

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

Regular Meeting

June 20, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman, Barry Laiche called to order the regular meeting of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission 5:31 p.m. on June 20, 2023, at Port Commission Headquarters 170 Honeybee Lane, Simmesport, Louisiana, 71369.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

By Commissioner Pierite

III. PRAYER:

By Commissioner Webb

IV. ROLL CALL:

Port Director Samuel Ducote conducted the roll call. The following individuals were present giving the meeting a quorum of four commissioners present:

Chairman Barry Laiche

Commissioner Scott Williams

Commissioner Tony Pierite

Commissioner Andre Webb

Stacy Auzenne (Port Counsel)

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS:

There were no members of the public present.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Webb had nothing new to report at the time.

VII. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Minutes for the May 15, 2023, meeting was reviewed by all present commissioners. Commissioner Webb motioned to approve and adopt the minutes, Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion to accept the minutes for the May 2023 meeting passed unanimously.

VIII. DELEGATES FIVE MINUTE RULE:

There were no members of the public present.

IX. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Laiche did not have anything new to discuss.

X. VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Commissioner Williams did not have anything new to discuss.

XI. DIRECTORS REPORT:

Director Ducote stated that everything has not changed. We are still waiting for what we want to do.

XII. CONSIDERATION OF ANY OTHER MATTERS:

A) UPDATE ON HENDERSON CLEANUP MONEY.

The Commission is in receipt of the \$8,000.00 check and directed Director Ducote will deposit the check.

B) DISCUSS THE 2023-2024 BUDGET.

Per Director Ducote, the Commission can expect some budget amendments for the planned projects.

C) DISCUSS PORT INSURANCE RENEWAL.

The insurance was renewed for the current year. Chairman Laiche requested from Mr. Auzenne a legal answer for the Commission's obligation in terms of loss and/or replacement coverage on the water tank.

D) GEC CONTRACT FOR FERTILIZER TANK

Mr. Auzenne has reviewed the contract for engineering costs with GEC for the liquid fertilizer tank and made all revisions that were necessary. Mr. Auzenne referenced the guidelines of the State and the importance of the State reviewing the contract to ensure that there are no mistakes that would hinder the project going forward in the future. Chairman Laiche recommended that the GEC Contract be placed on the July agenda and the Commission will take it up at that time. Commissioner Williams made the motion to authorize Chairman Laiche to sign on behalf of the Port as Chairman of the Commission for the GEC contract pending State approval of the proposed contract. Commission Webb seconded the motion to authorize. There was no further discussion and the motion to authorize passed unanimously.

XIII. ADJOURN MEETING:

Commissioner Webb made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Pierite seconded the motion. The next regular meeting of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission will take place on July 17, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Port Headquarters. The meeting adjourned.

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2023-2024 – Budget Meeting

June 20, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman, Barry Laiche called to order the 2023-2024 annual budget meeting of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission, 5:09 p.m. on June 20, 2023, at Port Commission Headquarters 170 Honeybee Lane, Simmesport, Louisiana, 71369.

II. ROLL CALL:

Port Director Samuel Ducote conducted the roll call. The following individuals were present giving the meeting a quorum of four commissioners present:

Chairman Barry Laiche

Commissioner Scott Williams

Commissioner Tony Pierite

Commissioner Andre Webb

Stacy Auzenne (Port Counsel)

III. PROPOSED BUDGET REVIEW:

The commissioners were presented with a copy of the 2023-2024 proposed budget to review. Commissioner Laiche's review of the proposed budget determined that there may need to be amendments made to the budget due to projects that are in the planning phase but have not begun. Mr. Auzenne advised that if revenues or expenses exceed or are below five percent of the budgeted amount, an amendment will have to be made to the budget. Income for the 2023-2024 budget year will remain the same as expected. All expense items were adjusted for inflation and a significant increase in insurance premiums. Chairman Laiche recommended to the commissioners that the 2023-2024 annual budget be adopted as proposed and have the expectation that with liquid fertilizer tank

project forthcoming and the workshop amendments will have to be made to the budget. Commissioner Williams made the motion to adopt the budget for the year 2023-2024. Commissioner Pierite seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion to adopt the 2023-2024 annual budget passed unanimously.

IV. ADJOURN MEETING:

Commissioner Pierite made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.