PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF**

**THE MORGAN CITY HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT**

**June 11, 2018**

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 June 11, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Gary Duhon, Vice President, convened the meeting with Commissioners Deborah Garber, Thomas Ackel, Joseph Cain, Adam Mayon, Tim Matthews, Sr., and Lee Dragna in attendance. Duane Lodrigue and Ben Adams were absent. Also present at the meeting were Raymond Wade, Executive Director; Cindy Cutrera, Manager of Economic Development; Jennifer Reasoner and Gerard Bourgeois, Board Attorneys; Commander Heather Mattern, Executive Officer Beth Newton, and Chief Ladner, United States Coast Guard (“USCG”); Clay Breaud, GSE/Providence Engineering; Brenton Jenkins, GIS; Councilman Louis Tamporella, City of Morgan City; Tim Tregle and Frank Fink, St. Mary Parish; Bill Hidalgo and Roger Beaudean; along with members of the media and general public.

The meeting was called to order and the presence of a quorum was noted. Mr. Wade led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

It was moved by Mr. Mayon and seconded by Mr. Matthews that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 14, 2018 be approved and adopted, with said motion carrying unanimously.

It was moved by Mrs. Garber that the report of receipts and disbursements for the month of May 2018 be received and accepted and that all invoices presented to the Board for the month of May 2018 be paid. Mr. Dragna seconded that motion, which carried unanimously.

Commander Mattern introduced Beth Newton, who will be her new executive officer to replace Luis Carmona. She also reported that they have been proactive in doing assessments as we have entered into hurricane season, especially notifying companies of not fleeting in Bayou Chene because it could interrupt commerce. Chief Ladner reported that they have thirteen aids knocked down in the Atchafalaya Channel that they are working on.

Tim Connell reported that: (i) a task order for Berwick Harbor dredging should be issued in 45 days, which will also be coordinated with the area around the Bayou Boeuf locks; (ii) the Atchfalaya River, Bayous Boeuf, Black and Chene received $20 million in supplemental funding, and combined with $12 million for 2019, and the additional workplan monies will have a chance to have an operational channel for a long period of time; (iii) the Special Purpose Dredge offer was issued on June 1st, with their proposal being due on July 3rd, A meeting request has been received and a meeting will be scheduled shortly; (iv) Bayou Boeuf Lock gate repairs are going well and expected to be completed at the end of June.

Mike Knobloch reported that: (i) FEMA issued more money than expected for FY16 Port Security Grant, and with those extra monies we will renew the TACCS licenses and PMCRCN vendor support since we were not awarded FY17 funds; (ii) FY18 Port Security Grant details have been announced and the application is due June 20th, with the pre-application being submitted last night; (iii) The BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) application is due July 19th. It was moved by Mr. Mayon and seconded by Mr. Dragna that the BUILD Grant application be submitted in the amount of $15 million with a match of $3 million subject to receiving matching funds from another local or state agency, and that the following resolution be adopted, which was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of the above, does hereby authorize the submission of a FY 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants application to the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) for its proposed “Wharf Extension and Enhancement Project,” which is estimated to total $15,000,000; and, it, also, agrees to provide a twenty percent (20%) local match (estimated at $3,000,000) for the submitted FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant project.

(iv) we will be submitting a Port Priority request in September for rail spur repairs. Mr. Wade noted that the average lifespan of cross ties are 13 years and ours are 20 plus.

Clay Breaud reported that the HVAC contractors have installed two of the new units and the ductwork for those. Tomorrow they will install the electrical hookups, condensers and third unit, with hopefully cool air by the end of the week.

Cindy Cutrera reported that: (i) we hosted our annual hurricane meeting on May 23rd with about 120 people in attendance and St. Mary Parish Homeland Security, Coast Guard, Nation Weather Service, Corps of Engineers and Charles Brittingham all giving presentations. We also held our stakeholder meeting today, with John Chautin of Congressman Higgins’s office and Jay Vicknair of Senator Kennedy’s office in attendance. Mac also received a call from Congressman Higgins to discuss the anticipated approval of the WRDA Bill as well as the additional funding received. (ii) She participated in an executive committee conference call with IRPT, where they will be working in partnership with Waterborne Commerce to improve data collection process. She also attended the GICA Joint Team Hurricane Preparedness Meeting in New Orleans and CPRA meeting in Baton Rouge. (iii) Mac attended the Morgan City Council meeting, CWPPRA meeting in Lafayette and State of the Coast Conference in New Orleans. (iv) We were contacted by DOTD requesting information for Shawn Wilson, who was doing a port security briefing in Washington, DC and Tommy Clark, who was doing a presentation at SMIG. (v) She was approached by Don Pierson of Louisiana Economic Development to send in a letter in support of the proposed rule changes for Industrial Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Program (ITEP). Frank Fink noted that the change would be on a local level rather than a state level. Mr. Dragna moved that the following resolution to be adopted, which was seconded by Mrs. Garber and carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Commissioners of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (“District”), that it hereby supports the proposed rule changes to the Industrial Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Program, with the local option.

Charles Brittingham reported that since we have been given this additional funding for dredging, the Board has got to start looking at bringing back its old customers and bringing in new customers, capital development and land acquisition projects to prove that we can grow the Port, which will grow the community. Mr. Wade thanked Charles, both of our senators and our freshman congressman of District 3. He also reminded the Board that we already have to be working on Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021 funding.

Gerard Bourgeois reported: (i) that in accordance with recommendation of Michael Knobloch he had prepared a contract between the District and American Integration Contractors for the Port of Morgan City Regional Collaboration Network (PMCRCN) annual program support, which has a limit of $25,825 for the work. Mr. Dragna moved to authorize Mr. Wade to execute said contract, which was seconded by Mr. Ackel and carried unanimously. (ii) an amendment to sublease, first amendment to extract of lease and third amendment to lease for the Santos portion of the Baker Hughes lease, which he had just received immediately prior to the meeting. Essentially, Baker Hughes has agreed to purchase the underlying land owned by the Santos family and has requested that the tract be removed from the Sublease between the District and Baker Hughes. Mr. Cain noted that someone will be more likely to make capital improvements to property if the own it versus if they are leasing it. Mr. Ackel moved to authorize Mr. Lodrigue to execute said amendments, with the provision that the documents, in the opinion of counsel, not make other substantive changes to the Sublease, which was seconded by Mrs. Garber and carried unanimously.

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

Attest:

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