PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF**

**THE MORGAN CITY HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT**

**February 10, 2020**

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 February 10, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Joseph Cain, President, convened the meeting with Commissioners Deborah Garber, Tim Matthews, Sr., Ben Adams, Pete Orlando, Steven Cornes and Troy Lombardo in attendance. Lee Dragna and Adam Mayon were absent. Also present at the meeting were Raymond Wade, Executive Director; Tori Henry, Office Manager; Cindy Cutrera, Manager of Economic Development; Gerard Bourgeois and Jennifer Reasoner, Board Attorneys; Commander Heather Mattern, United States Coast Guard (“USCG”); Josh Mathern, Brice Civil Constructors; Michael Knobloch, Knobloch Professional Services; Bryan Breaud, GSE/Providence Engineering; Councilmen Louis Tamporello and Mark Stephens, City of Morgan City; Jeffrey Duhe, United States Census Bureau; along with members of the media and 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. Adams and seconded by Mr. Cornes that the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 7, 2020 and that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 13, 2020 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 January, 2020 be received and accepted and that all invoices presented to the Board for the month of January, 2020 be paid. Mr. Lombardo seconded that motion, which carried unanimously.

Tim Connell, with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“Corps”) reported via teleconference that: (i) due to receiving additional $6.95 million, the Dredge Ingenuity will return to complete dredging the area between the Highway 182 bridge and the railroad bridge; (ii) after the FY20 workplan plus up of $10 million, the Corps may be able to dredge Bayou Chene depending on the amount of sediment received from high water. He thinks the prudent thing to do is to hold off until we see what happens with high water this year; (iii) The RM White has completed its dredging in the Bar Channel and we have deep water up to the area where the Bride Dredge is; (iv) Brice’s results for January are very impressive, showing movement in Channel depth; (v) the most recent surveys are up on the website; and (vi) work on the Bayou Boeuf guide wall replacement is ongoing, but work on Bayou Sorrell has been pushed back for two weeks due to high water and the sinking of the barge.

Charles Brittingham reported via teleconference that the Corps received an additional $10 million in FY2020 Work Plan funding, which was well needed. Unfortunately, the President’s 2021 Budget only has $4.5 million for our project. He noted they will likely plus it up with supplemental and work plan budgets. He also urged us to continue to highlight the challenges on the river while continuously asking for funding.

Heather Mattern reported that: (i) a barge carrying 1600 tons of rock ran aground at MM99 Sunday, completely blocking the Intracoastal Waterway. She noted the salvage company did a phenomenal job removing the rocks and the barge was removed by Friday evening. She gave a shoutout to her Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) for getting the cue cleared out quickly and safely; (ii) Morgan City, Houma and Lafayette units conducted a three-day operation exercising their harbor patrols and addressing any concerns they may have or had with the approaching high-water season; (iii) she will be leaving this summer heading to Charleston and her replacement will be Commander Ben Russell; and (iv) they hosted a high water meeting on January 28th and discussed concerns for high water season and provided a refresher of best practices.

Jeffrey Duhe of the United States Census Bureau presented to the Board the importance of completing the Census; as numerous federal programs rely on the data to provide services and funding to our area. Our area only had a 62% reporting rate in 2010, when the national average was 72%.

Mike Knobloch reported that: (i) the Port Security Grant funding cycle will open on Friday; (ii) the Joint Legislative Committee will be meeting on March 9th, voting on the Port Priority Grant application we submitted on December 2, 2019; and (iii) on Friday, the French Consul General was hosted at a reception in the EOC and after he and Mac showed him around the Port dock and local properties while discussing potential business. He also plans to return for a boat tour of the islands we have created with dredge material, as he is very interested in beneficial use projects.

Bryan Breaud reported that: (i) Phase III – East Dock Expansion plans have been submitted to CPRA for permits; (ii) Phase II – Aggregate loading/unloading areas punch list has been completed and are in the 45-day lien period. He also presented Partial Payment Application No. 3 in the amount of $171,984.79. Mr. Lombardo moved to authorize said payment, which was seconded by Mr. Cornes and carried unanimously.

Gerard Bourgeois presented: (i) a resolution authorizing Mr. Wade to enter into an agreement with the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development under the Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program. Mr. Adams moved to authorize said resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Lombardo and carried unanimously.

**R E S O L U T I O N**

A Resolution authorizing the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District to enter into an agreement with the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development under the Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority 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, the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District has a need for port improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District has reviewed the application for Youngswood Yard Improvements and agrees with said agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District has applied for State matching funds pursuant to Chapter 47 of Title 34 of the Louisiana Revised Statues of 1950, as amended, to implement a project to improve its port operation and Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District is fully aware of its obligations under said Statute; and

WHEREAS, the 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; and

WHEREAS, currently, no funds have been made available by the State for construction of the project; and

WHEREAS, the Sponsor desires to utilize its own funds for the construction of this Project and to be reimbursed by the Port Construction and Development Priority Program once funding becomes available, in accordance with R.S. 34:3457.

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 was submitted to the Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program.

Section 2. That at the appropriate time and prior to commencement of work on the project Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District agrees to execute a Project Agreement and a Statement of Sponsorship pursuant to the Statute and hereby authorizes and empowers Raymond M. Wade, Executive Director, to enter into and execute said agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

Section 3. That Raymond M. Wade, Executive Director, is hereby Authorized Representative for Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District to represent the port with regards to the receipt of funds from the Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program for a port improvement project.

Section 4. That said Authorized Representative shall have the authority to sign and approve all documents that are necessary under the circumstances to accomplish the above project.

Mr. Bourgeois continued: (ii) engineering agreement between the District and Providence Engineering and Design, LLC for services related to the Youngswood Yard Rehabilitation Project subject to legal review and approval. Mr. Adams moved to authorize said agreement, which was seconded by Mr. Cornes and carried unanimously; and (iii) that one of the two outboard motors on the Port’s vessel is blown and as both engines are 5.5 years old, Mac would like authority to purchase two new Suzuki engines and surplus the old engine package with authorization to spend up to $52,000 on purchases on State Contract or GSA schedule if approved by Homeland Security. Mr. Adams requested that not include discussion of surplus of the Barge *John Wayne* with the engines. Ms. Garber moved that Mac be authorized to purchase the engine package as presented and that the following resolution declaring the two (2) 2014 Yamaha outboard motors surplus and for sale of the same, be approved, which was seconded by Mr. Cornes and carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION**

A Resolution declaring two Yamaha 350 Outboards with controls surplus and authorizing the executive director of the District to execute the necessary documents to sell the same

WHEREAS, the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (“District”) has determined that it no longer has a need for two (2) used Yamaha 350 outboard motors, with wheels, related rigging & control components and 2 stainless wheels (herein “Engine Package”) and would benefit from the sale of the same.

Accordingly, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Engine Package should be sold as surplus property and that Raymond M. Wade, be authorized and directed on behalf of the District, to advertise the Engine Package for sale to the highest bidder and to execute all necessary paperwork on its behalf for transfer of same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the minimum bid for the Engine Package be set at not less than $13,000.00. Therefore, notice of a proposed sale shall be published at least fifteen days prior to the date of the sale in our official journal. And, the sale shall be made to the person with the highest bid.

(iv) a resolution of distinguished service of Representative Sam Jones was presented to the Board with unanimous consent, Mr. Adams offered the resolution which was seconded by Mr. Lombardo and carried unanimously.

**R E S O L U T I O N**

A Resolution in recognition of the Distinguished Service of Sam Jones

WHEREAS, Sam Jones was first elected to District 50 for the Louisiana State House of Representative in 2007 and served through the end of 2019;

WHEREAS, during his years of service, he was a member of the Acadiana Delegation, Democratic Caucus, Louisiana Rural Caucus and the following legislative committees Atchafalaya Basin Program Oversight Committee, Natural Resources and Environment, Retirement, and Transportation, Highways, and Public Works all in an effort to assist the citizens of District 50;

WHEREAS, the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District is particulalry appreciative for the continued support of Sam Jones in its efforts to construct the Governmental Operations and Emergency Center and in its efforts to maintain Coast Guard presence in Morgan City;

WHEREAS, the Board of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District recognize Sam Jones for his tireless service and representation of the residents of District 50.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Morgan City Harbor & Terminal District, that it does formally acknowledge and extends its sincere gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to Sam Jones for his many years of dedicated service to the residents of District 50, and in particular for his assistance to the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District.

Mr. Bourgeois also reported that he is awaiting a response from Crosby to our counteroffer.

Cindy Cutrera reported that: (i) we prepared several items this month, including letters for Charles Brittingham to deliver to General Semonite and RD James, the annual detailed report to commissioners and stakeholders, and comments on the CPRA annual plan. (ii) Mac attended the St. Mary Parish, Morgan City and Berwick council meetings and gave an update on the Port. Parish Councilman Ramsey then came and visited with Mac, took a tour of the Port facilities and requested that the entire parish council do the same; (iii) we worked with St. Mary Parish on an article that went into the FDI Alliance magazine, which provided a link to the video about the Port and the Parish.

Mr. Tamporella invited members of the Board to the API meeting to welcome Murphy Oil to the area. Mr. Adams reiterated the invitation, offering for commissioners to be his guest at the meeting.

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

Attest:

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Timothy Matthews, Sr., Secretary