

## **Abbeville Harbor & Terminal District Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** July 29, 2025

**Time:** 5:00 PM

**Location:** Abbeville Harbor & Terminal District Office, 124 North State Street, Suite 100, Abbeville, Louisiana

### **Call to Order**

President James Steen called the meeting to order, leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Attendance**

Commissioners' Present: Patrick Duhon, Wayne LeBleu, James Steen, Bud Zaunbrecher

• Commissioner Absent: Carlton Campbell

• Others Present: Executive Director Nick Gautreaux, Attorney Roger Boynton, Engineer Kim Touchet, Engineer Brian Primeaux, Secretary Cheryl Broussard, Rob Cowan with Alliant Insurance, Craig Romero with Port of Iberia and Oneil Malbrough with GIS Engineering.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from June 24, 2025, Regular Meeting were unanimously approved following a motion by Commissioner Bud Zaunbrecher and a second by Commissioner Wayne LeBleu.

No public comments were made on the agenda items.

### **Financial Reports**

Gautreaux provided financial reports, including the prior month's profit and loss, year-to-date profit and loss, budget vs. actual figures for the month and year to date, the accounts payable list for bill payments, accounts receivable, summary of the balance sheet, and the profit and loss report.

A motion to accept the financial reports was unanimously approved following a motion by Commissioner Patrick Duhon and seconded by Commissioner Bud Zaunbrecher.

Ports Engineer Kim Touchet updated the Commissioners on projects Primeaux, Touchet, and Associates has been working on. 1. Clean Gulf Building at the Port of Vermillion where they reviewed fire marshal comments and we are addressing them. We will resubmit approval after drafting is complete. 2. The next project we are working on is Hwy 690 and Schriefer Drive they are 95% complete because we are waiting for DOTD's permit. 3. Kim Touchet stated we have a current dredging permit at the Port of Vermilion, and he has applied for the Dredging permit at the Intracoastal City Boat Launch. We received notice that we are administratively complete, and public notice starts this week.

Commissioner Wayne LeBleu asked if they had done any sounding. Engineer Kim Touchet replied when you are leaving the launch itself in the sheet pile section there is a little rut in there and the sides are very shallow. The one in front of the Pavillion is shallow also. Those are the areas we

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are proposing for dredging to get it down. We have a location across the highway to place the spoil. Gautreaux spoke to Becky Boffy with the Maxie Pierce family. Gautreaux informed the Commissioners there are some small lots across the highway from the Boat Launch that he would like to get appraised because Mrs. Boffy would be interested in selling them.

A motion to authorize Gautreaux to have an appraisal at the Intracoastal City Pierce property was unanimously approved following a motion by Commissioner Wayne LeBleu and a second by Commissioner Patrick Duhon.

Engineer Kim Touchet stated we have completed our survey of the Security Building for the completion of the sale.

Attorney Roger Boynton stated we are working on Cooperative Endeavor with the City and Sheriff on the port security project.

Craig Romero, Executive Director with Port of Iberia gave an update on completion of the dredging of Freshwater Bayou from the Intracoastal City to the Locks and now we have lowered pipelines. The total cost of that phase was \$58 million. About 20 million was used for dredging and the rest was used for pipeline. Oneil Malbrough, engineer with GIS presented a power point slide presentation about the dredging project.

A motion to authorize Gautreaux and Attorney Roger Boynton to proceed with work that needs to be done on the cooperative endeavor agreement for the bypass channel renovations between the Port of Iberia and Abbeville Harbor and Terminal was unanimously approved following a motion by Commissioner Patrick Duhon and a second by Commissioner Wayne LeBleu.

Gautreaux gave an update on the Delta Waterfowl life jacket inquiry. Attorney Roger Boynton and Gautreaux have discussed and came up with assigning a small square for them to put the cage or building for them to store jackets. Gautreaux and Boynton suggested leasing them a piece of property for a nominal fee and they would supply the port with an liability policy, naming the port as an additional insured. Rob Cowan with Alliant Insurance asked if there would be an agreement between the two entities. Gautreaux stated if our insurance underwriter would give us a legal clause that should be put into the lease, we could add that to our lease forms. Gautreaux stated the underwriter for liability policy said our leases were well written. Rob Cowan with Alliant Insurance said that our leases are some of the best that underwriting has ever come across. We need to work with Alliant to make sure this project will not raise our rates.

Gautreaux updated the Commissioners on the Port Security Property stating the engineers have completed the survey on the property. The building is on the property line. We will need an maintenance agreement with adjoining property owner. There is a drainage issue between the property where the engineers design a solution to alleviate future problems. Attorney Roger Boynton would like to work with Attorney Bernard Duhon to review the agreement. We are going

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to begin cleaning up the property. The engineers are going to digitize the interior so we can draw a floor plan.

Gautreaux stated the Mayor White and Chief Hardy have already signed the Cooperative Agreement for Port Security first phase. We are waiting for the Sheriff to sign. Gautreaux stated the second phase is going to the Port and Intracoastal City.

Rob Cowan gave an overview of insurance and property coverage for renewal. The company you were with last year is still offering the best option for you. Overall, with the same coverage there was about a 6% decrease and we added 2 properties, 9507 Engineers Drive and 121 Tivoli.

A motion to accept the Insurance Renewal and authorize Gautreaux to sign renewal was unanimously approved following a motion by Commissioner Patrick Duhon and a second by Commissioner Bud Zaunbrecher.

A motion to authorize Gautreaux to submit letters to the City of Abbeville and the Vermilion Parish Police Jury asking for nominations to fill the remainder of the term of office for Commissioner Tim Creswell, whose term ends on June 30, 2028, was unanimously approved following a motion by Commissioner Patrick Duhon, seconded by Commissioner Wayne LeBleu.

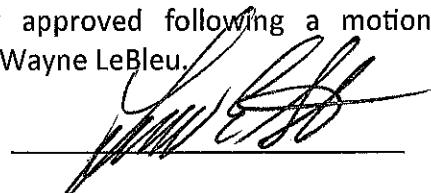
Commissioner Wayne LeBleu asked about the presentation by the Sellers Group at last month's meeting. Commissioner Wayne LeBleu has reservations about putting barriers up at these bridges. LeBleu asked the Commissioners to look into this and give their opinions. Engineer Kim Touchet stated the ones he had studied at other sites. There are different types, most of them are for large tree trunks to avoid hitting the bridge structure and remain floating down stream

A motion for Gautreaux to move into the corner office doing whatever needs to be done for him to move was unanimously approved following a motion by Commissioner Bud Zaunbrecher and a second by Commissioner Wayne LeBleu.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved following a motion by Commissioner Patrick Duhon, seconded by Commissioner Wayne LeBleu.



Carlton Campbell  
Secretary-Treasurer



James E. Steen  
President