

West Calcasieu Port Board Meeting Minutes

200 Old Ferry Road, Sulphur, Louisiana 70665
August 1, 2023

1. Call to order

President Dick Kennison called to order the regular meeting of the West Calcasieu Port at approximately 3:00 p.m. on August 1, 2023.

2. Invocation

Hunter Lundy led the invocation.

3. Pledge of allegiance

Lynn Hohensee led the pledge of allegiance.

4. Roll Call

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

Dick Kennison
Tim Dougherty
Trey Case

Also present were Oliver Schrumpf, Darla Perry, Penny Bellow, Chuck Stutes, and Port Director Lynn Hohensee. Also in attendance were Port Priority Program Director Molly Bourgoyne; Port Priority Program Engineer Christina Rayer, Hunter Lundy, and Luke Eastman.

5. Approval of minutes of the July 11, 2023 regular monthly

A motion was made by Tim Dougherty to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2023 regular monthly meeting, 2nd by Trey Case. No opposition. Motion carried.

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

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

7. Discuss/Take Action on GE Lease

Darla Perry stated General Equipment has been a tenant leasing 2-5 acres. The last several months their lease was for 2 acres, because they reduced their footprint. They have just about reduced everything, so they will no longer be a tenant.

They have not paid the July rent, so the attorney may need to send a letter, and they need to engage someone to do the environmental site assessment, Phase I. Chuck Stutes stated that Blain Johnson was used for the last site assessment, so Chuck will call him.

Lynn Hohensee reported that arrangements have been made for the remaining items on port property to be removed.

No action was needed at this time.

8. Discuss/Take Action on CSRS Contract

Darla Perry reported that CSRS sent an amendment to up their contract last month from \$180,000 to \$360,000 total grant management fees. Darla stated that she doesn't think they will get more than \$5 million in FEMA funds, and FEMA will pay up to 5% on grant management. CSRS is already up to \$200,000 to date. Darla discussed the fee with CSRS and they agreed to go to \$300,000 total grant management fees.

Dick Kennison stated that he was not comfortable voting on this item with two board members absent, so the item was tabled until the next meeting.

9. Review any recommended actions to proceed with Capital Improvements including any change orders needed.

Darla Perry and Chuck Stutes reported that they had no change orders at this time.

10. Review any recommended actions to proceed with Capital Improvements

No action was needed at this time.

11. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports at this time.

12. Port Director Report; Announcements/Reports (Legal, Financial, Engineer)

- a. **Port Director:** Port Director Lynn Hohensee reported that Womack Construction wants to come into the port for 6-8 months beginning in August with a lease amount of \$4,500 per month.

He also stated the fleeting numbers have been strong.

They are waiting to hear from the House Appropriations Committee to see if the port will receive any monies from the Community Projects Fund. The grant submitted was for \$3 million.

He also stated that he attended the GICA conference in Baton Rouge last week with lots of activities associated with the business of the ports.

Mr. Hohensee reported that he spoke with Colonel Cullen Jones, the new commander of the New Orleans District of the Corps of Engineers and told him that speeding up permitting would be a way he could help the port.

- b. **Financial:** Darla Perry reported that the port ended the year with 46,955 barge days, an increase of 11,822 from last year. Ramp revenue was down from last year: \$3,200 vs. \$10,450. Hopefully that will pick up now that the ramp is fixed and working well.

In June, the port took in approximately \$143,000 and expended \$54,254. CSRS and Fincher Lawn Service (now named F-6) are some of the bigger expenditures. The port finished the year with gross revenue over budget and expenses \$50,000 less than budgeted.

Darla stated she got an invoice from Southwest Louisiana Regional Planning Commission district dues for \$500. She asked Mr. Hohensee to check on that.

- c. **Engineer:** Chuck Stutes reported that the Star building is well underway. It's basically all sheeted out and they have started some of the interior framing. He believes they may be finished prior to the required completion date.

The first pay estimate on the bulkhead project was issued two weeks ago for about \$1.2 million, because they are claiming all their materials which are on-site.

Mr. Stutes also reported they have the permits for the dredging project. He needs to do the necessary certifications and get the documents back to Molly's office so they can go out for bids.

Final plans for the VLS building have been submitted to CSRS.

- d. **Legal:** Oliver Schrupf stated that he had nothing to report at this time.

A motion was made by Tim Dougherty to accept the Port Director, Financial, Engineer, and Legal reports presented above, 2nd by Trey Case. No opposition. Motion carried.

13. Public Comments


Molly Bourgoyne stated that the port had great advocates in Lynn, Darla, and Chuck. They do an excellent job and she's happy to work with them.

14. Adjournment

President Dick Kennison adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:39 p.m.



President



Secretary