



Jeff Landry
Governor

State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LOUISIANA PORTS & WATERWAYS INVESTMENT COMMISSION

Marc Hebert
Chairman

Julia Fisher-Cormier
Vice-Chair

LOUISIANA PORTS & WATERWAYS INVESTMENT COMMISSION

November 12th, 2024; 2:00 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order

Marc Hebert, Chairman of the Louisiana Ports & Waterways Investment Commission, called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

Attendance

All members were present at this meeting except for Mr. Blackmon, Susan Bourgeois, and Randy Guilliot. Mrs. Bourgeois and Mr. Guilliot were represented at this meeting by proxies.

Opening Remarks

Chairman Hebert thanked everyone for their time and participation in the commission. He then congratulated Mr. Chaisson on being elected to the American Association of Port Authority. Mr. Chaisson expressed the importance of his new position and how he will try to elevate the influence of port representatives in Congress.

Recap Port Master Plan Timeline

Commissioner Julia Fisher-Cormier details a plan to have as many working group reports as possible to review and create a coordinated approach to present to the State Legislature. Survey requests have been sent to all ports in Louisiana, and 9 of these ports have not responded yet. The deadline to submit responses is the end of next week. Commissioner Cormier also highlights the importance of having a representative from the state in the AAPA, as this is the first time in history. Senator Connick addresses the importance of expanding Louisiana's reach into the global market. Representative Wright located a survey performed by the Texas Transportation Institute that includes a modern assessment of Southern Ports. He also requested a bill to be ready for presentation in April.

Reports from the Working Groups and Task Forces

The Task Forces and Working groups represented at the meeting are as follows: Deep Draft Ports, Coastal and Inland Ports, Funding for Deep Water Ports, Offshore Oil and Gas Ports, Rural and Agriculture Ports, International Trade and Cargo Movements, and Navigation and Safety. Each of these groups has talked to representatives from each port within their area of focus and will have info on prospective projects and survey data by the end of November.

Report by WTC and Martin & Associates on Port Centuries Study

Joe Toomey reported findings by Martin & Associates on 5 of the most crucial ports in Southern Louisiana. This report includes a regional cargo study and is meant to address problems brought on by these ports' habits of competition rather than cooperation. Its goal is to identify new opportunities for cargo and initiate comprehensive economic development plans to aggressively attract trade. The theme of this report highlights the fact that LA contains one of the busiest port complexes in the world and contributes much to the global market. The finalized data is set to be released by early January.

Announcements

A new CEO of the Port of New Orleans has been hired recently. In addition, former Chairman of the Port of South Louisiana, Paul Aucoin, has recently passed away. He is considered a legend in the southern port industry and will be remembered for his professionalism and wealth of knowledge in the maritime industry.

Adjournment

Chairman Hebert thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 3:17 PM.



Jeff Landry
Governor

State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LOUISIANA PORTS & WATERWAYS INVESTMENT COMMISSION

Marc Hebert
Chairman

Julia Fisher-Cormier
Vice-Chair

LOUISIANA PORTS & WATERWAYS INVESTMENT COMMISSION November 12th, 2024; 2:00 PM

Member Organization	Appointee/Designee	Present		
		Yes	No	Proxy
Chairman	Marc Hebert	X		
Vice-Chair, Office of Multimodal Commerce	Commissioner Julia Fisher-Cormier	X		
Louisiana Economic Development	Secretary Susan Bourgeois			X
Louisiana State Senate	Senator Pat Connick	X		
Louisiana House of Representatives	Representative Mark Wright	X		
Port of South Louisiana	Paul Matthews	X		
Port Fourchon	Chett Chiasson	X		
Port of Iberia	Craig Romero	X		
Port of Morgan City	Raymond "Mac" Wade	X		
Central Louisiana Regional Port	Ben Russo	X		
Lake Providence Port Commission	Bryant Killen	X		
Louisiana Railroads Association	Carmack Blackmon		X	
Louisiana Motor Transport Association	Randy Guillot			X
	Total Present	12		
	Quorum Achieved			