

Avoyelles Parish Port Commission
170 Honeybee Lane
P.O. Box 126
Simmesport, Louisiana 71369

Regular Meeting

June 28, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Board Chairman, Mr. Barry Laiche called to order the regular meeting of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission at 5:30 p.m. on June 28, 2021, at the Port Commission Headquarters.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

By Commissioner Penn Lemoine

III. PRAYER:

By Commissioner Sammy Ducote

IV. ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Sam Ducote conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

Board Chairman, Mr. Barry Laiche

Commissioner, Mr. Scott Williams

Commissioner, Penn Lemoine

Mr. Stacy Auzenne (Port Counsel)

Chairman Laiche spoke briefly on signed legislation reducing port commission size from nine to five people allowing the commission to easily make quorum to be able to handle monthly business more efficiently.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS:

No members of the Public were present at meeting.

VI. TREASURES REPORT:

Commissioner Lemoine had nothing new to report.

VII. ADOPT MINUTES:

Minutes from the Special Budget Meeting and Regular Meeting held May 17, 2021, provided by Cenla Court Reporting were approved unanimously.

VIII. DELEGATES (FIVE MINUTE RULE):

No members of the public present.

IX. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Laiche briefly discussed monitoring ongoing improvements at barge. Commissioner Ducote will speak to the remaining items from the Chairman's report.

X. VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Commissioner Williams spoke at length on investing monies in the operating account into a certificate of deposit to allow for some growth in cash in lieu of being in a checking account earning no interest. The decision was made for the board to research more into this idea and revisit.

XI. PORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Port Director, Sammy Ducote updated the Board on the progress of the main projects: Crane, barge drainage and sump pump and electrical work. As of the date of this meeting the sum of the projects were ninety-five percent complete with the remainder being that he is waiting on electrician to complete electrical work. Director Ducote received three new bids for additional work which include: Painting, construction of life jacket box and construction of shed over electrical panels. Construction of life jacket box was approved, while painting of barge and construction of shed were tabled to revisited after more details have been obtained. Discussion was had by Board in regard to employee use of privately owned equipment to perform maintenance and upkeep duties on Port property. Chairman Laiche requested from legal counsel, Mr. Stacy Auzenne a one-page summation so the Board would be able to reimburse/compensate employee(s) for personal use of equipment.

XII. CONSIDERATION OF OTHER MATTERS:

The Board adopted the annual 2021-2022 budget unanimously. Discussion was had between the board regarding the purchase of eight life jackets, how they were to be used, where they were to be housed and also placing unique identifiers on life jackets to dissuade theft. Discussion was had as to Director Ducote ruining his tire while patrolling Port grounds. All were in unanimous agreement to reimburse Director Ducote for the cost of the tire.

XIII. ADJOURN MEETING:

Commissioner Lemoine made motion to adjourn meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner. The next regular meeting of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission will be held on July 19, 2021, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Port Headquarters. Meeting was adjourned.