The Madison Parish Port Commission met in a regular session on Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at the Delta Southern Railroad Conference room. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Vining and a roll call was taken as follows:

Commissioners present: Charles Vining, Isaiah Ross, Robert Charles Brown,

 Jim Tucker and Harold Allen

Commissioners absent: Donald Frazier and Latasha Griffin

Other members present: Mr. Terry Murphy, Director and Kimmeka Epps, Secretary/Treasurer

Visitors: Craig Huff (DSR) and Matt Prince (Continental Rail)

On motion given by Commissioner Tucker and seconded by Commissioner Ross, on the previous meeting minutes on Thursday October 26, 2017. The minutes were approved with no necessary corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary Epps noted that the remaining lease payments due will exceed the budgeted amount for this fiscal year. A continuation of monies are received from the restitution cases. Epps also informed the board of the profit shares received from Louisiana Workers’ Compensation Corporation (LWCC). Commissioner Vining questioned the interest earnings on CD’s. Epps stated that the interest amounts are accrued annually.

On motion given by Commissioner Tucker and seconded by Commissioner Ross, the financial reports were approved with no necessary changes. Motion carried unanimously.

Murphy discussed the purchase property. Due to miscommunication of information between the attorney and seller, the purchase is temporarily on hold.

Murphy provided information on the land clearing project phase 2. Murphy set up a meeting with GIS to mark phase 2 for accurate clearing with the intent to obtain a permit from the CORP.

Murphy stated anything not under mitigation he will have removed. Commissioner Vining questioned whether any of the timber on the site is marketable. Murphy informed that he has contacted several businesses concerning the purchase of the timber, however he was unsuccessful in selling the remaining timber on the site. Commissioner Ross questioned the progress on the current phase. Murphy stated that the project is two-thirds completed. Matt Prince added that Continental Rail will benefit from the phase 2 project. Continental will be able to handle barge services, trans loading from truck to rail and/or barge to warehouse.

Commissioner Allen arrived on item C. Vice-Chairman Vining noted the attendance of Commissioner Allen.

Murphy updated the board on the response from the CORP on dredging. Murphy spoke with the General from the CORP about the severity of the issue we have with the island building up. Murphy presented the information to the board from the CORP. Commissioner Vining stated that the island would soon cut off the access to the dock and a possible land lock could occur if the CORP doesn’t move quickly.

Murphy informed the board of the Notice to Proceed letter from Delta Regional Authority (DRA). The usage of the grant monies will be used to run additional rail near Complex Chemical and or run rail to the Northrup Grumman building. Commissioner Ross question the status of the rail from the Port to the Arkansas line. Matt Prince stated that additional ties will be added to the track from Tallulah to the Wye. Prince added that a significate amount of ties was added to the track leading to Lake Providence with bridge work underway as well. The bridge work will assist Complex Chemical in bring additional cars in to their facility. Anything North of Lake Providence the track is good. Commissioner Ross questioned whether Delta Southern was experiencing any hindrance with the track at Lake Providence. Prince stated there is some hindrance but that’s out of his hands because it’s owned by a different company. Commissioner Ross questioned the hindrance of getting materials off the river and on the river. Matt Prince stated that the river stage is dropping. Commissioner Tucker replied there should not be an issue with transporting at this time with river stages.

 Public comments: No public comments

On motion given by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Ross, the board voted to enter into executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll call was taken.

Yea-5

Nays -0

Absent-2

Abstain-0

On motion given by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the board voted to enter back into regular session. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business brought before the board, Vice-Chairman Vining declared the meeting adjourned.

Kimmeka Epps Charles Vining

Secretary/Treasurer Vice-Chairman