

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE PORT COMMISSION OF THE PARISH OF WEST FELICIANA,
STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

The Port Commission of the Parish of West Feliciana, State of Louisiana, met for its annual meeting in the Teen Room of the West Feliciana Parish Library, 5114 Burnett Road, St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775 at Five-Thirty P.M. (5:30) o'clock p.m.

The following members were present: Commissioners Steven J. Dunn; Andrew A. Grezaffi, III; Lauren D. Field; David L. Jewell; Steven W. Johnston; Paul A. Lambert, Jr.; and Nolan C. Percy.

Also present were: Parish President, Kenny Havard; Richard Sykes; June Sykes; John Kean, IV; Robert Field; Patricia Stallman of Feliciana Explorer; Gary LaGrange, Retired Port Director of the Port of New Orleans; and District Attorney, Sam D'Aquila.

The Port Commission of the Parish of West Feliciana, State of Louisiana, was duly convened at which point, District Attorney, D'Aquila performed the swearing in ceremony for new Commissioners Dunn and Jewell. Following the swearing in, Mrs. Field called the roll and it was determined a quorum was present and therefore commenced the transaction of business.

Mrs. Field invited those present to join her in the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance. The next order of business is the election of officers. The floor was opened for nominations for President. Mr. Lambert nominated Mr. Grezaffi. Seconded by Mr. Percy. Upon a motion of Mr. Percy, seconded by Mr. Lambert, nominations were closed. Mr. Grezaffi was elected as President under a 5-2 vote, with Mrs. Field and Mr. Jewell casting dissenting votes. The floor was opened for nominations for Vice-President. Mr. Grezaffi nominated Mr. Lambert. Seconded by Mr. Percy. Upon a motion of Mr. Grezaffi, seconded by Mr. Johnston, nominations were closed. Mr. Lambert was elected as Vice-President, with Mr. Dunn, Mrs. Field and Mr. Jewell casting dissenting votes. The floor was opened for nominations for Secretary/Treasurer. Mr. Jewell was nominated by Mrs. Field. Seconded by Mr. Lambert. Upon a motion of Mr. Grezaffi, seconded by Mr. Johnston, nominations were closed. Mr. Jewell was elected as Secretary/Treasurer by unanimous vote.

The Commission, upon a motion of Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Grezaffi approved the agenda items for consideration and action.

Moved by Mr. Lambert to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 30, 2023 as written. Seconded by Mr. Grezaffi. There being no opposition, motion carried.

The next order of business was to discuss the letter from Parish President Kenny Havard addressed to the Mr. Grezaffi and dated August 21, 2024; wherein the Parish President demanded the annual report of the Port Commission for 2023 and declared that the Parish will no longer offer Administrative support, an office for storing Port Commission documents and assets; and will no longer provide funds to support any of the Port Commission's administrative expenses. Discussion ensued and the following decisions were made: 1) On a motion by Mrs. Field and seconded by Mr. Grezaffi, the Port Commission declared it will temporarily store its documents and assets at the West Feliciana District Attorney's office; 2) On a motion by Mr. Jewell and seconded by Mr. Dunn, the Port Commission declared its official publication to be the Democrat/Advocate publication; 3) Regarding administrative support, Mrs. Field volunteered to serve as interim Administrative Support, to which David Jewell made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Grezaffi to appoint Mrs. Field as interim administrative support; 4) On the matter of Legal representation, a motion by Mr. Lambert and seconded by Mr. Grezaffi it was decided that Legal representation will be provided by District Attorney, Sam D'Aquila; 5) On the matter of vacancies on the Commission, Commission members requested that DA D'Aquila contact the Parish Council regarding its duty to appoint Commission Members from those individuals who have submitted applications. Lauren Field made a motion to request a legal opinion of the DA regarding filling the vacancies on the Port Commission. This was seconded by Mr. Jewell. All motions were approved without any opposition.

The next order of business was a discussion of Budgetary Needs: Mr. Lambert gave some history on funds and expenses. Mr. Jewell proposed to open dialogue with the tourist river boats and direct future funds through the Port Commission instead of through the parish office. Mrs. Field suggested forming a budgetary sub-committee for future needs. Mr. Grezaffi suggested that the Port Commission had no authority over river boats docked adjacent to parish property. Mr. Jewell asked legal opinion of DA Sam D'Aquila to wit he responded the Port Commission did have that authority and elaborated that their jurisdiction went well beyond that.

Regarding Mission and Purpose: Mrs. Field proposed looking pursuing implementation of the Riverfront Development Study that the Parish President Havard authorized in 2019 and exploring future development of West Feliciana Parish riverfront opportunities. DA Sam D'Aquila advised adopting an ordinance in future meetings for funding.

Louisiana Ports and Waterways Investment Commission discussion: Gary LaGrange, Retired Port Director of the Port of New Orleans, asked to speak to the Commission. He was granted permission

and proceeded to educate the Commission on opportunities for funding drawing from his 40 plus years of leadership in other ports in Louisiana.

Next meeting date: TBD

At, 6:58 p.m., upon a motion of Mr. Jewell, seconded by Mr. Dunn the Port Commission adjourned.

/s/Andrew A. Grezaffi, III, President

/s/David L. Jewell, Secretary/Treasurer

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