

## West Calcasieu Port Board Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2018

### **I. Call to order**

President Dick Kennison called to order the regular meeting of the West Calcasieu Port at approximately 3:01 p.m. on October 2, 2018, at Devall Office, 2244 Swisco Road, Sulphur, Louisiana.

### **II. Invocation**

Port Director Lynn Hohensee led the invocation.

### **III. Pledge of Allegiance**

Pledge led by Tim Dougherty and recited by all board members and guests.

### **IV. Roll call**

Tim Dougherty conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

- ✓ Dick Kennison
  - ✓ Wilmer Dugas
  - ✓ Tim Dougherty
  - ✓ Scott Foreman
- (Board Member Dave Aguillard was absent.)

(Others also present at the meeting were: Lynn Hohensee, Chuck Stutes, Francis Andrepont, Glen James and Sheila Burton.)

### **V. Approval of minutes of the August 7 (sic), 2018 regular monthly**

President Dick Kennison entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the August 7 (sic), 2018 regular monthly meeting. A motion was made by Wilmer Dugas to approve the minutes of the August 7 (sic), 2018 regular monthly meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim Dougherty. No opposition. Motion carried.

PLEASE NOTE: THE AUGUST 7, 2018 MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE SEPTEMBER 4, 2018 MEETING. THE WRONG DATE WAS LISTED ON THE OCTOBER 2 AGENDA AND READ AS WRITTEN ON THE AGENDA. THE SEPTEMBER 4, 2018 MINUTES STILL NEED TO BE APPROVED.

## **VI. Amendments, additions and deletions to the proposed agenda**

There were no additions or deletions to the proposed agenda at this time.

## **VII. Election of Officers for coming year**

Wilmer Dugas made a motion to adopt the slate of officers from the previous year to the coming year by acclamation, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Foreman. No opposition. Motion carried.

## **VIII. Committee Report**

There were no Committee Reports at this time.

## **IX. Port Director Report**

Port Director Lynn Hohensee announced that since the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Finance Committee has approved the \$250,000 grant, it will now go before the Police Jury for a vote this Thursday night. Lynn explained that the \$250,000 is for the road construction. Police Juror Francis Andrepont further explained that he spoke with Bryan (Beam) about giving the Port \$125,000 one year and then another \$125,000 the next year. Mr. Andrepont said he received a call back from Bryan about a week later where he stated that he felt the Police Jury could appropriate the whole \$250,000 at one time, if that was ok. Mr. Andrepont told Bryan that was fine with him. President Dick Kennison thanked Mr. Andrepont for his efforts.

Lynn told the Board that he and David Devall have been working on a joint marketing campaign that is gaining traction, especially with companies that are involved in bringing LNG terminals to the community. Lynn said he doesn't have any more details at this time.

Lynn reported that IMCAL is still working on the grant, and he is trying to get a meeting set up within the next 10 days.

Lynn said he met with River Barge Works, and they have provided the Port with all of the funding that was requested to cover the costs of cleaning up the concrete area in and around their vessels. Lynn reported that they are very happy at the far west end and have stated that they will no longer be cleaning any concrete barges. Lynn told them as long as they have a way of disposing of the waste, that would be fine. Lynn told the Board that one idea they are looking at is possibly using disposable containers on the land next to the revetment on the far west end. Lynn said he didn't think that would be a problem.

Lynn told the Board that when they attend the Devall dinner later this evening, they will be able to see new drone aerial video of the port that was extremely well done by Gus Fontenot of the Southwest Economic Development Alliance. Lynn expressed his appreciation to Mr. Fontenot for providing the video presentation free of charge. Lynn said Chuck Stutes also put 2 maps together for viewing this evening to help guests understand where the tenants are located at the port, what the port is presently doing and future plans to grow the port.

Tim Dougherty asked Lynn if there was still talk about bulkheading east of Orion. Lynn answered yes and said he spoke with Jerry Jones of Orion Group and they are planning on moving their engineer office from Lake Charles to the port. Mr. Jones said they will need some more office space and would be interested in space to the north side of the port. Lynn told Mr. Jones they would need to discuss it and asked if he would consider leasing property by the port sign near the oak tree and set up the office complex there, which would give them more space on the existing footprint they have now. Lynn stated that he was told by the Devalls that Orion Group is very busy right now.

There was a brief discussion about Fidelity Fuels and how the potential for business may be lost at this point.

*{NOTE: The following report is a copy of the original sent out by Lynn Hohensee.}*

#### **Marketing/Business Development/Retention –**

- Since communicating with Fidelity Fuels, Texas-based midstream fueling company, in August, the port agreed to sell potable water to the company as it announced its intention to provide mid-stream fueling service along the GIWW and Calcasieu River Waterway. But, to date, the Fidelity barge is fleeted in the west barge basin, but the company has not purchased any water.
- Communications are ongoing re: potential tenant's interests in setting up a remote pipeline pump station at the west end of the port's spoils reception area for possibly up to two years.
- The port director is coordinating with Devall Towing to create interest in the port facilities with ongoing communications efforts with select LNG export terminal projects.
- A new lease agreement with Tubal-Cain Marine Services has been signed.
- The port director continues to coordinate with Devall Towing and the Port of Vinton re: ongoing discussions for possible movement of construction soil by barge from western Calcasieu and Cameron Parishes to industrial sites planned or under construction on the Calcasieu River Waterway. The WCP would play an instrumental role in the movement of dirt by barge.
- Coordination continues with SWLA Economic Development Alliance and Entergy to seek certification for a parcel of property at the port that will be supported by proposed new waterfront improvements.
- Final changes have been made to the SWLA Port Network brochure which is being printed through a grant by the SWLA Economic Development Alliance. In addition to hard copies being printed, the electronic copy will be available on the port website. Ports include: West Calcasieu Port, Port of Lake Charles, Port of Vinton, Cameron Parish Port and the Port of Mermentau.
- Early discussions have begun with Orion Marine Group re: renewing five-year option on lease agreement. The tenant's current five-year lease agreement ends during the summer of 2019.
- Additional drone footage of the west barge basin was shot. A complete aerial video presentation is being prepared for marketing audiences as well as the port website.
- Met with Mike Boies, River Barge Works. RBW very pleased with new location at west end of west barge basin.

#### **Port Operations –**

- Port director attended the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Finance Committee meeting where the \$250,000 grant for the WCP new entrance road construction was unanimously approved. Now the grant will go to the full police jury for approval.
- Devall Towing is moving forward with installation of dead men on port property west of the west barge basin.
- Tubal-Cain continues with its site improvements and infrastructure development.
- Discussions continue with T-C and Entergy officials re: 3 Phase electricity support to the port.
- The port director and port engineer remain in communication with the new point-of-contact at Louisiana State Office of Facility Planning and Control re: funding for engineering/design for new port bulkheading project.

- Communications continue with IMCAL to facilitate their coordination of efforts for the port to secure Economic Development Administration (Dept. of Commerce) federal grant for port infrastructure development.
- Port Director continues to work with consultants who are developing an effort to capture Homeland Security grant funding for several south Louisiana ports, including the West Calcasieu Port.
- Multiple state and federal regulatory efforts are underway to address concerns about the loss of soil into the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway from recent civil work on the south shore of the waterway directly across from the West Cal Port. Currently, soil runoff is occurring. Long-term concern focuses on potential for weight of dirt causing sliding of GIWW shoreline into the channel, especially during extended wet weather.

**Professional Organizations & Networking –**

- In September, the WCP director (and/or board members) represented the port at:
  - a. Economist Loren Scott annual SWLA economy presentation @ SEED Ctr.
  - b. Propeller Club meeting
  - c. Calcasieu River Waterway Harbor Safety Committee meeting
  - d. Chamber/SWLA business after hours
  - e. PetroChem meetings
  - f. Boys Village board meeting
  - g. Chamber/SWLA golf tourney with tenants

**News Media & Community Relations–**

- Ongoing media relations continue through the Lake Charles Ad/Press Club and other networking opportunities.

Wilmer Dugas made a motion to accept the Director’s Report as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Foreman. No opposition. Motion carried.

**X. Announcements/Reports (Legal, Financial, Engineer)**

**ENGINEER:** Chuck Stutes reported that the dredging project is over with the hydroseeding on the levees around the spoil disposal area being done. Chuck said the next step will be to accept it and do all of the paperwork that closes the project out, which usually takes a couple months. Chuck said they have submitted their first pay estimate about a week ago which has been forwarded to Darla and the State, since they are funding 90% of the construction costs.

Chuck reported they are working on the EDA grant application for the bulkhead. The civil and structural drawings are finished. Chuck said he needs to do a preliminary engineering report that should be finished by the end of the week.

Chuck said the roadway project is the next project that needs to be finalized. The layout should be finished soon to send to the State so that the bidding can proceed. Chuck stated that this will be the big project for next year.

Tim Dougherty asked whether permitting was needed on the roadway project. Chuck Stutes answered no permitting was needed since wetlands wasn’t disturbed. President Dick Kennison addressed the mitigation issue by saying that someone needs to get a message to Washington and Baton Rouge letting them know how corrupt the mitigation process is and how it gives the whole state of Louisiana a bad reputation. Lynn said he spoke with Carl Morgan of DNR regarding the mitigation costs (which currently are \$6,000-\$7000 per acre), and he said the price is set by the companies that own the land

banks, private businessmen. Lynn said he spoke with one of the private businessmen and asked why the price keeps getting higher to mitigate, and the response given back was that they have to charge that much to meet the criteria and regulations of the Government. Lynn explained what that means is that the private enterprise is blaming the Government, and the Government is blaming the private enterprise for the rising mitigation costs.

Wilmer Dugas made a motion to accept the Engineer's Report as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim Dougherty. No opposition. Motion carried.

**LEGAL:** (At this time Glen James entered the meeting and stated he had no legal report to give at this time.)

**FINANCIAL:** President Kennison asked if anyone had any questions regarding Darla's financial report and praised Darla for her detailed report. Wilmer Dugas made a motion to accept the Financial Report as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Foreman. No opposition. Motion carried.

#### **XI. Executive Session**

There was no Executive Session at this time.

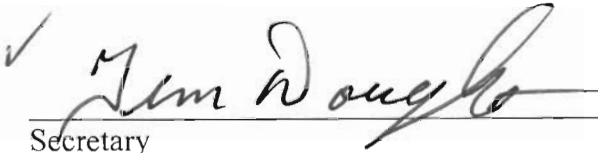
#### **XII. Public Comments**

President Kennison welcomed Police Juror Francis Andrepont and thanked him for all of his support at the port. Mr. Andrepont explained to the Board that he has been coming to the board meetings for over 27 years, and he is seeing nothing but positive movement at the port and feels the port has a great support staff and great leadership. Mr. Andrepont stated there is not another shallow port in the area, and the West Cal Port has a lot to offer. Tim Dougherty thanked Mr. Andrepont for coming to the meetings all of these years and supporting the port.

#### **XIII. Adjournment**

President Dick Kennison adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:25 p.m.

  
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President

  
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Secretary