

WEST ST. MARY PARISH PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 5, 2016

6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Wayne Stevens, Vice President of the Port Commission. Mr. Stevens gave an Invocation. Mr. Will Terry led in the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call resulted in the following:

Present:

Phil Bell
Calvin Deshotel
Greg Paul
Wayne Stevens
Joseph Tabb
Will Terry

Absent:

Ralph Longman
Tad Blevins
Willie Peters

Also present at the meeting were Mr. Jude Hebert of Cleco, Ms. Marguerite Robinson of Teche Talk, Mr. Roger Stouff of the Franklin Banner, Mr. Anthony Emmons representing Marine Turbine Technologies, Mr. Clarence Vappie, Town of Baldwin Alderman, Mr. Eric Duplantis, Port Attorney, Mr. Reid Miller of Miller Engineers, Mr. David Allain, Executive Director and Ms. Rebecca Pellerin, Office Manager of the Port Commission.

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Tabb to dispense with the reading of the March 8, 2016 meeting minutes and to accept them as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Terry and carried unanimously.

Mr. Jude Hebert of Cleco informed the Commission that the Louisiana Public Service Commission approved the sale of Cleco to an investment group. The name of the company will remain Cleco and he stated that the sale should be good for the customer base, the communities and employees and customers should not see any changes. Also in good faith, the investment group plans to donate \$7 million to the State of Louisiana for economic development purposes and stated that some of the funds may possibly be acquired by the Commission for projects at the Port.

Mr. Clarence Vappie complimented the Port Commission for the job they are doing on the Baldwin side in economic development.

Mr. Anthony Emmons introduced himself to the Commission. He said that he was originally from Centerville and that he had been working away for quite awhile. He recently joined Ted McIntyre and Marine Turbine Technologies in the role of business development. Mr. Emmons spoke on behalf of MTT and said they appreciated being a part of the Port. The Commission thanked MTT for being longtime tenants of the Port.

Mr. Allain reported that the Millage rate for 2016 needs to be adopted. Mr. Allain explained that the year 2016 is a reassessment year and the Port's millage rate is pegged at 3.720 and was pretty much a level reassessment year. Mr. Allain suggested that the Commission adopt the same rate of 3.720. A motion was made by Mr. Paul to adopt the Millage Rate for 2016 at 3.720. The motion was seconded by Mr. Deshotel. Mr. Duplantis read the Resolution to adopt the Millage Rate. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Allain reported that bids were received and opened for the bulkhead project at the Industrial Park last week. The base bid was for 120 feet of bulkhead. He stated that the low bid was in the amount of \$1,133,813.00. Mr. Allain explained that the St. Mary Parish Government, through the Office of Facility Planning in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, received funding for the project in the amount of \$857,912, which leaves a balance \$275,901. He explained there is an alternate bid for 90 feet of bulkhead in the amount of \$165,000 that would leave a balance of \$109,973. Mr. Allain reported that the Port's Executive Committee met last week and recommends that the Port Commission approve the bid for 120 feet of bulkhead and pay the difference of \$275,901. Discussion followed. Mr. Deshotel asked Mr. Allain if the Parish Government requested that the Port approve the 120 feet of bulkhead. Mr. Allain explained that the \$857,000 of Capital Outlay funds are remaining funds from the original project of dredging of the channel, roads and drainage at the Industrial Park. The Parish Government was able to convince the Office of Facility Planning to allow them to change the scope of the project and utilize the funds for the bulkhead project. Mr. Miller explained that the plan is to move forward and the Parish would enter into a contract with the low bidder. He further explained that at that point, ways to find savings could be looked at - for example value engineering, different materials and some other options that could possibly be there. Mr. Paul said that he felt with having the \$857,912 in place for the project from Facility Planning, \$275,901 would be a small investment for the Port to contribute. Discussion followed. Mr. Deshotel asked how much bulkhead could be installed with the available \$857,912. Mr. Miller explained that bulkhead is installed in cells and another cell would have to be eliminated which would leave approximately 60- 65 feet of bulkhead. Mr. Deshotel stated that with the economy the way it is at this time, he did not think that it was feasible for the Port to spend \$275,901 at this time. Mr. Stevens added that the Port needs to be ready and prices will only increase in time. Mr. Miller explained that there are limitations with Facility Planning in following the public bid law. If Change Orders are made and \$100,000 is exceeded to try to bring a project into budget, the project has to go before the Legislative Auditor for their review to make sure that the project is above board, if it was not included in the original bid. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Mr. Paul to accept the recommendation of the Port's Executive Committee for the Port to approve 120 feet of bulkhead at the Industrial Park with the Port Commission contributing a maximum of \$275,901. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bell. The motion carried with Mr. Deshotel voting against the motion.

Mr. Duplantis reminded the Commissioners that their Financial Disclosure Reports are due in May.

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Mr. Terry to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Paul and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Signed _____