

AGENDA
November 9, 2005

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Consider October 10, 2005 Special Meeting Minutes for approval
- V. Consider October 12, 2005 Regular Meeting Minutes for approval
- VI. Executive Director's Report
 - A. **Northern Expansion Update**
 - a. **Construction status:**
 - i. Slip B, West Bulkhead, Project #1 – Joe Picciola
 - ii. Slip B, West Bulkhead, Project #2 – Larry Picciola
 - iii. Mooring Dolphins – Larry Picciola
 - iv. Maritime Forest Ridge
 - v. Slip A, Rowan Bulkhead Repairs – John Plaisance
 - B. **Airport Update**
 - a. Project status
 - C. **Port Security**
 - a. Security Camera System
 - D. **FEMA Updates**
 - a. Wave Protection
 - b. Debris Fence along LA 3090
 - E. **Highway Improvements**
- VI. Committee Reports
 - A. **Executive Committee**
 - a. Consider approving the Interagency Agreement with Lumcon/Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program for the Maritime Forest Ridge
 - b. Consider Caillouet Land Corporation rental request
 - c. Consider approving Pacific Wire Rope Lease at Port Fourchon
 - d. Consider approving Cooperation Endeavor Agreement with Lafourche Parish Water District
 - B. **Permits & Waterways Committee**
 - a. Update on abandoned/sunken vessels
 - b. Consider commenting on USCG proposed bridge curfew revisions.
 - C. **Construction and Development Committee**
 1. Consider approving the high bid for the Pontoon Excavator
 2. Consider approving the Clear Lien with Grand Isle Shipyard for the Boat Launch project
 3. Consider approving the Clear Lien with Barriere for Emergency Rowan Repair
 4. Consider proposals for the Airport Camera System
 - D. **Finance Committee**
 - a. Consider payment of invoices and recognize Expenditures over \$10,000
 - b. Consider approving the October 2005 financial report
- VII. Any other business
 1. Consider moving November 23, 2005 Committee Meeting in Fourchon to November 16, 2005 in Galliano.
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Possible Executive Session
 1. Discuss pending litigation defined as "Rowan Companies, Inc. et al v. The Greater Lafourche Port Commission, et al, Civil Action No. 05-0030 – Sec. K – Magistrate 2"
- X. Public Comment
- XI. Adjournment

Attachment

The following items may be discussed in an executive session:

- The pending litigation more specifically defined as "Rowan Companies, Inc. and Rowan Marine Services, Inc. v. The Greater Lafourche Port Commission; J. Wayne Plaisance, Inc.; Continental Construction Company, Inc.; Eustis Engineering Co., Inc.; Vulcan Construction Materials, LP; Vulcan Materials Company; and Core Industries, Inc., Civil Action No. 05-0030 – Sec. K – Magistrate 2"
- The pending litigation more specifically defined as "G&W Construction Co., Inc. v. Greater Lafourche Port Commission and J. Wayne Plaisance, Inc., 17th JDC – Parish of Lafourche – Suit No. 101666 – Div. E"

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION
November 9, 2005

The Board of Commissioners of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, November 9, 2005 at 10:30 AM.

President Vizier called the meeting to order, and Secretary Cheramie called the roll.

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

ABSENT: None

Upon motion by Ervin Bruce and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the October 10, 2005 Special Meeting Minutes.

Upon motion by John Melancon and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the October 12, 2005 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Executive Director's Report

Northern Expansion Update – Engineer Joe Picciola reported that James Construction has completed driving the steel sheet piles for Slip B, West Bulkhead, Project #1. They are currently working from Slip B toward Flotation Canal driving the wooden timber piles for the concrete deadman. Commissioner Martin questioned the blow count on the piles which Mr. Picciola reported that on the first set of tension piles in the sand layer the counts were in the high 20's which is expected and on the compression piles the counts were in the mid 20's. He stated that the deadman piles and blow counts are being logged. Mr. Neil Angelette representing Larry Picciola Engineers reported that Shavers-Whittle is driving deadman piles for Slip B, West Bulkhead, Project #2 and has completed 12 deadman. Mr. Angelette reported that Low Land Construction is on site installing the Mooring Dolphins. He stated that 3 pipe piles for 3 of the dolphins have been installed and they are working on the upper structure at this time. He stated that the progress has been impressive and should be completed on time and usable by the end of the year. Mr. Breaux reported that Low Land has not began the Maritime Forest Ridge project as of yet, but he anticipates that the project will be revised or cancelled due to the conditions of the ridge from the storms. Engineer John Plaisance reported that all the deadman have been poured and Circle, Inc. is presently installing the tie rods for Slip A, Rowan Bulkhead Repairs. He stated that there are a few items remaining to be completed and substantial completion is expected within the next few weeks. Director Falgout stated that the urgency of completing this project on time is to be able to return the useable bulkhead area back to Rowan as soon as possible.

Airport Update – Mr. Breaux reported that the grounding rods have been installed for the NDB site in Golden Meadow. The access culvert for the south extension to the Rotorcraft site has been installed. Rotorcraft is in the process of installing limestone, drainage, and access culverts on their site. Phylway Construction is on site putting drainage and compacting the runway for the Airport Runway Extension project. VIH/Cougar Helicopters has living quarters at the Industrial Park with temporary utilities. Mr. Breaux is working with Entergy and the Water District to install utilities in the different areas of the Industrial Park. He is working with Phylway to possibly shave the drainage canal thereby improving the Airport drainage and allowing Phylway to use the material for their construction site. Commissioner Lafont reported on the upcoming groundbreaking ceremony scheduled next Wednesday, November 16th at the Airport hangar building at 12:30 pm. Commissioner Griffin requested that an invitation be sent to Leonard Miller's family members.

November 9, 2005

Security Camera System – Mrs. Danos reported that the equipment would take another 7 – 10 days to be delivered and once the parts are received Interstate will be on site to repair the system.

FEMA Updates – Mr. Chiasson reported that the project worksheets that have been turned into FEMA total \$582,318.00 with the remaining worksheets that are being written in the amount of \$2,815,000. He estimates that \$5 million will be requested from FEMA once all the worksheets are processed including the 6 projects awaiting estimates. Mr. Breaux reported that he is looking at options to remove the debris from the beach wave protection project site. The project would consist of utilizing the vegetative matter and covering it with sand to create beach sand dunes. He stated that he has contacted the landowners to see if they are interested in participating in this project. Commissioner C. Cheramie questioned if the beach area will still be closed during the construction process. Director Falgout stated that the beach is technically open to the public; however, Wisner has closed the access to the beach near Chevron. He stated that the beach is still very dangerous with the huge amounts of debris. Mr. Breaux stated that it was determined that during construction of the wave protection project that the site will be blocked off for the safety of the public. Director Falgout has spoken to the Parish President about signage to make people aware of the dangers of all the debris on the beach. Commissioner Martin questioned the signage of our Airport, which Mr. Breaux replied that he has looked at different locations to place signs acknowledging the Airport location.

Highway Improvements – Director of LA1 Coalition, Henri Boulet reported that all the permits are now complete for Phase 1 of the LA 1 Elevated Hwy project. He stated that Mr. Jerry Leblanc gave the last notice to proceed for the project yesterday. The bids are scheduled to open on December 21st for Phase 1B which is for the Leeville Bridge approaches; the bids will be opened on January 25th for Phase 1A which is the 6 miles of elevated highway from Leeville to Fourchon; and the bids will be opened February 22nd which is the center spans of the bridge. He reported that they have received some critical support and conveyed the message for the needed funding for Phase 2. He stated that the need for funding was presented to the U.S. Senate Committee of Environment and Public Works, the President of the U.S., our Congressional Delegation, the U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. He stated that DOTD had some very technical studies done on storm surge to analyze the different bridge heights. He further discussed some of the results of these studies regarding the storm surge for 100 year and 500 year studies that varied from 7 ft – 13.9 ft in the surrounding areas. He stated that the newly constructed Leeville Bridge will stand at 17 ft. above sea level, which is above the studied storm surges. Commissioner H. Cheramie questioned the cost for the first phase, which Mr. Boulet replied that they have revised the cost estimates with post Hurricane Katrina prices that came in within the amount dedicated at this time from the bond sales, Transportation bill, and the TIFIA loan. Commissioner Melancon questioned the bridge span being the last bid scheduled to be opened, which Mr. Boulet replied that it is a small project and should not take as long as the approaches to be built. Director Falgout reported that he is expecting a letter from DOTD Secretary Bradberry that will request that the Port provide a site at our Airport to house campers for workers for the highway project. He stated that the decision will impact the bids due to the contractors having concerns of housing over 200 employees in the area with the limited facilities due to the impacts of the storms. Commissioner Griffin stated that we should encourage and consider local facilities before we commit to housing at the Airport. President Vizier requested that the Port do a survey of facilities available to accommodate workers before a decision is made.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Donald Vizier reported that the committee met on November 7, 2005 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were Donald Vizier, John Melancon, Harry Cheramie and Jimmy Lafont. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.

November 9, 2005

Upon motion by Harry Cheramie and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the Interagency Agreement with Lumcon/Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program for the Maritime Forest Ridge for the funds to cut approximately 2,000 ft. of the northern apron to prepare for planting.

President Vizier presented to the board the Caillouet Land Corporation rental request. Director Falgout reported that this is regarding a yearly rental check that was never cashed by the Caillouet's, which included a certain tract to which the rental is in dispute. He stated that the 1.003 Tract, which consist of approximately \$9,000 was included in this check. He recommends approving the resolution prepared by Mr. Autin, which would separate the rental checks. Commissioner Wilbert Collins made a motion to approve the resolution, which was second by Ervin Bruce and the floor was then opened for discussion. Commissioner Martin questioned what was included in the check totaling \$139,000.00, which Mr. Autin replied that it consisted of 3 leases: the waterfront triangle for \$117,000, the back triangle of 1.003 acres for \$9,000.00, and the quarterly payment for subleases along AJ Estay Road for \$13,000.00. Director Falgout also stated that in response to the Caillouet letter we are recommending to separate the checks and further negotiate a more defined lease procedure. The board then voted which resulted in 9 years.

Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the Pacific Wire Rope Lease at Port Fourchon for 2.868 acres along LA 3090. Mr. Keith Plaisance, President of Pacific Wire thanked the board for approving the proposal. He stated that the expansion will employ more workers and estimates \$750,000 to \$1 million of improvements to the site.

Upon motion by Jimmy Lafont and second by Chuckie Cheramie, the board unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Lafourche Parish Water District for installing utilities at the Airport Industrial Park. Mr. Breaux reported that he is also working with the Parish 911 office to name the different roads at the Airport.

Permits & Waterways Committee – Chairman Chuckie Cheramie reported that the committee met on November 7, 2005 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were Chuckie Cheramie, Donald Vizier, Beau Martin, and Jimmy Lafont. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.

Mr. Autin updated the board on the abandoned and sunken vessels. He stated that FEMA has a 10-step procedure to remove the sunken vessels in Bayou Lafourche. The first step is to get an approved site location to store the sunken vessels until they are disposed of. Director Falgout recognized Chief Steve Wolfe with the US Coast Guard to address the board. Chief Wolfe stated that they are working with a salvage contractor to raise all the sunken vessels in the different parishes in LA and are currently working in Vermillion Parish. He reported that the staging sites are used for vessels with no owner or the vessel does not float on its own. This will allow the owner to claim the vessel or after a certain time frame the vessel can be disposed. He reported that any hazardous material on the vessel or on the approved site could be incurred by the Coast Guard ESF10 fund. He stated that the other cost of disposal of the vessel and debris will be between the Parish and the owners. Chief Wolfe also reported that their highest problem is locating the owners. President Vizier questioned the time schedule of when they will be in our area, which Chief Wolfe was unsure of the answer but is working on getting several salvage companies to have a quicker response. Director Falgout reported that an option of moving the project along is for the Port to remove the vessels and possibly receive FEMA funding but this is still under investigation.

Mr. Autin reported that the Capt. Jimmy and the Iron Man were boarded to inspect the equipment to have more details for the advertisement, which will be published next week and sent to the scrap companies.

Chairman Cheramie presented for the board the USCG proposed bridge curfew revision. Director Falgout spoke with David Frank with the Coast Guard and presented the concerns of this commission.

Mr. Frank is ready to move with what is in the Federal register now and if we choose to modify the curfew it may delay the process and we should get together with the Parish and School Board to come to a conclusion. President Vizier questioned the recommendation of the curfew that is in the register now, which Director Falgout replied that the Parish and the School Board were working together and the Parish presented their request to the Coast Guard. Further discussion followed regarding the current bridge curfews and the bus schedule. It was determined by the Commission to allow the request already in the register to be processed with the possibility of changing times at a later date.

Construction & Development – Chairman Bruce reported that the committee met on November 7, 2005 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were Ervin Bruce, Donald Vizier, Larry Griffin, and Wilbert Collins. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.

Upon motion by Harry Cheramie and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the high bid of \$77,997.00 for the Pontoon Excavator from Jeff Sandel dba SAS Salvage.

Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Beau Martin, the board unanimously approved the Clear Lien with Grand Isle Shipyard for the Boat Launch project.

Upon motion by Ervin Bruce and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the Clear Lien with Barriere Construction Co. for the Emergency Rowan Repair.

Upon motion by Beau Martin and second by Larry Griffin, the board unanimously rejected the proposals for the Airport Camera System.

Finance Committee - Chairman John Melancon reported that the committee met on November 7, 2005 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were John Melancon, Donald Vizier, Larry Griffin, and Wilbert Collins. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.

Upon motion by John Melancon and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the October 2005 invoices.


Upon motion by John Melancon and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously approved the October 2005 financial report.


President Vizier opened the floor for any other business. Commissioner C. Cheramie reported on the Jumbo Ship that arrived in Port last week and the crew thanked the Harbor Police for escorting the ship in and out of the Port safely.

Upon motion by John Melancon and second by Jimmy Lafont, the board unanimously approved to change the November 23, 2005 Committee Meeting to November 16, 2005 in Galliano.

Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Beau Martin, the board adjourned.

ATTEST:


Donald Vizier, President


Harry Cheramie, Secretary

November 9, 2005