

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PORT OF SOUTH LOUISIANA  
COMMISSION HELD AT THE PORT OF SOUTH LOUISIANA GLOBALPLEX  
FACILITY (GUESTHOUSE) ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022**

**ITEM 1-CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Paul Robichaux called the Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ITEM 2-ROLL CALL**

Lana Simon            Mr. Bazile  
Mr. Bazile            Here.

Lana Simon            Miss. Songy  
Miss Songy            Here.

Lana Simon            Mr. Murray  
Mr. Murray            Here.

Lana Simon            Mrs. Klibert  
Mrs. Klibert            Here.

Lana Simon            Mr. Hickerson  
Mr. Hickerson            Here.

Lana Simon            Mr. Joseph  
Mr. Joseph            Here.

Lana Simon            Mr. Burks  
Mr. Burks            Here.

Lana Simon            Mr. LeBlanc  
Mr. LeBlanc            Here.

Lana Simon            Mr. Robichaux  
Mr. Robichaux            Here.

**ITEM 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner LeBlanc led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 16, 2022**

A Motion was offered by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mrs. Klibert that the Minutes from the Regular Commission Meeting held on February 16, 2022 be approved.

<b>YEAS</b>	Mr. Murray, Mrs. Klibert, Mr. Hickerson, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Burks, Mr. LeBlanc, Miss Songy, Mr. Bazile, Mr. Robichaux
<b>NAYS</b>	None
<b>ABSTAIN</b>	None
<b>ABSENT</b>	None

#### **ITEM 5. FINANCIAL REPORT- JANUARY 31, 2022**

Mr. Murray gave the Financial Report. He informed the Commission that the report included a memorandum from Mr. Fauchaux. The Memorandum states that the deficit is down from \$362,535.00 to \$164,396.00. The actual expenses are running above the budgeted expenses which is tied to Hurricane Ida.

A Motion was offered by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Bazile that the January 31, 2022, Financial Report be approved, and that the payment of bills be ratified.

<b>YEAS</b>	Mr. Murray, Mrs. Klibert, Mr. Hickerson, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Burks, Mr. LeBlanc, Miss Songy, Mr. Bazile, Mr. Robichaux
<b>NAYS</b>	None
<b>ABSTAIN</b>	None
<b>ABSENT</b>	None

Mr. Murray thanked the Commission for allowing him to be Treasurer but stated that he would not be seeking re-election. He would like to see the new talent on the Commission step-up. He is excited about what is going on and look forward to serving in a different role.

#### **ITEM 6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Mr. Matthews reported that there would be a Fly In Wings & Wheels, March 19<sup>th</sup>. He announced that Lisa Braud is retiring this Spring. The Port is currently advertising for Airport Director position. He stated he understands the difficulties right now of hiring someone. He will have someone in there as soon as he can to make sure it continues

to run smoothly. He thanked Mr. Murray and Ms. Braud for their input. He thanked Ms. Braud for all her time and service. He wished Ms. Braud all the best in her endeavors.

Mr. Matthews stated that the Staff have been travelling. He informed that the Port is involved in many things including the Mississippi Valley Trade & Transport Council (MVTTC) which was held a few weeks back.

He reported that Mr. Hymel and Mr. Quezaire attended Red River Valley Association Conference in Bossier City. He stated that the conference actually had an emphasis on issues regarding the Army Corp of Engineers, navigation and major levee projects like the one near and dear to the Port ...the Westshore Project. He stated that it is important that the project is developed in such a way to get the airport's runway extended 1500 feet.

Mr. Matthews spoke about the Journal of Commerce Transpacific Conference which he intended in Long Beach, California. He met with multiple Class I Rail Lines including those in our jurisdiction along with major terminal operators 3PLs and shipping carriers. He stated that they looked at different opportunities to come to the Port of South La. One in particular talked about grains in containers at Port of South LA.

Mr. Matthews stated that in the last 48 hours the PAL Conference was held. He thanked Commissioners Katie Klibert, Joey Murray, Ryan Burks and Commissioner Hickerson along with staff for their participation. He informed the Commissioners that Port Association of Louisiana Officers were announced: David Rabalais, President, Paul Matthews, Vice-President, Jay Hardman, Treasurer, Weldon Danos, Secretary.

Mr. Matthews stated that March 8<sup>th</sup> was a busy day around the Port. It was International Woman's Day-so throughout social media the Port made a point to recognize all the great women that serves on the Staff and Commission for the Port. He recognized Commissioner Songy and Commissioner Klibert for all their leadership.

Mr. Matthews stated that he met with the Soy Transportation Coalition led by Mike Steenhook and the Louisiana Department of Transportation. He stated that Mr. Steenhook realizes the importance of the deepening of the Mississippi River. He is grateful for the support of the Soybean Transportation Coalition who spent \$2 million dollars to help with the study, engineering and deepening of the Mississippi River. It helped to get to the point where now from Plaquemines to the Port of South La and hopefully soon the Port of Baton Rouge they will be at 50 feet. He stated to truly be viable for the East and West Coast having that 50 feet depth allows us to handle larger vessels that comes in Port.

Mr. Matthews stated that on the lower Mississippi River you can handle 8,000 to 9,000 TEU vessels but with these 50ft drafts and that depending on the Panama Canal future expansion you can handle 14,000 to 15,000 TEUs. It's not just about containers it's about bulk and breakbulk carriers as well. It is a significant amount of tonnage that we get through our Ports from a bulk standpoint because of those extra five(5)feet on the

Mississippi River and he knows that Associated Terminals can appreciate that and many of our grain and petrochemical facilities.

He informed the Commission that a group from the National Sorghum Association visited the Port. Thank you, Chairman Robichaux and Brian Cox for hosting them.

Mr. Matthews reported: that the Legislative Session begins next week on Monday March 14<sup>th</sup>. The Port has some major Capital Projects that are in Capital Outlay. A Binder as well as a Cheat Sheet has been put together for our Legislative Delegation to discuss these projects. There are six (6) projects in all and the project will be emailed to all of the Commissioners; six(6) of the five (5) projects are shovel ready. There are two(2): one is the Second Dock Access Bridge here at Globalplex. Bottomline is Port needs \$8.6 million asking from state. This second dock access bridge triples the truck throughput for that dock. A lot more work and service for our operators. That is the Port's number one priority. It is in Priority Five (5) right now of Capital Outlay. We are hoping our legislative can move that to Priority One (1). Along with another project in Priority Five (5) which is the heavy load capacity floor. The floors need to be at the right thickness to have heavier loads come in. That is a million dollars. Hopefully, it gets into Priority One (1) so the Port can get started with construction this year as a shovel ready project. There are road and drainage improvement projects. The road improvements will help with eliminating a lot of the dust that comes from the trucks moving in certain areas. That would be significant. The drainage improvements will also help all the way out to behind the fence out onto Airline.

The lobbying team are ready. They have these projects ready to go. They've been informed to get it done. Mr. Matthews told the Commissioners if they have questions once they review the package to reach out to him or the Staff.

Mr. Matthews stated that the Port is looking at a lot of partnerships with Operators. He spoke at the Louisiana Chemical Industry Association (LCIA). He noticed that nine (9) sponsors of the event, twelve (12) sponsors are actually within the Port's jurisdiction. There should be a conversation about how much we appreciate all of the petrochemical's products that come through our Port and how it is significant for job creation and fostering economic development.

Mr. Matthew's stated that it really plays into what the Chairman talked about. Right now, with the Ukraine and Russia conflict, even though it is 5,900 miles away from us, it really is at the front door. The fact is because of the petrochemical products that we have ...now the President has announced a ban on imported oil from Russia this comes right to the Port's doorstep. Not only that 60% of the nation's exported grains comes through the Port. The fact of the matter if Ukraine is the six(6) largest producer of corn in the world and the 9<sup>th</sup> largest producer of wheat in the world. Russia is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest producer of wheat in the world and the top exporter of wheat and largest in the world. Even with the sanctions and conflict this is a moment not only for our Port but for Americans farmers to really take this opportunity to significantly increase not only our corn, soybean but wheat production and export to the rest of the world.

When we look at what we have ...I see Kyle Egbert from Greenfield for the development on the Westbank that will happen shortly they are going to be part of that process...of that humanitarian effort through our American farmers in exporting all the wheat and corn out to those that needs to be fed due to this crisis and conflict.

What we know is that trade routes change. A significant global crisis such as this they normally don't go back. This is a significant opportunity for us to make sure we are at the fore-front and we help those that are in need to be fed because of this conflict.

Mr. Matthews subject to the Boards questions and comments that's my report.

Mr. Robichaux Thank you!

Mr. Joseph Are we planning on meeting with our delegation like we normally do?

Mr. Matthews I talked to our state lobbying team they are working on that process right now.

Mr. Robichaux Any other questions of our Executive Director?

Mr. Hickerson Excellent (Executive Director) Report!

Executive Director Thank you, Sir.

#### **ITEM 7. NEW BUSINESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

#### **ITEM 7A. CONSIDER CHANGE ORDER NO. 5 GLOBALPLEX DOCK REINFORCEMENT PROJECT SPN H.009331.**

Mr. Matthews Yes, Mr. Chairman this is Change Order No. 5 for the Project that was tabled at the February Commission Meeting allowing the Chairman, Commissioner Burks, to further review the Change Order. It was discussed and approved at the Construction Committee Meeting held on Monday of this week. I think you saved almost a quarter of a million dollars on that if I may say so...thank you for your leadership Mr. Burks.

As a result of the contractor's review and inspection of the underside of the dock along the waterside crane rail and the deck framing immediately adjacent to the rail, it was discovered that repairs were needed in several areas. The Change Order for these repairs' totals \$813,413.64. It was also mentioned that most of the repairs would be covered by the funding we received from the Port Priority Program.

A Motion was offered by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Burks that the Executive Director is instructed and directed to execute the Change Order No. 5 for Globalplex Intermodal Dock Reinforcement H.009331.

**YEAS** Mr. Murray, Mrs. Klibert, Mr. Hickerson,  
Mr. Joseph, Mr. Burks, Mr. LeBlanc, Miss Songy,  
Mr. Bazile, Mr. Robichaux

**NAYS** None

**ABSTAIN** None

**ABSENT** None

**ITEM 7B. CONSIDER EXTENDING AGREEMENT WITH INTELLIGENT SERVICES SYSTEM TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE OPERATIONAL SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES TO THE POSL SECURITY SYSTEM**

Mr. Matthews This is an agreement that extends out to March 8, 2023. These services will be based on time and material. The funds for these services are 100% funded by department of homeland security. I want to thank Brian Cox for making certain we get those grants. We recommend approval of the agreement.

Mr. Burks Mr. Matthews you stated its time and materials, the previous agreement was a monthly amount... is that a conflict?

Mr. Cox Its time and material not flat fee.

Mr. Murray For clarification the date is- from what date to what date?

Patti Crockett March 9 to March 8, 2023. One year.

A Motion was offered by Mr. Hickerson and seconded by Miss. Songy that the Executive Director is instructed and directed to execute the Extension agreement with Intelligent Services Systems to continue to provide operational support and maintenance services to the Port of South Louisiana security system.

**YEAS** Mr. Murray, Mrs. Klibert, Mr. Hickerson,  
Mr. Joseph, Mr. Burks, Miss Songy, Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Bazile,  
Mr. Robichaux

**NAYS** None

**ABSTAIN** None

**ABSENT** None

**ITEM 7C. CONSIDER CONSULTING AGREEMENT WITH WITT O'BRIEN L.L.C. TO PROVIDE ADVISORY AND ONGOING SUPPORT SERVICES REGARDING PORT OF SOUTH LOUISIANA FEMA CLAIM**

Mr. Matthews They have completed Phase 1 of their services which was updating our files into the FEMA format. Most of their employees are former FEMA employees so they are well aware of all the processes-procedures and policies. The company is included on the GSA list. The agreement is for an amount not to exceed \$250,000 and is reimbursable by FEMA. We recommend approval.

A Motion was offered by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Burks that a Resolution be passed instructing and directing the Executive Director to execute a Consulting Agreement with Witt O'Brien to provide ongoing support services regarding the Port of South Louisiana's FEMA claim.

**YEAS** Mr. Murray, Mrs. Klibert, Mr. Hickerson,  
Mr. Joseph, Mr. Burks, Miss Songy, Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Bazile,  
Mr. Robichaux

**NAYS** None

**ABSTAIN** None

**ABSENT** None

**ITEM 7D. CONSIDER ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR T-HANGAR DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Matthews LADOTD will provide funding of \$600,000 of the cost of the project. This resolution authorizes the Port to execute the agreement with the State for the project.

We recommend approval of the resolution. At the same time, we want to recognize the total cost of the T-Hangar project which is 1.8 million. The award of that project was approved at the February meeting.

Mr. Murray Mr. Matthews this has come before the Airport Committee on a couple of different occasions as well the Commission for approval. This is the formal agreement with the State.

Mr. Matthews Yes, this is a boiler plate document.

Mr. Joseph How many years will it take to complete?

Mr. Hymel The Construction of the T-Hangar- Notice to proceed was given on March 21<sup>st</sup>. The building will be shipped here and put together...shipped in July and finished in November.

Mr. Murray They are all leased up. We need more.

A Motion was offered by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Bazile that the Executive Director is instructed and directed to execute an agreement with Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for T-Hangar Development.

**YEAS** Mr. Murray, Mrs. Klibert, Mr. Hickerson,  
Mr. Joseph, Mr. Burks, Miss. Songy, Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Bazile,  
Mr. Robichaux

**NAYS** None

**ABSTAIN** None

**ABSENT** None

#### **ITEM 7E. CONSIDER NEW LEASE AGREEMENT WITH BAUMER FOODS, INC.**

Mr. Matthews Mr. Chairman this is probably the one I was most excited about that we had on the Agenda today. When I met with my Staff the first week and they told me all about Baumer foods. You are telling me we are the home of Crystal hot sauce.

This item on the Agenda keeps us as the home of Crystal Hot Sauce. After many months of negotiating to make sure it stays that way. The initial term 7 years commencing on April 1, 2022. We maintain a rental amount is \$47,000 per month. We also have an optional term for 7 years commencing on April 1, 2029, with an adjusted monthly rental amount. We recommend approval of the new lease agreement with Baumer Foods.

We look forward to the ceremonial signing with Pepper Baumer and Commissioner Klibert and I with GNO, Inc- Next Gen Council Board. We have always called Pepper Baumer a friend now he is a partner.

A Motion was offered by Mr. LeBlanc and seconded by Mrs. Klibert that the Executive Director is instructed and directed to execute a lease agreement with Baumer Foods, Inc.

**YEAS** Mr. Murray, Mrs. Klibert, Mr. Hickerson,



Mr. Joseph, Mr. Burks, Miss. Songy, Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Bazile,  
Mr. Robichaux

**NAYS** None

**ABSTAIN** None

**ABSENT** None

**ITEM 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COMMISSIONER'S REMARKS**

- Mr. Murray Finance, no report; Airport, no report. Nothing else pending.
- Mr. Burks We will have a meeting with Administration Building contractors. They are behind schedule. We need a schedule update.
- Mr. Murray I look forward to you doing your magic like you did on the dock. Please keep it up.
- Mr. Murray Security we concluded the name at the last meeting. We are working with Mr. Matthews on the ....the river rises. So, it will be sometime in the summertime.
- Mr. Joseph I received the Schedule for the meetings for the year. I don't know everybody's preference but I was starting to enjoy those 3:00pm meetings. I don't want to interfere with Ms. Katie's schedule.
- What's the goal for office building?
- Mr. Burk Maybe you'll have a Christmas party
- Miss. Songy Just want to bring you up to date on the houses. There were some inquiries of people wanting to buy the old schoolhouse. It's not easy like it sounds.
- Mr. Hickerson Judy, the contractor is making preparations to move it. The trees have been cleared from around it. It is ready to be moved.
- Miss Songy He has the right to do that.
- Mr. LeBlanc Insurance Committee extend deadline for renewal quotes we granted that to the Insurance Agents. We expect those Monday. Lana will take a day to compile the information. I plan on having another meeting with the Staff to discuss prior to having the next insurance meeting.

Mr. Joseph            We have a Risk Manager? We need someone independent.  
We can get in trouble at the end of the day. I'm not on the  
Committee...just my opinion.

Mr. Leblanc            I don't disagree. From my understanding a few months back we  
offered to extend the company we were using... they respectfully  
declined. We currently do not but I intend to discuss.

Mr. Joseph            You shouldn't have the same people looking at the product.

Mr. LeBlanc            I agree those commercial products at this level is very complex.  
If you send an inspector out ...you don't send the Contractor. You  
need that independent, third party.

#### **ITEM 9. ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion was offered by Mr. Joseph and seconded by Mr. Hickerson that the Meeting be adjourned.

**YEAS**            Mr. Murray, Mrs. Klibert, Mr. Hickerson,  
Mr. Joseph, Mr. Burks, Miss. Songy, Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Bazile,  
Mr. Robichaux

**NAYS**            None

**ABSTAIN**        None

**ABSENT**        None

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Stanley C. Bazile  
Secretary

D. Paul Robichaux  
President

April 27 , 2022