

West Calcasieu Port Board Meeting Minutes

200 Old Ferry Road (Alfred Devall Parkway), Sulphur, LA 70665

December 7, 2021

1. Call to order

In accordance with JBE 2020-30, the West Calcasieu Port's meeting was held via video/telephone conference for anyone not able to attend in person and in a manner that will allow for observation and input by members of the public. All other Open Meetings Law requirements have been met.

President Dick Kennison called to order the regular meeting of the West Calcasieu Port at approximately 3:00 p.m. on December 7, 2021.

The Invocation was led by Dick Kennison. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lynn Hohensee.

2. Roll call

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

Dick Kennison
Wilmer Dugas
Tim Dougherty
Scott Foreman
Buddy Reams

Also present in person at 200 Old Ferry Road (Alfred Devall Parkway), were Port Director Lynn Hohensee, Darla Perry, Chuck Stutes, Oliver Schruppf, David Devall, and Joanne Coleman.

3. Approval of minutes of the November 2, 2021 regular monthly meeting

President Dick Kennison entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2021 regular monthly meeting. A motion was made by Wilmer Dugas to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2021 regular monthly meeting, 2nd by Scott Foreman. No opposition. Motion carried.

4. Amendments, additions, and deletions to the proposed agenda

There were no amendments, additions, or deletions to the proposed agenda.

5. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given at this time.

6. Port Director Report

Port Director Lynn Hohensee began by thanking Devall Southern for allowing the board to meet at their office.

He also reported that he met with the House/Senate Joint Transportation Committee at the Civic Center and discussed continuing to seek State and Federal funding support. Four of our southwest Louisiana delegation are on that committee.

Also, the Southwest Louisiana Port Network, which includes 5 ports, met for the first time in a couple years. They will begin meeting more often.

Lynn also reported that he accepted a speaking engagement for the Sulphur Rotary Club meeting the following day to discuss post-hurricane progress.

Additionally, Lynn stated that he was having a virtual meeting with CSRS Friday on how to move forward on tenant building repairs.

The DOTD requested a wishlist which included funding for a new spoils deposit area, construction of a new tenant office and port office building, expansion of the barge basin to the west end of the port property, a security system including a security gate, and numerous other items.

The floor was opened to questions regarding the Port Director Lynn Hohensee's Report.

President Dick Kennison entertained a motion to accept the Port Director's report as presented. A motion was made by Wilmer Dugas, 2nd by Tim Dougherty. No opposition. Motion carried.

7. Announcements/Reports (Legal, Financial, Engineer)

- a. **Financial:** Darla Perry reported that the Port's cash flow in \$75,711 and out was \$40,417. Legal expenditures was higher than normal due to titling and zoning expenses. Maintenance was also higher due to Fincher doing extra brush cutting and quarterly spraying.

Darla also reported they spent about \$88,000 with CSRS, and have recovered about \$85,000 from FEMA. They haven't paid for themselves yet, but there are over \$1M approved. All projects are making progress. Orion building is ready to order materials and hopefully that will be done in January. Work on the yellow house should start within the next two weeks. Over \$250K has been approved for silting. FEMA has only approved the engineering and architect fees for the VLS building so far, because they are waiting to say that it is more than 50% damaged. Star building is approved and ready to bid out.

She also reported that they are making progress with FEMA reimbursement and funding for several projects have been obligated. Additionally, Darla is waiting for the City of Sulphur to confirm the recommendation for Dick Kennison to continue as the Board Chairman for an additional five years.

Additionally, Darla reported that the ramp leases collected \$10,000 in October, which just about covered the \$14,000 spend to complete ramp repairs. The tenant committee will be working with Devall Southern to negotiate the lease split.

Barge days are still approximately 20% down from last year: 13,653 vs. 17,014.

- b. **Engineer:** Chuck Stutes reported that on the bulkhead and crane pad project, the documents were sent to CSRS in October for their review. The issue that come up of the road abandonment has been dealt with, so everything is now resolved, executed, and submitted to CSRS who will send the packet to EDA. The project could be bid early 2022.

The hydrographic survey for the barge basin dredging project was done in November by Pelican Surveying. The preliminary numbers show that it has silted in more than approximately 20,000 cubic yards. They have to make sure the spoils disposal area can handle the additional spoils.

Mr. Stutes also reported that he me with the representatives of Rostan on the VLS building. They expect to have the consensus code review document for FEMA by the end of December.

- c. **Legal:** Oliver Schrupf thanked Port Director Lynn Hohensee for standing in for him at the hearing on the abandonment of the Old Ferry Road.

President Dick Kennison entertained a motion to accept the Financial, Engineer, and Legal reports presented above. A motion was made by Wilmer Dugas. 2nd by Scott Foreman. No opposition. Motion carried.

8. **Public Comments**

There were no public comments given at this time.

9. **Adjournment**

President Dick Kennison adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:49 p.m.


President


Secretary