

GREATER BATON ROUGE PORT COMMISSION

Commission Meeting

5:00 p.m. Thursday, January 28, 2021

The Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission meeting was held on Thursday, January 28, 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, and pursuant to ACT 302 of the Louisiana Legislature's 2020 Regular Session, the Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission, through its presiding officer, 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

Mr. Patrick W. Bernhard
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 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. 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 - Discussion and appropriate action regarding a Resolution honoring and thanking the late Henry “Bucket” Scott, Jr. for his service on the Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission.

Mr. Jay Hardman addressed the Board by stating that Mr. Henry Scott passed away December 26, 2020. He was a Commissioner from 1993 to 2004 and he also had a long history of community service in Iberville and West Baton Rouge Parishes. Upon approval, the resolution will be forwarded to his family.

On a motion by Mr. Hall Davis, seconded by Mr. Travis Medine, the Commission unanimously approved a resolution honoring and thanking the late Henry “Bucket” Scott, Jr. for his service on the Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission.

Agenda Item 6 - 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.

- A. Discussion and appropriate action regarding permission to add gates, access controls, surveillance cameras, railcar readers, concrete paving at Philips Way and associated work to the Chambering Yard Project (Project No. 2017-11-1).

Following a discussion, on a motion by Mr. Mike DeLaune, seconded by Ms. Brenda Hurst, the Commission unanimously approved permission to add gates, access controls, surveillance cameras, railcar readers, concrete paving at Philips Way and associated work to the Chambering Yard Project (Project No. 2017-11-1) in the amount of \$293,298.00 from Brown Industrial Construction, as outlined in documentation presented to all Committee members.

- B. Discussion and appropriate action regarding award of a construction contract for the Barge Unloading Crane Package (Project No. 2020-12-1) (Phase One of the Grain Elevator Improvements Project)

Mr. Cortney White addressed the Board by stating that bids were opened on January 25, 2021 for the Barge Unloading Crane Package (Project No. 2020-12-1). One bid was received from Bo-Mac Construction in the amount of \$10,952,752. The amount exceeded the estimated cost of \$6.6 million but is within the \$16.6 million dollars available from the state. Mr. White and Port staff asked for award of a construction contract to Bo-Mac Construction contingent upon a value engineering proposal being acceptable to Louis Dreyfus Company and with a concurrence from the Division of Administration.

On a motion by Mr. Ted Glaser, seconded by Mr. Bobby Watts, the Commission unanimously granted award of a construction contract to Bo-Mac Construction contingent upon a value engineering proposal being acceptable to Louis Dreyfus Company and with a concurrence from the Division of Administration.

- C. Discussion and appropriate action regarding the additional damage to the Inland Rivers Marine Terminal Dock Repairs and Curbing Project (Project No. 2020-07-01).

Following a discussion, on a motion by Mr. Mike DeLaune, seconded by Mr. Troy LeBoeuf, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$329,285.98 with Brown Industrial Construction, as outlined in documentation presented to all Board members.

D. Discussion and appropriate action regarding permission to advertise for bids the Bulk Scale and Annex Project contingent upon approval of the Division of Administration (Project No. 2020-12-1) (Phase Two of the Grain Elevator Improvements Project).

Mr. Cortney White addressed the Commission by stating that the bid packet for this project has been developed and is ready to advertise. This phase of the project is estimated to cost approximately \$7 million dollars, which is within the current available funding from the state. This is based on an award of Phase 1 in the amount of approximately \$9.5 million dollars or less. Mr. White and port staff recommend permission to advertise the project for bids contingent upon approval by the Division of Administration and the award of Phase 1 in the amount of \$9.5 million dollars or less or if Louis Dreyfus Company chooses to commit shortfall between the estimated cost and the amount available from the state.

On a motion by Mr. Donald Schexnayder, seconded by Mr. Ted Glaser, the Commission unanimously approved permission to advertise the project for bids the Bulk Scale and Annex Project (Project No. 2020-12-1) (Phase Two of the Grain Elevator Improvements Project), contingent upon approval by the Division of Administration approval and the award of Phase 1 in the amount of \$9.5 million dollars or less or if Louis Dreyfus Company chooses to commit shortfall between the estimated cost and the amount available from the state.

Agenda Item 7 - Presentation and appropriate action concerning entering into an equipment rental agreement with Ports America concerning the Barge Stacker equipment for utilization at the container on barge operation at the Inland Rivers Marine Terminal.

Mr. Jay Hardman addressed the Commission by stating that the Port has been anticipating the arrival of this equipment. It cannot be used until the dock and curbing have been installed. The Port is proposing to lease the equipment to Ports America under the same rental terms used for the Five-High Stacker, as outlined in documentation presented to all Board members. It will allow the Port to recoup its investment that was used in the match toward the grant.

On a motion by Mr. Jimmy Walters, seconded by Mr. Travis Medine, the Commission unanimously approved entering into an equipment rental agreement with Ports America concerning the Barge Stacker equipment for utilization at the container on barge operation at the Inland Rivers Marine Terminal, as outlined in documentation presented to all Board members.

Agenda Item 8 - Presentation and appropriate action concerning entering into a docking agreement with American Queen Steamboat Company for docking at the Old New Roads Ferry Landing.

Following a discussion, on a motion by Ms. Lynn Robertson, seconded by Mr. Mike DeLaune, the Commission unanimously approved entering into a docking agreement with American Queen Steamboat Company for docking at the Old New Roads Ferry Landing at the rate of \$300 per landing per vessel, as outlined in documentation presented to all Committee members.

Agenda Item 9 - Discussion and appropriate action concerning extending the agricultural lease with Savoie Industries on the property in Ascension Parish for an additional five years through December 31, 2025.

Mr. Jay Hardman addressed the Commission by stating that the property in question is the Ascension Parish property leased to Savoie Industries for sugar cane cultivation. The lease is for a five-year term. Savoie Industries maintains the drainage and vegetation control and controls the trespassing on the batture of the land. The Port derives between \$6-11,000 annually in income depending upon the nature of the crop. The terms of the lease remain the same except for the continuation for another five years through December 31, 2025, as outlined in documentation presented to all Committee members.

On a motion by Mr. Ted Glaser, seconded by Mr. Jimmy Walters, the Commission unanimously approved extending the agricultural lease with Savoie Industries on the property in Ascension Parish for an additional five years through December 31, 2025, as outlined in documentation presented to all Committee members.

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

Ms. Katie LeBlanc presented the monthly financial report. The Port seems to be doing well despite the pandemic. No action was required.

Agenda Item 11 - Presentation and discussion of budget for Fiscal Year 2021 and appropriate action concerning adoption of same.

Ms. Katie LeBlanc presented the 2021 Budget, as outlined in documentation presented to all Commission members.

On a motion by Mr. Shelton Dixon, seconded by Ms. Rebecca Cunard, the Commission unanimously approved the 2021 Budget as presented and outlined in documentation presented to all Committee members.

Agenda Item 12 - Discussion and appropriate action as may be required regarding entering into Cooperative Endeavor Agreements with Chambers of Commerce within the Port jurisdictional area and other maritime and trade associations for FY 2021.

Mr. Rob Marionneaux addressed the Commission, as outlined in documentation presented to all Board members, by stating that each year the Port considers renewal of Cooperative Endeavor Agreements for membership dues with the chambers of commerce within the Port's jurisdiction, as well as business, maritime and other trade associations in which the Port participates and receives value and benefit through business promotion and community development.

On a motion by Mr. Jimmy Walters, seconded by Mr. Ted Glaser, the Commission unanimously approved entering into Cooperative Endeavor Agreements with Chambers of Commerce within the Port jurisdictional area and other maritime and trade associations for FY 2021.

Agenda Item 13 - Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Shelton Dixon, seconded by Mr. Mike DeLaune, the meeting adjourned.

Secretary: Michael D. DeLaune

President: Bob Kelly

Date approved: April 22, 2021