along with representatives from Senators Kennedy and Cassidy's offices; and (iii) We attended a dredge demo, tour of the Dredge *Arulaq* and breakfast, along with Calista board members visiting the area.

Gerard Bourgeois presented Ordinance No. 60 for adoption of the 2022 millage by the district, with no change from last year. It was moved by Mr. Adams and seconded by Mr. Orlando that the following ordinance providing a rate of 4.48 mills be adopted, which motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 60

An Ordinance levying and imposing a tax on all the property subject to taxation in the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District, State of Louisiana, for the year 2022 for the purpose of paying the administrative, operative and maintenance expenses of the Board in said District.

SECTION 1, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District, a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of said Harbor and Terminal District; in regular session convened, that under and by virtue of the Authority of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 LSA-R.S. 34:329, as amended and Art. 7, Sec. 23 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2022 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District:

MILLAGE

administrative, operative, and maintenance expenses	4.48 mills
(Tax for: e.g. General Alimony, Library, Maintenance)	

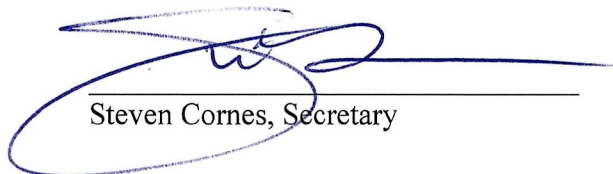
SECTION 2, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the proper administrative officials of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2022, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 3, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all Ordinance or parts of Ordinance in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed, and this Ordinance shall take effect upon its adoption, the public welfare so demanding.

Mr. Bourgeois also reported that we have received some answers to interrogatories on the Youngswood yard failure, which are under review.

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

Attest:



Steven Cornes, Secretary