## WEST ST. MARY PARISH PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT

## **MEETING MINUTES**

## **FEBRUARY 2, 2021**

6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Wilson Terry, President of the Port Commission. Mr. Terry led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Donna Lanceslin gave the Invocation. A roll call resulted in the following:

Present:

Absent:

Donna Lanceslin Ralph Longman Greg Paul Willie Peters Joseph Phillips Murphy Pontiff

Wilson Terry

Sam Jones Joseph Tabb

Also present at the meeting were Ms. Marguerite Robinson of Teche Talk, Mr. Casey Collier of the Franklin Banner, Mr. Eric Duplantis, Port Attorney, Mr. Reid Miller of Miller Engineers, Ms. Benita Prevost, Secretary, Mr. David Allain, Executive Director and Ms. Rebecca Pellerin, Office Manager of the Port Commission.

A motion was made by Mr. Longman to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the January 5, 2021 meeting as presented and to accept the same. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pontiff. Mr. Terry asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Pontiff to adopt the Advalorem Tax Millage rate for 2021 at the current rate of 3.72 mills. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lanceslin. Mr. Terry asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Allain reported that he continues to work with Sugar Growers and Refinery Inc. for its potential location at the Port's Baldwin Campus. He anticipates the possibility of entering into a contract with the company in the very near future. Mr. Allain explained that the current buildings at the Baldwin Campus were most likely constructed in or around 1950 and do not have adequate foundations for the new project. The plan is to demo the current building down to its foundation and construct three new warehouses to meet the needs to house raw sugar. He further explained that Sugar Growers have furnished conceptual drawings of the type of buildings they need. He reported that he and Mr. Terry met with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development via a Zoom call regarding the possibility of the Port's submittal of an application for Port Priority Funding for the this project. Mr. Allain recommended that the Port Commission enter into a contract with Knobloch Professional Services, Mr. Michael Knobloch, at the cost of \$14,900 for the preparation of the application to apply for Port Priority Funds. A motion was made by Mr. Longman to authorize Mr. Terry to enter into a contract with Knobloch Professional Services for the preparation of the application for Port Priority Funds. The

motion was seconded by Mr. Paul. Mr. Terry asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Paul to approve a Resolution authorizing the West St. Mary Parish Port, Harbor and Terminal District to prepare and submit an application to the Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program for assistance in the implementation of a port improvement project; providing for the necessary documentation of the need for the port improvement; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. The motion was seconded by Mr. Peters. Mr. Terry asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Paul to issue a Letter of No Objection as requested by Miller Engineers on behalf of Mr. Porteus R. Burke for a slip, bulkhead and boat house. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lanceslin. Mr. Terry asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Miller gave the following report on the Training Facility under construction at the Port's Baldwin Campus. The Notice to Proceed was issued and the contractor is at the site and has begun the ground preparation and removal of wash out concrete. It is estimated that, weather permitting, the project should be completed within 180 days. Discussion followed. Mr. Allain explained that there will be six welding stations that will be partitioned and exhaust fans will be included. Mr. Peters asked if instruction for Instrumentation will be offered. Mr. Allain responded that the facility will include a lab and will be equipped with gas, air and Co2 and that the lab will be used for instrumentation. He further stated that SLCC will determine the curriculum. Mr. Allain added that it is his understanding that SLCC will have a simulator for CDL class instruction. It is also anticipated that SLCC will offer continuing education for safety training to be utilized by local businesses.

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Mr. Paul to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Peters. Mr. Terry asked if there was any discussion or opposition – there was none. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

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Joseph Tabb, Secretary