

**PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE MORGAN CITY HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT
May 9, 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 May 9, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Joseph Cain, President, convened the meeting with Commissioners, Pete Orlando, Ben Adams, Troy Lombardo, Steven Cornes, and Matthew Tycer in attendance. Deborah Garber, Adam Mayon, and Matthew Glover 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; Philip Chauvin, T. Baker Smith; Philip McMahan, Paul’s Agency; 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. Tycer and seconded by Mr. Orlando that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 11, 2022 be approved and adopted, with said motion carrying unanimously.

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

Phe McMahan present Paul’s Insurance Agency proposal. It was moved by Mr. Adams to accept the insurance renewal from Paul’s Agency for insurance coverages for the District which has increased by 25%, mostly due to property insurance piece. Mr. Cornes seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

Tim Connell reported that: (i) once we receive the final workplan budget, we do have the option to use a cutterhead dredge to get the Channel open; (ii) a modification will be issued to the IDIQ contract to increase the capacity in case of any issues and the need for more flexibility. Mr. Wade advised that Callan Marine will be having a christening at the Morgan City dock and will check surveys to make sure there is enough water depth; (iii) depending on workplan funding, they are considering supplemental dredging in the Bar Channel; (iv) the alternate route of Little Island Pass is still ongoing until pipelines and depths are nailed down. In the interim, they will try experimental dredging with the *Arulaq* but if there is not enough depth, they will bring in the *Jadwin* as a backup; (v) They have been paying an hourly rate adjustment for fuel on the Brice contract, with an effort underway for changes in the law for these types of contracts and will utilize that opportunity and raise the ceiling on the contract extending through August of 2023; and (vi) substantial completion of Bayou Boeuf locks is expected May 31, 2022, with expected closures during the summer for hinge repairs.

Lieutenant Hayley Gipson reported: (i) a slight decrease in total transits, averaging 70 per day through the VTS zone; (ii) they are pleased about dredging to begin at Stouts Pass; and (iii) they will be meeting with St. Mary Levee District this week about the final phase of the Bayou Chene construction plans and possibly lifting restrictions.

Michael Knobloch reported that: (i) we are still awaiting the announcement of the Port Security Grant and anticipate its grant application due date in June; (ii) we won’t hear anything on our RAISE grant application until November but will be submitting the Port Infrastructure Grant application by May 16th and will be requesting funding from the US Department of Transportation’s (USDOT’s) FY 2022 INFRA grant program, with application due on May 23rd. It was moved by Mr. Adams and seconded by Mr. Tycer 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 Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects grants program, found 23 U.S.C. § 117 (“*Infrastructure for Rebuilding America*” or **INFRA**), awards funds for surface transportation infrastructure projects with significant national or regional impact, or to improve and expand the surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of said District, 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 INFRA** grant program; 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 INFRA** grant project application.

(iv) we were notified that the dock and warehouse fire suppression system were ineligible projects for the FY23 Community Project Funding request announced by Congressman Higgins last month but when the Congressman heard about our NOAA MET stations at our annual hurricane preparedness meeting, he stated that we should not be funding those and should request funding from his office, which we did in the amount of \$200,000; and (v) House Bill 150, which includes changing the term limits of our commissioners from four years to seven years, was approved by House and was sent to the Senate for approval.

Eric Matte reported: (i) they are progressing with construction documents for the East dock; and (ii) they submitted permits for the West dock and have received preliminary comments back from DNR and CPRA that will be addressed.

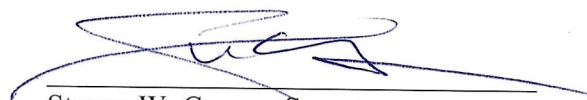
Cindy Cutrera reported that: (i) she attended the GPAA Conference in Galveston, six commissioners attended training conducted by Captain Jeff Monroe of IAMPE, and Mac attended NWC Conference in Washington, DC; (ii) we held our annual hurricane preparedness meeting on April 19th, with over 100 people in attendance; (iii) she introduced Wade Morefield and Bruce Lambert of MARAD, who was here planning our upcoming Red River Roundtable, which will be an invitation only event.

After Motion of Mr. Orlando, second of Mr. Adams, and unanimous rollcall vote, the Board entered into Executive Session to discuss its suit against Providence Engineering & Environmental Group, LLC and Patriot Construction and Industrial, LLC for Youngwood yard failure. After the Executive Session ended, it was moved by Mr. Adams, and seconded by Mr. Orlando that the Board return to Regular Session, which carried unanimously.

Philip Chauvin reported that we received 10 bids on the Youngwood Yard Surface Replacement on April 27th, with Patriot Construction being the low bidder of \$1,066,527.90. All bids were in order and responsive, and we have received Patriot’s 10-day submittal documents. Mr. Bourgeois noted that we have the option to reject all the bids because it was over the engineer’s estimate of \$984,864, but based on Mr. Chauvin’s recommendation, it was moved by Mr. Adams, and seconded by Mr. Cornes to award the low bidder, Patriot Construction, Award of Contract for a total of \$1,066,527.90.

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

Attest:


Steven W. Cornes, Secretary