

Greater Lafourche Port Commission

AGENDA

September 10, 2015 at 10:30 AM

Administration Building · 16829 East Main St · Galliano, LA

(Revised: September 9, 2015 at 9:30 AM)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Consider approval of minutes for August 12, 2015 regular meeting
- V. Executive Director's Report
 - A. Northern Expansion**
 1. Northern Expansion Slip C Bulkhead (*J. Wayne Plaisance*)
 2. Northern Expansion Slip C East Sweep Dredge (*J. Wayne Plaisance*)
 3. Northern Expansion Slip D Bucket Dredge (*Picciola & Associates*)
 4. Northern Expansion Slip C 800 LF East Bulkhead (*Angelette-Picciola*)
 - B. Airport Projects**
 1. Glide Slope (*LPA/Baker*)
 2. Apron Expansion (*LPA/Baker*)
 3. Pump Station – Engine & Pump Replacement (*Picciola & Associates*)
 - C. Port Security and Grant Projects**
 1. Cybersecurity and Resiliency (2013)
 2. Port Wide Sustain & Maintain (2014)
 3. Risk Mitigation Plan (2014)
 - D. Other Projects**
 1. Storm Harbor Marina (*J. Wayne Plaisance*)
 2. Nerby Collins Commercial Marina Bulkhead (*J. Wayne Plaisance*)
 3. N. J. Theriot Road Elevation & Improvements (*Angelette-Picciola*)
 4. Mooring Dolphins Phase 4 (*Angelette-Picciola*)
 5. FEMA: Breakwaters (*Picciola & Associates*)
 6. Fourchon Bridge Helper Bent (*Picciola & Associates*)
 7. Airport Road Paving project – LPG
 8. Steel Mooring Piles in Bayou Lafourche (*Picciola & Associates*)
 9. Assumption of Maintenance Study (*AECOM*)
 10. Section 203 Feasibility Study (*CBI*)
 11. LA 3090 Culvert project
 12. LA 3090 Overlay – DOTD
 - E. Update on LA 1 Projects**
 - F. Presentation by Lafourche Parish Assessor**
- VI. Committee Reports
 - A. Executive Committee
 1. Consider approving a new lease with Deepwater Port Services for Site GLF309
 2. Consider approving the amendment with Martin Holdings for Site GLF307-Slip/Main
 - B. Permits & Waterways Committee
 1. Review permit applications from Shell Pipeline Co. and LA Delta Farms Partnership
 - C. Construction & Development Committee
 1. Consider approving the Clear Lien Certificate from Johnson Bros for Slip C Bulkhead project
 2. Consider adopting the DOTD Resolution Accepting the Work for Slip C East Dredge project
 3. Consider approving the Clear Lien Certificate from Coastal Dredging for Slip C East Dredge
 4. Consider approving the Substantial Completion Certificate from Ernest P. Breaux for the Glide Slope
 5. Consider approving the Change Order from Byron E. Talbot Contractors for Apron Expansion
 6. Consider approving the DOTD Sponsorship Agreement for the Rotating Beacon and AWOS Tower
 7. Consider approving the Assignment of Contract to Huey P. Stockstill, LLC for the LA 3090 Culvert project
 - D. Finance Committee
 1. Consider approving payment of August invoices and recognize expenditures over \$10,000
 2. Consider approving the August 2015 Financial Statements
 3. Consider approving the insurance renewals
 4. Consider approving the out of state travel requests
- VII. Any other business – None
- VIII. Public Comment – None
- IX. Adjournment

*Serena L. Bruce, Legal/Projects Assistant
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OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION
September 10, 2015

The Board of Commissioners of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission met in regular session on Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 10:30 AM at the Administration Building 16829 East Main Street, Galliano, LA.

President Gisclair called the meeting to order and Secretary Cheramie called roll.

ATTENDED: Chuckie Cheramie, Perry Gisclair, Kris Gaudet, Donald Vizier, Wilbert Collins, Larry Griffin, John Melancon Jr., Jimmy Guidry, and Ervin Bruce

ABSENT: None

Upon motion by Melancon and second by Bruce, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the minutes for August 12, 2015 regular meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Northern Expansion – Engineer John Plaisance stated Slip C Bulkhead project is complete and the clear lien is later on the agenda for approval with retainage. Executive Director Chett Chiasson stated this project totaled \$19.6 million for 3,000 LF of bulkhead. Plaisance reported Slip C East Sweep Dredge is also complete and the clear lien is later on agenda for approval with retainage. Engineer Joe Picciola reported Crosby Dredging has returned on site for the Slip D Bucket Dredge project. They are completing their 3rd pass and may stop working to allow material to settle and return for the 4th pass. They may have one to two more passes to get the required elevations. Engineer Larry Picciola reported Slip C 800 LF East Bulkhead contractor is Shavers-Whittle Construction. The contracts have been signed and a preconstruction meeting was held this morning. They are scheduled to start on Monday.

Airport Projects – Richard Osborne reported that we received a DOTD Sponsorship Grant for the painting and repairs to the beacon and tower at the airport which is later on the agenda for approval. We are also working with DOTD for a grant for the tree obstruction removal of approximately \$100,000. We did receive the substantial completion certificate for the Glide Slope project which is up for approval today. The Apron Expansion project change order is a decrease of -\$28,160.90 from Byron E. Talbot Contractors which is later on the agenda. Chiasson stated this project totaled \$3.4 million. Gaudet questioned the load rating on the ramp area, which Osborne replied 75,000 lbs. which is consistent with the runway and taxiway. Davie Breaux reported the pumps for the Pump Station project are on order and the project should begin after storm season.

Port Security and Grant Projects – April Danos reported that the Cybersecurity and Resiliency is complete as of August 31st. We are currently processing contracts for the Port Wide Sustain & Maintain through August 2016. The final draft of the Risk Mitigation Plan should be delivered by next Friday.

Other Projects – Engineer John Plaisance stated the catch basins for the Storm Harbor Marina are being adjusted this week. Chiasson stated this project was \$1.4 million and includes funding from the Parish. Plaisance reported the Nerby Collins Commercial Marina Bulkhead project is progressing well and expect completion within 3 to 6 weeks. Engineer Larry Picciola reported the N. J. Theriot Road project is complete and in the lien period. Chiasson stated this was a \$3.8 million project. Picciola stated a preconstruction meeting was held this morning for the Mooring Dolphins Phase 4 project. We plan to issue the notice to proceed for next Wednesday. Engineer Joe Picciola reported the FEMA Breakwaters project is complete and in the lien period. Picciola reported that we received bids last week for the Fourchon Bridge Helper Bent with the lowest bid from Professional Construction Services of \$331,255. The bids are being submitted to the other stakeholders while we process the contractor's documentation and plan to award at the October meeting. Commissioner Collins entered the meeting.

Engineer Picciola reported that the Airport Road Paving contractor Huey Stockstill is processing contracts and will be planning a preconstruction meeting soon. The Steel Mooring Piles in Bayou Lafourche are being advertised with the bid opening scheduled on September 22nd. Joe Berlin reported that they are working on a response to the comments for the Assumption of Maintenance Study. Chiasson reported that the Section 203 Feasibility Study is still at Corps headquarters and we are waiting an update. Breaux reported that the LA 3090 Culvert project is complete. Breaux reported that DOTD continues to work on the patching of LA 3090 Overlay project.

Update on LA 1 Projects – Chiasson read Boulet's report. The Coalition is continuing to work with DOTD on the project's Phase 2C construction permits. In looking beyond Segment C in Golden Meadow, Boulet is beginning to meet with significant LA 1 stakeholders to request their consideration of participating in a Segment A industry match. Although the Coalition is asking for participation in a segment that would go to bid in 2017, it is strategically important to get these types of request presented early on. Boulet thanked Chett and State Senator Chabert for co-hosting, along with the Coalition, the Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council to see in person the vulnerability of our highway system and the expansive growth at the port. It is important to keep this federal council engaged on LA 1's needs as critical coastal infrastructure, for should the state decide to fund future segments of the LA 1 Project through any Restore Act civil fine monies, which we have requested, the federal council's approval will be necessary. On behalf of LA DOTD, Boulet has been asked to remind the trucking industry of the required permit they need to obtain in advance of traveling contraflow in the northbound traffic lane at the toll gantry with wide loads. DOTD has noticed a growing problem of wide loads going contraflow at the toll gantry with no escort. These unescorted contraflow vehicles are posing a tremendous risk of head-on collisions. Additionally, a good number of vehicles that do have an escort are not following DOTD's process to pay. DOTD will be contacting local law enforcement officials when they see this occur, and an effort will be made to stop the vehicle. When planning for a wide load, companies are encouraged to visit the LA DOTD website, and on the front page "links section", click on "truck permits" then click on a red icon which reads "Important Information about LA 1 Tolls".

Presentation by Lafourche Parish Assessor – Wendy Thibodaux informed the board of past and future events. The assessor must put on the tax roll all property as of January 1st which includes watercraft. A value is assessed for the watercraft which generates a tax bill that the Sheriff's office sends out. The boat owners then pay that bill which gets dispersed throughout all our taxing districts. She then recognized the two bills in this past legislative session that could have affected this process. House Bill 805 was about the tax credit of \$100 making it non-refundable, removing the tax credit and incentive for the watercraft to stay here. Senate Bill 177 was going to exempt watercraft completely and they would not have to pay the \$100. This would have removed \$52 million from our tax roll or 41% of our tax base. In questioning the reasoning for these bills, she was told that local government has gotten fat off of tax payers dollars. In researching what they were talking about, she found that in 2000 Lafourche collected \$37.8 million and in 2014 collected \$123.7 million which is a 237% increase in 14 yrs. The increase was due to the additional \$683 million added to the tax roll which the majority comes from this district with the Port's growth. The other side of this is we have the 3rd highest millage rate in coastal parishes which takes us out of the competition. With the oil industry down turn, boat owners are shopping around. As assessor her job is to keep the balance between the government, homeowners, and businesses. With next year being a reassessment year, Thibodaux then informed the board of the process of reassessment with a faucet demonstration. The goal is to ask taxing districts to roll back millage rates and still generate revenues to what is needed. Thibodaux used her office as an example to explain this. In 2011 her office generated \$1.8 million on 2.5 mills. In 2012 a reassessment year, they collected \$1.9 million on 2.47 mills a surplus of \$120,538. In 2013 collected \$2.2 million on 2.5 mills. In 2014, collected \$2.4 million on 2.47 mills a surplus of \$187,961. With that in 2015, they rolled back to 2.06 mills which will have them collect what is needed without a surplus. By collecting the same amount of money but lowering your millage rate, gives the taxpayers, businesses, and boat owners more money in their pockets rather than in a savings account. She commended the board for the Port's growth. We need everyone's help on this.

Cheremie stated since he's been here the Port has rolled down. He sees that the problem is the 4 year reassessment because businesses may roll down but within those 4 years you have to roll up to keep that millage rate and not lose it for in case something happens. So that is what everyone does. Thibodaux replied her office is the same if she doesn't roll up within the 4 years she loses it forever. Her office has rolled up to keep her mills but the other years she rolled down, even more than expected. It is flexible and you can move it up to maximum or lower than expected. Gisclair questioned how many districts she's been to, which Thibodaux replied this is my 12th district and she has 20 more to go. It is important to her that everyone hears this presentation and have the same understanding. Gisclair agreed that all the districts need to be educated. Thibodaux stated that is why she is using her office as an example so they don't have to be afraid of rolling back millage rates because we are growing and it gives back to the businesses as an incentive for new business. We want to increase in tax payers not taxes. Chiasson agreed that is what this board has done in the past. Thibodaux stated that next year the legislative sessions will be done by the time the millage rates are ready so we will know what we are dealing with in any bills being passed.

Vizier questioned the base of operations for the few vessels that moved to Plaquemines, which Thibodaux replied they are based out of Lafourche but we can only tax where the property/boat is as of January 1st not the location of the company. Vizier questioned the boats that untie and go into the Gulf if they are taxed, which Thibodaux replied yes those vessels are taxed. There is some confusion that 3 miles out is considered federal waters but that is only for federal oil leases. Our waters for Louisiana go all the way into international waters. We tax everyone in Lafourche waters on January 1st by using the Port Vision system along with Sheriff Deputies, Harbor Police, and platform reports. Griffin stated he sold a vessel overseas and the accessor's office contacted him for that vessel, which Thibodaux replied when you get the form mark it as sold and send a copy of the bill of sale so we can fix our records. Melancon commended Mrs. Thibodaux for coming it is very instrumental giving us a better knowledge of the tax roll and credits. Gaudet also thanked her and pointed out that every part of the state has a different industry that is taxed and ours is the vessels it doesn't make sense to exempt ours and not others, which Thibodaux agreed and that is what she was stressing to the legislators. We tax watercraft while in Minden they tax caterpillar and in Terrebonne they tax helicopters. Chiasson stated a lot of the discussions during the session were that in Lafourche Parish we are 80% watercraft tax because of Port Fourchon which is where the majority of the vessels are located. Thibodaux stated the economic impact of the Port, not just to Lafourche or the State, but to the United States this tax credit is a small price to pay because we are doing a great job. Breaux stated you could look at public funds going to creating channels in the Port while private companies on land are using improvements and paying taxes so the vessels using this improved property should be taxed as well. Thibodaux stated that Lafourche is self-sufficient if we need something we build it such as levees and infrastructure for the port we are doing something wonderful here. She sees how this millage rate could negatively impact us and wants to make sure everyone is aware of it. Gisclair then thanked her on behalf of the board for this presentation.

President Gisclair recognized Jimmy Cantrelle. Cantrelle then explained his work history, announced his candidacy for Lafourche Parish President and stated his plans if elected.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee - The committee met on August 26th in Port Fourchon present was Gisclair, Cheremie, Melancon, and Griffin. They also met on September 8th in Galliano with all present.

Upon motion by Melancon and second by Guidry, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved a new lease with Deepwater Port Services for Site GLF309.

Upon motion by Cheremie and second by Collins, with no public comment, the board approved the amendment with Martin Holdings for Site GLF307-Slip/Main. The vote resulted in 8 yeas and 1 abstain by Gisclair.

Permits & Waterways Committee - The committee met on August 26th in Fourchon present was Cheremie, Gisclair, and Griffin. Collins absent. They also met on September 8th in Galliano with all present.

Chairman Cheramie presented for the board's review the permit applications from Shell Pipeline Co. and LA Delta Farms Partnership.

Construction & Development Committee - The committee met on August 26th in Fourchon present was Vizier, Gisclair, and Griffin. Bruce absent. They also met on September 8th in Galliano with all present.

Upon motion by Melancon and second by Guidry, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the Clear Lien Certificate from Johnson Bros for Slip C Bulkhead project.

Upon motion by Bruce and second by Collins, with no public comment, the board unanimously adopted the DOTD Resolution Accepting the Work for Slip C East Dredge project.

Upon motion by Cheramie and second by Griffin, with no public comment the board unanimously approved the Clear Lien Certificate from Coastal Dredging for Slip C East Dredge.

Upon motion by Vizier and second by Guidry, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the Substantial Completion Certificate dated July 20, 2014 from Ernest P. Breaux Electrical for the Glide Slope project.

Upon motion by Griffin and second by Bruce, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved Change Order No. 2 a decrease of -\$28,160.90 from Byron E. Talbot Contractors for Apron Expansion project.

Upon motion by Gaudet and second by Melancon, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the DOTD Sponsorship Agreement for the Rotating Beacon and AWOS Tower painting grant funds of \$9,000.

Upon motion by Griffin and second by Collins, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the Assignment of Contract to Huey P. Stockstill, LLC for the LA 3090 Culvert project.

Finance Committee -The committee met on August 26th in Fourchon present was Melancon, Gaudet, Gisclair and Guidry. They also met September 8th in Galliano with Guidry absent.

Upon motion by Melancon and second by Guidry, with no public comment the board approved the payment of August invoices and recognized expenditures over \$10,000 which total \$2,476,755.96. The vote resulted in 8 yeas and 1 abstain by Griffin.

Upon motion by Melancon and second by Gaudet, with no public comment the board unanimously approved the August 2015 Financial Statements.

Chairman Melancon presented for the board's consideration approving the insurance renewals. James Rome explained the highlights of the premium renewal. Summary of 8 lines of coverage includes: Port Liability with Hull, P&I, & MEL, Airport Operator, Automobile, Workers Compensation, Vessel Pollution, Public Officials/EPL, Police Professional, Bumpershoot, and the AON fee. The package totals a premium of \$382,424.50 which is approximately a 4% reduction from last year's premium. The board did agree to add the option of Terrorist Risk Insurance Act as additional coverage for \$5,000 which brings total to \$387,424.50. Upon motion by Melancon and second by Gaudet, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the insurance renewal premiums by AON Services.

Upon motion by Melancon and second by Guidry, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the out of state travel requests from April Danos to attend the USCG 2016 Summit on Command, Control and Communications on October 19th in Washington, DC and Chett Chiasson to attend meetings with the USACE and Congressional Delegation on October 21st in Washington, DC.

President Gisclair opened the floor for any other business. Vizier requested to read a letter to the board, staff, and community which announced his resignation as a board member effective immediately. This decision is due to his recent battle with cancer and ongoing heart issues it is in his best interest to focus on his health. Aside from his personal accomplishments as a businessman and family man, serving the people of the 10th ward for the past 26 years has been one of his greatest experiences of life. He is overwhelmed by the generosity among supporters while serving this office. Without the support of this community, the Port would not be a success as it is today. He is extremely grateful that through this position he has met so many wonderful people and made long lasting friendships and was able to be part of the Port's success. On behalf of himself and family, he thanked the board and their continued support and friendship throughout the past 26 years and years to come. Gisclair stated he knows he is doing what is in his best interest but this board

will miss you. You have been instrumental on a lot of things that took place. Even though you are not a board member in the future, your attendance and ideas are welcomed. Wish you the best of luck in your health and your future endeavors with your family. Vizier stated he has thought about this for the past 6 months and decided it is time to dedicate more time to his family. Vizier personally thanked the staff for working with him and appreciated the opportunity to represent them. It was a great honor. Cheramie stated it was very enjoyable working with you for the last 14 years. Chiasson stated on behalf of the staff it is pertinent to say thank you for your support throughout the years. It has been a joy working with you we will miss you. Griffin being the oldest member beside Vizier of 24 years stated we will miss your frankness. You voiced your opinion no matter the situation and I respect you for that, will miss you. Melancon wished him the best of luck with any future endeavors. Guidry stated as a personal friend hope you get well and wish you the best. Bruce stated it has been great working with you wish you the best. Gaudet stated he enjoyed the short while working together. Gisclair closed with saying thank you and we will miss you.

President Gisclair opened the floor for public comment, which Griffin requested prayers for the family of his close friend Reilly Rouse who passed away this morning.

Upon motion by Vizier and second by Cheramie, the board adjourned the meeting at 11:35AM.

ATTEST:



Perry Gisclair, President



Harris "Chuckie" Cheramie, Jr., Secretary