

AGENDA
MAY 9, 2001

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Consider April 11, 2001 Regular Meeting Minutes for approval
- V. Executive Director's Report
 - A. Northern Expansion Update
 - B. Highway Improvements
 - C. Millennium Port Update (LEERC)
- VII. Committee Reports
 - A. Executive Committee:
 1. Request for Assignment of lease from Newpark Resources, Inc. to Production Management Industries, Inc.
 2. Offer from Armortec, Inc.
 3. Consider ad valorem tax millage
 - B. Permits & Waterways Committee:
 1. Letters of No Objection
 - i. Greater Lafourche Port Commission
 - ii. Greater Lafourche Port Commission
 - iii. Allain LeBreton Company
 - iv. Dan Danos
 - v. BP Oil Pipeline Company
 2. North American Safe Boating Campaign Proclamation
 3. COE Dredging
 - C. Construction & Development Committee:
 1. Requests from Allison Marine
 2. Equilon Enterprises, LLC
 3. Leasing Policy
 - D. Finance Committee:
 1. Consider payment of Invoices and recognize Expenditures over \$10,000
 2. Consider April 2001 Financial Statement for approval
 - E. Personnel Committee:
 1. State Employee Recognition Day
 2. Consider Proposed Award to Personnel
 3. Summer Employment
- VIII. Any other business
- IX. Adjournment

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION
May 9, 2001

The Board of Commissioners of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, May 9, 2001 at 10:30 AM.

President Melancon called the meeting to order, and Secretary Collins called the roll.

PRESENT: Johnny Melancon, Donald Vizier, Wilbert Collins, Larry Griffin, Ervin Bruce, Harry Cheramie, Beau Martin, Chuckie Cheramie, and Jimmy Lafont

ABSENT: None

Board member Donald Vizier made a motion, which was seconded by Chuckie Cheramie, to approve the April 11, 2001 regular meeting minutes as written. Board member Beau Martin made a motion to amend the minutes under the Personnel Committee discussion of the Executive Director's employment contract. Mr. Martin wishes the minutes to reflect a vote of seven yeas, one nay, and one abstention. His motion was seconded by Mr. Wilbert Collins, and after extensive discussion, the Amendment failed by a vote of four yeas, four nays, and one abstention. The initial motion carried, and the original meeting minutes were approved with one nay vote.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Northern Expansion Update– Project Engineer John Plaisance reported that the Contractor is on site and is driving deadman and building the access road. Director Falgout reported that he has spoken to the Corps about the Maritime Ridge Project being developed. This project is designed to beneficially use the spoil from the additional dredging to be incurred when the slips of the Northern Expansion are widened to 700'. The dredge spoil will be used to construct a Ridge that mimics the naturally occurring forested ridges which are rapidly disappearing in southeast Louisiana. The ridge would be forested with native plants to serve as habitat for neotropical birds during their trans migrant flight and as protection for the vulnerable marshes along the Coast from the ravages of the Gulf.

Highway Improvements – Director Falgout reported that several funding requests have been submitted for the Leeville Bridge. DNR has issued a commitment for \$1.367 million for the Leeville Bridge from the Coastal Impact Assistance funding. The Parish also has committed \$338,647 from its share of the Coastal Impact Assistance funding that Louisiana will receive. Representative Pitre's bill that would amend the power of the Port Commission to allow the Commission to enter into an agreement with DOTD to actually build the bridge and/or the highway themselves passed through committee yesterday and will go to the house floor next. The bill also allows the Commission to own and operate an airport facility.

Millennium Port (LEERC) – Director Falgout reported that he will meet with the Corps on Monday to move forward on the Reconnaissance Study for the feasibility of a

50' channel at Port Fourchon. He is also working on a Draft Cooperative Agreement between Port Fourchon and the Millennium Port Authority.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee – Chairman John Melancon, Sr. presented for the board's consideration a request from Newpark Resources, Inc. to assign its lease to Production Management Industries, Inc. Currently, Newpark subleases this site in question to PMI. Assigning the lease to PMI creates a direct contractual relationship between PMI and the Port Commission for this site. Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously approved the assignment of Newpark's lease to PMI.

Chairman Melancon presented for the board's consideration the offer made by Armortec, Inc. to settle the claim made against Armortec for the damaged Ajaxes. The board reviewed the proposal and accepted it with a vote of eight yeas and one nay.

Chairman Melancon presented for the board's consideration the need to assess the ad valorem tax millage for 2001. Commissioner Harry Cheramie made a motion, which was seconded by Jimmy Lafont, to roll back the millage to 5.94 for 2001. Commissioner Martin moved to amend that motion to roll back to 3.47 mills, thereby cutting the millage in half. The amendment failed for lack of a second. The original motion was voted upon after extensive discussion and failed by a vote of four yeas and five nays. Commissioner Vizier moved to assess the current rate of 6.94 mills, and Commissioner Griffin seconded that motion. It carried by a vote of five yeas and four nays.

Permits & Waterways – Chairman Jimmy Lafont presented for the board's consideration requests for letters of no objection from the Greater Lafourche Port Commission, Allain LeBreton Company, Dan Danos, and BP Oil Pipeline Company. Upon motion by Jimmy Lafont and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved issuing letters of no objection to those who requested one.

Chairman Lafont presented for the Board's Consideration a proclamation issued by the U.S. Coast Guard in support of the North American Safe Boating Campaign. The proclamation declared the week of May 19-25, 2001 to be National Safe Boating Week and the beginning of the North American Safe Boating Campaign. Upon motion by Harry Cheramie and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously approved the Proclamation and affirmed its support for the initiative to promote safe boating practices.

Director Falgout reported that the Corps of Engineers has awarded the contract for dredging the Port's channel to Weeks Construction on a low bid of \$3,955,000. This increase in the projected project cost will increase the Port's contribution by \$264,000. Upon motion by Jimmy Lafont and second by Harry Cheramie, the board unanimously approved increasing the Port's Contribution to the Corps' dredging project.

Construction & Development – Chairman Ervin Bruce presented for the board's consideration requests from Allison Marine both to extend 5th street to the full length of the right-of-way and to lease property located in the Northern Expansion, along N.J. Theriot Road. The Committee recommended that the paving of 5th street be completed when the next asphalt job occurs in the Port. Mr. Steve Orlando and Mr. Don Orlando, representatives with Allison Marine, presented to the Board their plans for Port Fourchon and the expansion of their operations there. While the Board fully understands Allison's need for more property from which to operate, it is not prepared to issue a lease on any new property. At present, the Commission is working to establish a leasing policy that will outline certain procedures to be followed when a piece of property becomes

available in the Port. Once that policy is adopted and implemented, all requests for property can be revisited following the guidelines of the policy.

Chairman Bruce presented for the board's consideration the need to authorize the Commission President to execute a lease with Equilon Enterprises for the area along LA 3090 under which the MARS pipeline runs. Director Falgout reported that there had been some problems with accessing the property behind the pipeline right-of-way, especially in the vicinity of Magnum Mud's lease. By allowing Equilon to actually lease the right-of-way, those problems will be alleviated. Upon motion by Ervin Bruce and second by Larry Griffin, the board unanimously authorized President Melancon to execute a lease with Equilon. Magnum Mud voiced its interest in leasing the small tract of land adjacent to its current property to fulfill its expansion needs. The Committee decided to wait until the leasing policy is in place to determine who will best be suited for that site.

Finance – Chairman Larry Griffin presented for the board's approval the invoices for the month and recognized the expenditures over \$10,000. Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously approved all invoices in line for payment.

Chairman Griffin presented for the board's consideration the April 2001 Financial Statement. Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Donald Vizier, the board unanimously approved the April 2001 Financial Statement.

Personnel – Chairman Beau Martin stated that today has been proclaimed by Governor Foster to be State Employee Recognition Day. Chairman Martin, on behalf of the Board, commends the employees for their good, hard work in making an efficient port. In conjunction with State Employee Recognition Day, Chairman Martin presented for the board's consideration an award, approved both by Civil Service and by the Commission's Awards Panel, of \$200.00 to be issued to all employees for their contribution to the State Port Priority Program Application. Upon motion by Beau Martin and second by Jimmy Lafont, the board unanimously approved issuing an award to all employees for their success in obtaining \$9.8 million in Port Priority funding.

Chairman Martin presented for the board's consideration the applicants for the Summer Employment Program – Jon Shaw, Jr. and Jamie Arceneaux. Upon motion by Chuckie Cheramie and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved hiring these two applicants.

Chairman Martin presented for the board's consideration a motion to put decals on all Port vehicles. Mr. Chuckie Cheramie seconded the motion, and after some discussion, the board unanimously approved placing decals on all Port vehicles.

Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting.

ATTEST:



JOHN MELANCON, SR., PRESIDENT



WILBERT COLLINS, SECRETARY