PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF**

**THE MORGAN CITY HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT**

**June 12, 2017**

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 12, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Duane Lodrigue, President, convened the meeting with Commissioners, Gary Duhon, Joseph Cain, Thomas Ackel, Deborah Garber, Tim Matthews, Sr., Ben Adams, Adam Mayon and Lee Dragna. Also present at the meeting were Raymond Wade, Executive Director; Tori Henry, Office Manager; Cindy Cutrera, Manager of Economic Development; Gerard Bourgeois, Board Attorney; Michael Knobloch, Knobloch Professional Services; Captain Blake Welborn, Chief Clayton Franklin and Chief Gabe Bosman, United States Coast Guard (“USCG”); Clayton Breaud, GSE/Providence Engineering; Mayor Frank Grizzaffi and Councilman Tamporella, City of Morgan City Mike Lowe and Brenton Jenkins, GIS; Dan Duplantis, Greenwood Marine; 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. Duhon and seconded by Mr. Mayon that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 8, 2017 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 2017 be received and accepted and that all invoices presented to the Board for the month of May 2017 be paid. Mr. Ackel seconded that motion, which carried unanimously.

Captain Welborn reported that: (i) vessel transits are down 1% from 2016 in the VTS Zone; (ii) Change of Command ceremonies are Thursday, with ANT being at 9 a.m. and MSU at 11 a.m. Commander Heather Mattern will attend next month’s meeting, at which time he turn attendance over to her; (iii) the Coast Guard is not pulling out of Morgan City as rumors have stated. There will be some shifting to Houma but MSU, ANT and AXE will continue to have a presence in Morgan City.

Chief Franklin had nothing new to report but introduced his replacement Gabe Bosman, which the Board welcomed. The Board expressed their appreciation to Chief Franklin and wished him well in his future assignments.

Mr. Wade reported on behalf of Mr. Connell that: (i) surveys of the Channel were done last Thursday and Friday and should be posted on the Corps website by the end of the week; (ii) Great Lakes Dredge was awarded the dredging contract of the Atchafalaya River and should be in the River by June 25th, once it completes its dredging assignment in Fourchon; (iii) Notice of Sources Sought for services of a Special Purpose Suction Dredge is currently being reviewed by Corps legal and is expected to be placed in FedBizOpps by June 19th, with Industry day to follow two weeks later. Mr. Wade noted that of the $7,726,000 funds available for the dredging in the FY17 budget, it is to be split between us and Fourchon and $2,370,000 is for mobe/demobe to move the dredge 15 miles.

Mike Knobloch reported that: (i) FY15 Port Security Grant has a remaining balance of $33,000, with a local match of $8400; (ii) FY16 Port Security Grant Vendor Support and Maintenance and Sustainability is being implemented and the grant has a remaining balance of $562,000 left. (iii) FY17 Port Security Grant pre-application is due tomorrow, with the application deadline next Thursday in which the District will be applying for between $500,000-$700,000 of the available $100 million. (iv) He attended the National Homeland Security Conference in Buffalo, NY, where he was able to spend one on one time with the FEMA personnel.

Mike Lowe introduced Brenton Jenkins from his Baton Rouge office. He also reported they are currently working on the 404/408 permits and requirements and have spoken with Corps Environmental, who don’t see any major obstacles if we submit a scope of work similar to what was done in the demonstration. GIS has requested and received all documents the Corps has accumulated, which was provided and are now under review.

Charles Brittingham reported that: (i) of the $6.5 million in the FY17 Omnibus Bill, there were zero funds in the discretionary workplan; (ii) he met with Jeff McKey of the Corps who said the Port has to gather a core group of stakeholders to travel to DC and tell their story of funding issues, tonnage issue, lost business, etc. He also suggested getting a video crew to visit the different “boneyard/graveyard” of stacked vessels to help make our point. Mr. Wade noted he would like Mr. Brittingham to attend our board meeting once a quarter to update the Board on his progress. He also mentioned that he took him on a boat tour of the District so that he could better understand our issues and that he will be meeting with Jeff Green of Senator Kennedy’s office.

Cindy Cutrera reported that: (i) we’ve heard from one stakeholder who has told their captains not to go in the Atchafalaya River because of the water depth as well as another who could not bid on a job because of the lack of 20’ depth in the channel. With that information, we created a letter that was sent to local, state and federal delegation explaining how they expect us to have good tonnage numbers in order to get funding; but when you do not allow us to dredge properly because of the lack of funding, we do not have the tonnage numbers needed. We did receive a response back from General Wehr agreeing that our tonnage will continue to decrease as long as funding decreases; (ii) She and Mac are continuing to pursue other funding mechanisms, including RESTORE, where they are planning another meeting with Wildlife and Fisheries; however, LABUDMAT will not be an option as Point au Fer is unable to come up with the $400,000 cost share; (iii) She continues to work with Tom Podany at Waterborne Commerce, providing him with a sample spreadsheets of activity in the District to determine if he was missing anything and she will continue to flood him with information. Charles will be meeting with Tom tomorrow to better understand the issues; (iv) She and Mac attended local economic development committee meeting, and we also hosted the annual hurricane preparedness meeting with about 90 in attendance, cyber security training with about 35 in attendance and Port resilience stakeholder workshop with about 30 in attendance.

Mr. Bourgeois presented: (i) a request of a Letter of No Objection from Conrad Industries for mooring dolphins, bulkhead and pier removal, CAP mono-piles and sheet piles and maintenance dredging. Pat Cloutier addressed the Board with his concerns for damages to his property and Mr. Dragna requested that we include in our letter that they address Mr. Cloutier’s concerns. Mr. Duhon moved to authorize Mr. Wade to execute said letter, which was seconded by Mr. Adams and carried unanimously; (ii) A contract between the District and Knobloch Professional Services, LLC, which provides for the continuation of its present port security services at $6,000.00 per month, including an office space. It was moved by Mr. Cain and seconded by Mr. Ackel that the Port enter into a contract with Knobloch Professional Services, LLC and the following resolution be adopted, which Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION**

A resolution providing for the execution of a consulting agreement for the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (“District”), designating the terms and conditions of the contract, and granting the authorization therefor.

WHEREAS, this Board of Commissioners (“Board”) is authorized by the provisions of LSA-R.S. 34:324 to “contract with the employ attorneys, clerks, engineers, deputy commissioners, superintendents, stevedores and other agents and employees and shall fix their compensation and terms of office or employments,” and,

WHEREAS, this Board, after due deliberation deems it necessary that a real and genuine necessity exist therefor, to contract with Knobloch Professional Services, L.L.C. in connection with various matters related to administering and implementing the Port Security Grants awarded to the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District and other services related to the advancement of the District.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the President, Duane E. Lodrigue, is hereby authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the District, a consulting agreement with Knobloch Professional Services, L.L.C. for the necessary service relative to the District, substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions of the consulting agreement presented this day.

(iii) Audit Engagement Letter from Darnell, Sikes, Gardes & Frederick for services due to the new Statewide Agreed Upon Procedures (SAUP). Mr. Adams moved that Mr. Lodrigue be authorized to execute engagement letter for one year of services up to $7500, which was seconded by Mr. Dragna and carried unanimously.

Mr. Dragna moved to expand the agenda to include discussion of forming a four (4) person committee to discussing dredging options, which was seconded by Mr. Duhon and carried unanimously. Mr. Adams was moved to create a four (4) person committee consisting of Mr. Dragna, Mr. Adams, Mr. Duhon and Mr. Mayon, which was seconded by Mr. Dragna and carried unanimously. Committee members will make recommendations to the Board, who will vote on all purchases. Mr. Bourgeois noted that the committee meeting will need to be advertised 24 hours in advance and minutes will need to be taken.

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

Attest:

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Thomas Ackel, Secretary