The Vidalia Port Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, 11 July 2023 at 8:30 A.M. in the Port Commission office at 112 Front Street Suite B, Vidalia Convention Center.

Commissioners Randy Maxwell, President & Tanya Richardson, Secretary/Treasurer were present along with Commissioners Steve Weeks & Brannon Arthur. Commissioners Richard Young, Helen Wyatt, & David Yates, Vice President, was absent. Wyly Gilfoil, executive director, and Bryant Killen, deputy port director, were also present along with Neil Martin (TRS), Marvin Collins (TRS), & Hiram Copeland (BH&A).

Mr. Maxwell called the meeting to order. The minutes from the June meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Arthur and second by Mrs. Richardson.

Mr. Killen presented the board with a financial statement which was approved with a motion by Mr. Arthur and a second by Mr. Weeks.

Mr. Killen presented a report on Slip & Bulk Pad-Public Notice Comment Period ended 3 Nov 2020, but LA Wildlife & Fisheries requested an extension for further review. Pending comments and responses, and proof of wetland credits purchased, the Permit will be issued. It was further stated that we are waiting on the USACE to submit their reviewed decision document to us to proceed. Expanded discussion was made detailing the criteria of which the USACOE will approve the permit application. A seepage analysis, slope stability analysis, and an independent peer review will have to be all completed, and pass before approval. It was stated that the seepage analysis came back favorably. It is currently in the USACE’s Jacksonville office for internal review. The USACE is preparing preliminary guidelines for a Risk Based Analysis for the project which this project will be one of the if not first to adhere to such guideline. The USACE has determined our slope to be 5.8:1. We are now working through required rip rap specs to take the project to full design. Mr. Killen stated that full design was submitted to USACE on 7/7/23. Mr. Killen discussed the need to acquire an option on the property south of the eventual slack water slip for future development. Mr. Killen has spoken with the landowners, and they are requiring compensation for the option. The Commission approved the Project Report on a motion by Mr. Weeks and second by Mr. Arthur.

In other business, updates were given on grant applications that are planning to be submitted on VPC’s behalf. RAISE application submitted on 2/28 was unsuccessful , and PIDP which was submitted on April 28th is pending. Mr. Killen briefly gave an update on the relationship with the port and Syrah. A motion was made by Mrs. Richardson and a second by Mr. Arthur to approve Other Business.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 on a motion by Mr. Arthur and a second my Mr. Weeks.

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Randy Maxwell President

Attest:

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Tanya Richardson

Secretary/Treasurer