Greater Ouachita Port Commission Minutes

March 6, 2019

Monroe Chamber of Commerce

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Ricky Guillot, Terri Odom, James Jones, Sue Nicholson, and Roland Charles

Commissioners Absent: Commissioners Bobby Manning and James Lee

Guests: Paul Trichel, Ouachita Terminals and Josh Hays with Lazenby and Associates, Matt Parker, David Haynes, and Senator Mike Walsworth

Call to Order

Chairman Guillot called the meeting to order and opened with an invocation.

Minutes

The February 6, 2019 minutes were approved as read with Commissioner Odom making the motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Charles. Motion passed.

Financial Report

Commissioner Odom presented the financial report for March 6, 2019. The balance in the various accounts is as follows:

 GOA $195,354.21

 PPA $139.45

 EDA $92.00

 FPC -0-

Construction Report

No report

Operations Report

Paul Trichel spoke on the work being done at the lock and dam at Columbia. Work cannot proceed on the repairs until the river elevation goes down.

Paul is working with a prospect who would like to use the port to ship timber products. Currently, very few shipments come into the port. Most of their business is exports and includes gravel and paper.

Commissioner Guillot asked about the equipment and if it was in a good state of repair. Paul reported that the container handlers are a challenge. Their newest machine is 15 years old and it was used when the port purchased it. Both machines have been fully depreciated. They need 4 new tires, which will cost $20,000. Paul said that the port needs a new machine, but can’t justify the $700,000 cost.

Other Business

No other business

Adjournment

The GOPC will meet again at noon on April 10 at the Monroe Chamber of Commerce. There being no further business, the GOPC adjourned.