The Madison Parish Port Commission met in a regular session on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at the Madison Parish Port Commission Office. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Frazier and a roll call was taken as follows:

Commissioners present: Donald Frazier, Charles Vining, Isaiah Ross, Jim Tucker, Robert Charles Brown, Latasha Griffin and Harold Allen

Commissioners absent: N/A

Other members present: Patrick Terry Murphy, Executive Director & Kimmeka Epps, Secretary/Treasurer

Visitors: Jerry Melton (Complex Chemical) & Carl Thomas (Citizen)

 On motion given by Commissioner Tucker and seconded by Commissioner Griffin, on approving the previous meeting minutes on Tuesday, May 29, 2019. The minutes were approved with no necessary corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary Epps didn’t provide any new information concerning financials.

On motion given by Commissioner Vining and seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the financial reports were approved with no necessary changes. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director Murphy informed the board on the meeting with Melody Woodson, LED (Louisiana Economic Develop) and Jerry Melton (Complex Chemical). The group discussed the need for natural gas at the Port, while Melton expressed the need for additional gas for his operation. Melanie Woodson of LED did inform the group of grant opportunities for natural gas at the Port. Jerry Melton presented information to the board about the need for additional natural gas for his facility and the benefits that the Port will have if it was possessed. Commissioner Tucker questioned the size of the natural gas line Complex Chemical requires. Melton stated the requirements of the line which is a 4 inch line. President Frazier stated that it is better to get the best whether than returning later to upgrade in the future. Vice-President Vining agreed and added that where the line will be placed there is no area that has the transportation and the population to effect the construction. Murphy stated that he is certain that the state will assist with this project. Vining question the time-frame of the decision of the board versus the need for gas at Complex. Murphy stated that we are in a time crunch.

Director Murphy suggested to the board on the need to hire a consultant for land acquisitions. Murphy added that he will be used for land acquisitions and conference attendance. Commissioner Griffin stated her apprehensions on hiring yet another consultant for the Port. Adding that throughout the years the board has agreed to hire several consultants which was a waste of money. Commissioner Tucker stated that we are pursuing gas without land. Frazier stated he doesn’t agree with hiring a consultant at this time. Murphy stated that it is more to it than land acquiring. Commissioner Brown asked for a motion. Commissioner Vining questioned a set amount for the work that will be done. Commissioner Ross questioned whether the many attorneys that we use can acquire the purchase of land. Commissioner Griffin questioned whether the Secretary can attend the meetings in question. Commissioner Vining questioned whether the Secretary can perform her job duties in addition to attending Port Conferences. President Frazier stated he is against hiring anyone until the flow of business has started with the new tenant and persons are placed in employment stance. Frazier asked for a roll call vote.

On motion given by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioners Allen, to allow the Port Director the authority to hire a consultant for Land acquisitions. Motion was NOT carried unanimously.

Yea: 3

Nay: 3

Abstain: 1

Absent: 0

Executive Director explained the emergency Capital Outlay request. The funds will be used for additional rail spur into the vacant building. The funds will be available unless there is a veto from Governor Edwards.

Secretary Epps explained the insurance proposals and the stance with the current policy holder. The current policy will expire on July 1, 2019. Epps suggest that the Port move forward with the current policy holder and make changes contingent upon the new tenant. The board agreed to move forward with the current policy holder.

Executive Director informed the board on the conversation with the roofing company. Once the tenant moves in the building the roofing project will get underway according to Murphy.

Executive Director spoke about the railroad ties that need to be disposed of. We have had tenant complaints about the residue off the ties onto his crop. Commissioner Vining suggested finding someone to haul and dispose of the ties as soon as possible. Murphy stated he is working on removing the ties. Commissioner Tucker stated that the disposable of ties must be in the contracts.

On motion given by Commissioner Vining and seconded by Commissioner Allen to allow the Director to work on disposable of the old railroad ties. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public comments: No public comments**

On motion given by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Tucker to enter into executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion given by Commissioner Vining and seconded by Commissioners Brown, to enter back into regular session. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business brought before the board, Chairman Frazier declared the meeting adjourned.

Kimmeka Epps Donald Frazier

Secretary/Treasurer Chairman