

GREATER BATON ROUGE PORT COMMISSION
Commission Meeting
5:00 p.m. Thursday, August 26, 2021

The Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission meeting was held on August 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. The state of emergency declared by Governor John Bel Edwards as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic continues. The Port of Greater Baton Rouge and many of the tenants and terminals operating in the Port are essential businesses and critical infrastructure as designated by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. Accordingly, the continued operations of the Port of Greater Baton Rouge and management of its affairs in response to the emergency are essential to the welfare of the public. However, under the current circumstances with the unprecedented surge in the delta variant cases, and pursuant to ACT 302 of the Louisiana Legislature's 2020 Regular Session, the Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission, through its presiding officer's signature below, certifies 1) that as a result of the COVID-19 emergency, a physical meeting of the number of people involved in the space available would be problematic insofar as the increased risk of contracting COVID-19 by those in attendance, including the public, and such increased risk of the spread of the disease would further increase the risk of the spread to the general public, and a physical meeting would thus be detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the public; and 2) the agenda of the meeting is limited to one or more of the matters set forth in LA R.S. 17.1A(2).

Accordingly, this meeting was held by teleconference. The call-in information for the teleconference to allow public participation was included on the agenda as well as the means of providing written public comment prior to the meeting. The agenda and notice were sent to media outlets as required.

Following the Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance, the roll was called.

PRESENT

Ms. Rebecca A. Cunard
Mr. Hall L. Davis, IV
Mr. Mike DeLaune
Mr. Shelton C. Dixon
Mr. Ted H. Glaser
Ms. Brenda R. Hurst
Mr. Bob Kelly
Mr. Troy S. LeBoeuf
Ms. Angela R. Machen
Mr. Travis M. Medine
Mr. Jessel M. Ourso, III
Mr. Lawrence G. Pierson
Ms. Lynn Robertson
Mr. Donald M. Schexnayder
Mr. Cedric A. Upshaw
Mr. James E. Walters, Jr.
Mr. Bobby Watts

ABSENT

Agenda Item 4 - Public Comments: Comments from the public regarding any/all of the agenda items listed below will be accepted at this point in the meeting, and public comments received electronically prior to or during the meeting electronically will be read into the record. The meeting chairperson may also allow further comments from the public as and when each agenda item is considered during the meeting process.

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item 5 - Presentation of report on status of Port construction projects and discussion and appropriate action as necessary.

Mr. Cortney White presented the report on status of Port construction projects, as outlined in documentation presented to all Board members. No action was required at this time.

Agenda Item 6 - Discussion and appropriate action on granting an exclusive option to lease of the Port's Ascension Parish property to Louisiana Sportsman Ventures, LLC.

Following a discussion, on a motion by Mr. Troy LeBoeuf, seconded by Mr. Mike DeLaune, the Commission unanimously approved granting an exclusive option to lease of the Port's Ascension Parish property to Louisiana Sportsman Ventures, LLC, as outlined in documentation presented to all Board members.

Agenda Item 7 - Discussion and appropriate action on amending the Gron Fuels lease to include additional property in the lease.

Following a discussion, on a motion by Mr. Donald Schexnayder, seconded by Mr. Ted Glaser, the Commission approved to postpone including the 8.113-acre tract in the Gron Fuels lease until next month to allow further discussion and information provided to the Commission and the neighboring land owner Rawlston Phillips.

Following a discussion, on a motion by Mr. Bobby Watts, seconded by Mr. Jimmy Walters, the Commission approved amending the Gron Fuels lease to include the 13.35-acre tract.

Agenda Item 8 - Discussion and appropriate action regarding amending the lease with Pine Bluff Sand & Gravel at the Baton Rouge Terminal to temporarily include additional acreage in the lease.

Following a discussion, on a motion by Mr. Donald Schexnayder, seconded by Mr. Jimmy Walters, the Commission unanimously approved amending the lease with Pine Bluff Sand & Gravel at the Baton Rouge Terminal to temporarily include additional acreage in the lease for one year with a six-month option at the end for a total of up to 18 months to be used to move additional aggregate through their facility for the Comite Diversion Canal project, as outlined in documentation presented to all Committee members.

Mr. Jay Hardman addressed the Commission, for informational purposes only, by stating that the Port will be working jointly with Pine Bluff Sand & Gravel on facility improvements to close drainage features that were previously designed to close years ago. Mr. Hardman and Port staff will return to the Board at a later date for approval.

Agenda Item 9 - Discussion and appropriate action regarding a Resolution honoring and thanking the late John G. Tilton, III for his service on the Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission.

Following a discussion, on a motion by Mr. Mike DeLaune, seconded by Ms. Rebecca Cunard, the Commission unanimously approved a Resolution to be presented to his wife honoring and thanking the late John G. Tilton, III for his service on the Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission, as outlined in documentation presented to all Board members.

Agenda Item 10 - Presentation of report on the Port's financial status.

Ms. Katie LeBlanc presented the monthly financial report. No action was required.

Agenda Item 11 - Presentation of report of auditors on 2020 audited financial statements.

Ms. Katie LeBlanc addressed the Commission, for informational purposes only, by stating that the auditors will present the 2020 audited financial statements at the September meeting. A draft final copy will be provided to the Board members for review before the September meeting.

Ms. Angela Machen addressed the Commission, for informational purposes only, with a suggestion for Port staff to research for improved equipment for possible teleconference meetings in the future.

Mr. Ted Glaser addressed the Commission, for informational purposes only, regarding obtaining property by the old ferry landing in Pointe Coupee Parish. Mr. Jay Hardman stated that the land owner is amenable to discuss. Mr. Hardman will keep the Commission informed as discussions progress.

Agenda Item 12 - Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Donald Schexnayder, seconded by Mr. Jimmy Walters, the meeting adjourned.

Secretary: Michael D. DeLaune

President: Bob Kelly

Date approved: September 23, 2021