WEST ST. MARY PARISH PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 5, 2013

6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to Mr. Calvin Deshotel, President of the Port Commission. Mr. Phil Bell led in the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call resulted in the following:

Present: Absent:

Calvin Deshotel Ralph Longman

Willie Peters Wayne Stevens

Tad Blevins Greg Paul

Phil Bell

Joseph Tabb

Wil Terry

Also present at the meeting were Ms. Marguerite Robinson of Teche Talk, Mr. Roger Stouff of the Franklin Banner, Mr. Jason Akers with Foley & Judell, L.L.P.,Mr. Reid Miller of Miller Engineers, Mr. Eric Duplantis, Port Attorney, Mr. David Allain, Executive Director and Ms. Rebecca Pellerin, Office Manager of the Port Commission.

A motion was made by Mr. Terry to dispense with the reading of the October 1, 2013 meeting minutes and to accept the same. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blevins and carried unanimously.

Mr. Deshotel asked if there was any public comment – there was none.

Mr. Deshotel reported that the Committee appointed to discuss the Executive Director’s contract met last week and recommends that the Port Commission offer Mr. Allain a two year employee contract with a salary of $82,000 per year. Mr. Allain was in agreement with the offer. A motion was made by Mr. Terry to accept the recommendation of the Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bell and carried unanimously.

Mr. Allain reported that the Port Commission has signed a Purchase Agreement with Superior Fabricators for the purchase of the facility. An auction will be held on November 14 to sell most of the equipment in the facility. Mr. Allain reported that he and Mr. Duplantis have been working on a lease agreement for the proposed tenant of the Superior Facility.

Mr. Allain introduced Mr. Jason Akers of Foley & Judell, Bond Counsels of New Orleans. Mr. Akers explained that Mr. Allain had contacted him approximately four months ago regarding the purchase of the Superior Fabricators facility. Mr. Akers reported that interest rates are very low at this time and that he and Mr. Allain discussed the possibility of borrowing the money to purchase the facility. Mr. Akers presented a resolution for adoption to begin the process of obtaining approval for the Port to borrow the money. The beginning process would be to set maximum parameters, which are all included in the Resolution. This Resolution would be a preliminary approval. Mr. Akers pointed out in Section 1 of the Resolution, a very generic project description is used in case something else comes along and the Port would need to use the money for something other than the purchase of the Superior Facility. He reported that the Resolution is written broadly enough for use on another project if need be. The approval of funding by the State Bond Commission would be good in perpetuity. With regards to interest rates, he reported that the ten year treasury is running at approximately 2 ½ % to 2.6%. He said while there is a little fluctuation day to day, the interest rates have been relatively low. A motion was made by Mr. Peters to adopt the Resolution giving preliminary approval for the issuance of Revenue Bonds. The motion was seconded by Mr. Peters and carried unanimously.

Mr. Allain recommended adjusting the Port Commission’s 2013 budget by increasing the Legal Expense by $5,000, the Audit Category by $600, Health/Life/Disability by $500 and the Water Plant by $4,000 – for a total of $10,100. A motion was made by Mr. Tabb to approve the budget adjustments as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Terry and carried unanimously.

Mr. Allain presented the Commission with a proposed budget for the year 2014 for their review. He asked the Commissioners to contact him with any questions or comments regarding the proposed budget which will be on the December meeting agenda for approval.

Mr. Duplantis reminded all Commissioners that Ethics Training must be completed prior to the end of the year.

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Mr. Tabb to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Terry and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

 Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Willie Peters, Secretary