The Madison Parish Port Commission met in a regular session on Tuesday January 22, 2019 at the Madison Parish Port Office. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Frazier and a roll call was taken as follows:

Commissioners present: Donald Frazier, Jim Tucker, Harold Allen and Charles Vining

Commissioners absent: Isaiah Ross, Robert Charles Brown and Latasha Griffin

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

Visitors: Jaime Webb (Terral), Dino Trevino (Delta Southern Railroad) and Carlton Whitaker (Whitaker Consulting)

 On motion given by Commissioner Tucker and seconded by Commissioner Allen, on approving the previous meeting minutes on Tuesday, December 18, 2018. The minutes were approved with no necessary corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary Epps informed the board of the pending grant monies due to the government shut down. Commissioner Vining questioned the location and time frame of the CD’s. Epps advised of the location and earnings time table on the CD’s.

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

Executive Director explained the wetland and the location of the area. The wetlands is near Complex Chemical. The area is 3.6 of bottomland hardwoods wetlands. The cost is $16,200 to purchase 3.6 wetlands credit. Commissioner Vining questioned whether the area was farmed before. Murphy stated that the area was surveyed by the CORP.

On motion given by Commissioner Vining and seconded by Commissioners Allen & Tucker, to purchase the wetland credit in the amount of $16,200. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call

Nays: 0

Yeas: 4

Absent: 3

Abstain: 0

Executive Director Murphy explained the Capital Outlay disbursement and procedures required to obtain the funds. Commissioner Vining questioned whether a timetable is placed on the funds to obtain. Epps informed the board of that no timetable was put in place. She added that the disbursement was for a different project, which explains why the need for the board’s approval to work on obtaining the remaining funds.

On motion given by Commissioner Vining and seconded by Commissioners Allen & Tucker, to approve the Executive Director to work on obtaining funds from Capital Outlay. Motion carried unanimously.

The floor was given to Dino Trevino, Delta Southern Railroad to explain the issues with the railroad. Trevino added that he is working on a contract for 90 miles of track servicing. The railcars are moved in abundance on Monday or Tuesday. Procedures are now in place to whereas once the allotted time has expired on a blocked crossing, the conductor will move the cars an open the crossings. Trevino added that if no traffic is in site of the crossing within the time frame the cars will not be moved. During the transit the area will be monitored. In closing Trevino added no main crossing will ever be blocked again.

Murphy explained a proposal from George Sheppard to cut hay off the levee. Due to all the operations that are going on at the time, the decision is to not move forward with the proposal. The issues will take more time to determine the area in which the proposal has presented. Commissioner Vining stated he would rather have the entire board present to vote on the subject.

On motion given by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioners Tucker & Vining to table item E, no date or time specified. Motion carried unanimously.

 **Public comments: Jaime Webb welcome Dino Trevino and thanked him for working on the issues of railroad blocking the tracks, etc. Carlton Whitaker advise the board that he will update the sample area of the sewer discharge. Commissioner Tucker questioned the validity of the project. Whitaker explained the results of the previous samples and to why those issues were occurring.**

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

On motion given by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioners Vining, 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