

AGENDA
AUGUST 8, 2001

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Consider July 18, 2001 Regular Meeting Minutes for approval
- V. Executive Director's Report
 - A. Northern Expansion Update
 - a. Construction status – Project Engineer John Plaisance
 - b. NOAA Grant
 - c. Permit
 - B. Highway Improvements
 - a. MMS Meeting
 - C. Millennium Port Update (LEERC)
 - a. Cooperative Endeavor Agreement
- VI. Committee Reports
 - A. Executive Committee:
 - 1. Consider appointing Executive Director as delegate to the annual convention and annual meeting of the American Association of Port Authorities
 - 2. Adopt ad valorem tax millage for the year 2001
 - 3. South Lafourche Airport Intergovernmental Agreement
 - 4. Millennium Port Cooperative Endeavor Agreement
 - 5. Redistricting
 - 6. Conservation Council
 - B. Permits & Waterways Committee:
 - 1. Letters of No Objection
 - i. Greater Lafourche Port Commission
 - ii. Vintage Petroleum Corporation
 - C. Construction & Development Committee:
 - D. Finance Committee:
 - 1. Consider payment of Invoices and recognize Expenditures over \$10,000
 - 2. Consider July 2001 Financial Statement for approval
- VII. Public Comment
- VIII. Any other business
- IX. Adjournment

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION
August 8, 2001

The Board of Commissioners of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, August 8, 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

Upon motion by Chuckie Cheramie and second by Wilbert Collins, the minutes of the July 18, 2001, regular meeting were unanimously approved.

President Melancon diverted from the agenda and allowed Mitch Theriot and Buddy Larose, the two candidates for the Division E Judgeship, to address the Commission and the audience.

Executive Director's Report

Northern Expansion – Project Engineer John Plaisance reported that construction is progressing well. The Contractor is about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way through with driving timber piles and about $\frac{1}{2}$ of the way through with pouring the concrete deadman. Last month, the Contractor began driving sheet piles and is about 15% complete with that. He hopes to be finished by the end of the year. Mr. Plaisance reported that the next phase will be trucking the fill into the lease area. We should be prepared to request permission to advertise for bids next month. He expects the trucking bids to be in the area of \$4.00 per yard. Director Falgout reported that we have received written confirmation of the \$75,000 grant received from NOAA for the Maritime Forest Ridge Project. The permit is out on public notice right now, and barring any significant objection to its issuance, it is reasonable to expect to receive the permit within 60 days.

Highway Improvements – Director Falgout reported that the Commission met with representatives of MMS on July 26th to look at the Port and understand where our comments on Lease Sale 182 were coming from. The meeting went very well, and it allowed us to present to them what we think they should be doing to help us. The Environmental Assessment that is currently being formulated for the next lease sale will be available in late November to early December. Director Falgout reported that he is told that 90% of that document is about Port Fourchon. This should help our endeavors to get money from Washington to mitigate for the impacts of the oil and gas presence in this area. Director Falgout reported that he attended the DOTD meeting that discussed the route for the four-lane highway from Larose to US 90. It seems that going up the Lafourche Ridge is the most cost-beneficial route to build. The draft EIS on the four-lane highway to be constructed in the southern reach of the parish should be published very

soon. Once a record of decision is obtained, preliminary engineering and rights of way work can be started.

Millennium Port – Director Falgout reported that lately the newspapers have been portraying that the candidate sites are bickering among each other, and that's why not much has been done to make a final decision on the location of the Millennium Port. Director Falgout said that this certainly is not the case. He believes that it is the responsibility of Port Fourchon and of Plaquemines to promote their sites, if they believe them to be the best location, and that it is the Millennium Port Authority's responsibility to make a decision based upon the facts presented. He also reported that we are in a position to execute the Millennium Port's Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Port of New Orleans and the Millennium Port Authority, which is up for consideration under the Executive Committee.

Committee Reports

Executive – Chairman John Melancon reported that the committee met on August 7, 2001, at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present at this meeting were John Melancon, Sr., Larry Griffin, and Wilbert Collins, Sr., and Committee member Donald Vizier was absent. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the Committee meeting.

President Melancon presented for discussion the need to name a delegate to the AAPA convention. Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Ervin Bruce, Director Falgout was unanimously designated the delegate to the Annual convention.

President Melancon presented for discussion the adoption of the ad valorem tax millage for the year 2001. Director Falgout explained that although the board had previously adopted the necessary millage, the Legislative Auditor said that the board must redo this action based upon a technicality with the wording of the agenda. The agenda from the first time the tax was adopted read "Consider ad valorem tax millage" when in fact it should have read "Adopt ad valorem tax millage," according to the Auditor. Thus, the board must reconsider the issue with the proper verbiage on the agenda at this meeting. Donald Vizier moved to set the millage at 6.94 mills, and Larry Griffin seconded that motion. The floor was then open for discussion, and Board member Beau Martin said that he is against the tax because the port needs to get away from public dependency. Board member Harry Cheramie said that he would like to see the millage lowered by 1-2 mills. Board member Wilbert Collins said that he understands why this issue is so controversial each year, but he does not believe that the tax money is wasted, and he supports it. With a 5-4 roll call vote, the commission adopted the millage at 6.94 mills for tax year 2001.

President Melancon presented for discussion the South Lafourche Airport Intergovernmental Agreement. Attorney Pitre explained that changes to Exhibit B had been made to add two unpaid invoices to the list of obligations to be assumed by the Port Commission. The Airport District had already approved this agreement, and the Parish Council will consider at its meeting on Tuesday, August 14th. Pending approval by all local agencies, the document will be submitted to LA DOTD and FAA for their approval. The agreement basically allows for the Port Commission to assume the operating responsibilities of the airport, to assume all obligations of the Parish in connection with the Airport, and to repair the Clovelly Road at \$100,000 initial construction, with

\$20,000 per year for 5 years to be reimbursed to the Parish for expenses incurred in upkeep of the road. While the Commissioners expressed dissatisfaction in assuming the two previously unmentioned invoices, the Committee recommended that the agreement be approved as amended so that the Port Commission could begin running the Airport. Board member Donald Vizier and Board member Beau Martin both disagreed with the assumption of the two invoices, and they voted nay to the motion made by Chuckie Cheramie and seconded by Harry Cheramie to approve the agreement as presented for execution. The motion carried by a 7-2 vote.

Board member Collins left the meeting.

President Melancon presented for discussion the Millennium Port Cooperative Endeavor Agreement. Director Falgout reported that, as previously discussed in his update, this agreement formally commits the Greater Lafourche Port Commission, the Port of New Orleans, and the Millennium Port Authority to working together in the state's endeavor to establish a Millennium Port somewhere in Louisiana. Upon motion by Jimmy Lafont and second by Larry Griffin, the board unanimously authorized Director Falgout to execute said agreement on behalf of the Commission.

President Melancon presented for discussion a draft resolution against redistricting. Director Falgout explained that since the 2000 Census indicated a shift in population in Jefferson and surrounding parishes, Lafourche Parish risked being divided into numerous, various Senate districts, of which it would never comprise a majority. Upon motion by Jimmy Lafont and second by Harry Cheramie, the board unanimously approved the Resolution against Redistricting, to be submitted to Senator Ullo, head of the Senate Committee on redistricting.

Board member Collins returned to the meeting.

President Melancon presented for discussion the possible donation of funds to the Conservation Council. Director Falgout reported that last year, the Commission donated \$30,000 and received over \$2 million in funds for this area. This year, he suggested making a \$10,000 donation. Upon motion by Donald Vizier and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved contributing \$10,000 to the Conservation Council.

Permits & Waterways – Chairman Jimmy Lafont reported that the committee met on August 7, 2001, at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present at this meeting were Jimmy Lafont and Wilbert Collins, Sr., and Committee member Beau Martin was absent. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the Committee meeting.

Chairman Lafont presented requests for letters of no objection from Vintage Petroleum Corporation and the Greater Lafourche Port Commission. Upon motion by Chairman Lafont and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously approved issuing letters of no objection to those who had requested one.

Chairman Lafont reported that the marking of the Caminada Bay Channel will be coming out in the Local Notice to mariners. He said that it is important that people respond to Coast Guard and let them know how helpful those three buoys are.

Construction Development – Chairman Ervin Bruce reported that the Committee, which is comprised of Ervin Bruce, Donald Vizier, and Chuckie Cheramie, had no business to be considered by the Commission.

Finance – Chairman Larry Griffin reported that the committee met on August 7, 2001, at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present at this meeting were Larry Griffin, and Harry Chermie, and Committee member Donald Vizier was absent. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the Committee meeting.

Chairman Griffin presented for the board's approval the invoices for the month and recognized the expenditures in excess of \$10,000. Upon motion by Chairman Griffin and second by President Melancon, the board unanimously approved the invoices for the month.

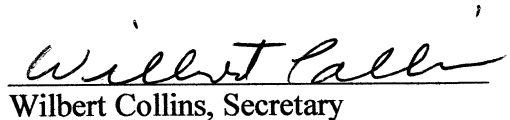
Chairman Griffin presented for the board's approval the Financial Statement for July 2001. Upon motion by Chairman Griffin and second by Donald Vizier, the board unanimously approved the July 2001 financial statement.

President Melancon then allowed for public comment. Mr. Roy Gisclair addressed the Commission and said that they're doing a wonderful job, but that he would appreciate seeing the tax millage lowered by at least 1 mill when it next comes up for consideration. A short discussion followed.

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

ATTEST:


John Melancon, Sr., President


Wilbert Collins, Secretary