PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF**

**THE MORGAN CITY HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT**

**January 13, 2020**

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 January 13, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Lee Dragna, Vice President, convened the meeting with Commissioners Joseph Cain, Tim Matthews, Sr., Pete Orlando, Steven Cornes and Troy Lombardo in attendance. Deborah Garber, Ben Adams and Adam Mayon were absent. Also present at the meeting were Raymond Wade, Executive Director; Tori Henry, Office Manager; Cindy Cutrera, Manager of Economic Development; Gerard Bourgeois and Jennifer Reasoner, Board Attorneys; LCDR Beth Newton, United States Coast Guard (“USCG”); Jon McVay, Brice Civil Constructors; Michael Knobloch, Knobloch Professional Services; Bryan Breaud, GSE/Providence Engineering; Councilman Louis Tamporello, City of Morgan City; along with members of the media and general public.

The meeting was called to order and the presence of a quorum was noted. Raymond Wade led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

It was moved by Mr. Orlando and seconded by Mr. Lombardo that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2019 be approved and adopted, with said motion carrying unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. Orlando that the report of receipts and disbursements for the month of December, 2019 be received and accepted and that all invoices presented to the Board for the month of December 2019 be paid. Mr. Cornes seconded that motion, which carried unanimously.

Tim Connell reported via teleconference that: (i) the Dredge Ingenuity wrapped up on Sunday but did not complete all that was intended due to significant issues with progress, so the task order was ended. The Corps Dredge Jadwin will complete between the Highway 182 bridge and the railroad bridge by the end of January; (ii) Bayou Chene dredging is delayed indefinitely until additional funding is received since we were not included in the supplemental package; (iii) The RM White will likely complete the Bar Channel mid-February; (iv) high water of 5’8” at the Atchafalaya River is expected by February 2nd; (v) Brice has resolved most of their issues that has kept them from being operational and have worked since January 1st in the Bar Channel without issue. Mr. McVay noted several stats within pay range and that they are operational 87% of the time; (vi) Work on the Bayou Boeuf guide wall continues, although behind schedule partially due to high water.

Beth Newton reported that: (i) high water is beginning, so drafting a Marine Safety Information Bulletin is necessary to ensure all restrictions are in place; (ii) they will host a high water meeting on January 28th to discuss concerns for high water season and to provide a refresher of best practices. She encouraged all to please take advantage of the meeting.

Charles Brittingham reported via teleconference that: (i) congress passed a spending package on December 20, 2019 of $533 million in discretionary funds for operations and maintenance. The Corps and OMB has sixty days to provide their determinations to Congress and FY2020 Work Plan funding should be released on or about February 10th or 11th; (ii) Ongoing effort to provide Letters of Support highlighting BRICE and the state of the channel to General Semonite, RD James and OMB continues. Mr. Dragna noted that we got zero supplemental funding and wondered what Mr. Brittingham thought the odds of us getting any additional Work Plan funding was. Mr. Brittingham reiterated that at the time the last supplemental funding was released, the port still had unobligated funds for the BRICE and RM White contracts. Mr. Dragna stated he was under the impression that the funds were obligated at the time the supplemental was released.

Mike Knobloch reported that we are still waiting to hear about the port priority grant application submitted on December 2, 2019 requesting a total of $700,000, with a reimbursement from the state of $552,091.

Bryan Breaud reported that: (i) Phase III – East Dock Expansion plans are complete and will be submitted to DOTD next week for approval; and (ii) work from Change Order No. 3 for Phase II – Aggregate loading/unloading areas should be completed next week. He also presented Partial Payment Application No. 2 in the amount of $322,420.66. Mr. Orlando moved to authorize said payment, which was seconded by Mr. Cornes and carried unanimously.

Cindy Cutrera reported that she and Mac will continue to have weekly conference calls with Charles Brittingham, providing him with any information he needs on this end. She also noted all other activities for last month will be included in her monthly report that she will send out tomorrow.

After a unanimous rollcall vote, the Board entered into Executive Session to discuss the suit against Crosby Marine, LLC for damage caused to the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District’s NOAA Meteorological Station #2 in the Atchafalaya River. After the Executive Session ended, it was moved by Mr. Orlando and seconded by Mr. Cornes that the Board return to Regular Session, which passed, and at which point, there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

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Timothy Matthews, Sr., Secretary