REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAKE PROVIDENCE PORT COMMISSION
HELD ON AUGUST 20, 2025

The Lake Providence Port Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, 20 August 2025 at 8:00 a.m. in the Port Commission office at the Lake Providence Port.

Officers Jim Thom (President) and Jerry King (Vice President) were present. Officer Francis Lensing (Secretary/Tresurer) was absent. Commissioners Roger Clement, Karvan Powell and Mark Buntyn were present. Bryant Killen, Executive Director, & Winn Nettles, Deputy Director, were also present along with Neil Martin (TRS) and Marvin Collins (TRS).

The Minutes from the meeting held 23 July 2025, were accepted on a motion by Mr. Buntyn and second by Mr. King.

The financial reports for the period ending July 2025 were approved on a motion by Mr. Clement and seconded by Mr. Powell.

The bills for August 2025 were approved as presented on a motion by Mr. King and seconded by Mr. Buntyn.

Mr. Killen presented project reports on construction in progress and in design. We opened bids for Rail Rehab Segment C on 4 Apr. The Contract with B&P Enterprises was signed 5 June in the amount of $12,948,001.00. STB is awaiting judicial determination from Louisiana on right of the Commission to own property outside East Carroll Parish in order to proceed with the Feeder Line Application. We received an EDA grant of $380,688 for construction of a third lane from the office to Stepan. The first round of advertising only yielded one bidder. EDA required a second round for advertising to see if more bidders would take a look at the project. LA DOTD awarded 15 million to the Rail Reconstruction Project Tallulah – Newellton, of that 7 million has been appropriated. Mr. Killen gave an update that the port was included in the WRDA bill for a feasibility study of Hagaman Chute at a 90/10 cost share. The Commission approved the project report on a motion by Mr. Powell and seconded by Mr. King.

In Other Business, Mr. Killen updated the commission about filing for reconsideration to the 2nd Circuit in the ongoing railroad matter. Discussions were held for MARR to purchase 3 of the fertilizer tanks. The board approved Mr. Killen to approach MARR with an option that converts the lease to a land lease with the cost of the tanks to be paid annually over an 8 year period. Mr. Killen reviewed a proposal by our state lobbyist that helped out with this year’s SB 146. The commission would like Mr. Killen to see if he can get the proposal lowered as well as getting Vidalia to increase their monthly payments to LPPC. A resolution to sign the line of credit with Delta Bank on a motion by Mr. Buntyn and a second by Mr. Powell. The board approved a resolution allowing BHA to request Capital Outlay funds on the behalf of LPPC on a motion by Mr. King and a second by Mr. Buntyn. Other Business was approved on a motion by Mr. Buntyn and a second by Mr. King.

The Commission adjourned at 9:07 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Clement and seconded by Mr. Powell.

James A. Thom IV
James A. Thom, IV, President

Attest: Francis Lensing
Francis X. Lensing, Secretary