Greater Ouachita Port Commission Minutes

August 2, 2017

Monroe Chamber of Commerce

Commissioners Present: Ricky Guillot, James Lee, James Jones, Bobby Manning and Sue Nicholson

Commissioners Absent: Bobby Manning, Terri Odom, Roland Charles, and James Jones

Guests: Paul Trichel with Ouachita Terminals, Josh Hays with Lazenby and Associates

Call to Order

Chairman Guillot called the meeting to order and offered an invocation. The commission reviewed the notes from the June 7th and July 12 meetings. Commissioner Lee moved to approve the minutes from both meetings. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones. Motion passed.

Financial Report

The commission reviewed the financial report as of August 2nd and the report for July 12. As of August 2, the account balances are as follows:

The GOA has a balance of $183,637.71

The PPA has a balance of $139.45

The EDA has a balance of $92

The FPC Account remains open with a -0- balance

Commissioner Manning moved that the July 12 financial report be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones. Motion passed.

Commissioner Manning moved that the August 2nd financial report be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nicholson. Motion passed.

The 2016 audit was accepted by the GOPC and distributed to all commission members. A copy is on file with Ouachita Terminals.

Construction Report

No report at this time

Operations Report

Paul said he is dealing with a lot of misinformation regarding the Panama Canal expansion. Much of the traffic using the canal is by-passing Louisiana and going directly to the east coast. Our ports are doing more outbound business. The traffic inbound traffic going through the canal is bypassing the Mississippi, Louisiana and Florida, especially containers.

The Ouachita Port is still bringing a lot of rock in and sending goods out. Paul has been talking to manufacturers who buy products from other countries for delivery in Ouachita Parish. Unfortunately, the foreign companies determine how the product will be shipped and frequently bypass our port.

Other Business

Commissioner Guillot asked Richard Richardson to give a report from Ouachita Terminals and port operations to the GOPC. He would like a status report of current operations and the ports future plans.

Adjournment

The GOPC will meet again at noon on September 6 at the Monroe Chamber of Commerce. There being no further business, the GOPC adjourned.