

Special Meeting Agenda  
AGENDA  
January 17, 2007 at 2:00 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Consider Executive Director position
- V. Consider approving the Assessor's request to take legal action for taxes paid under protest
- VI. Any Other Business
- VII. Public Comment
- VIII. Adjournment

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION  
January 17, 2007

The Board of Commissioners of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission met in special session on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 2:00PM.

President Vizier called the meeting to order, and Vice President Lafont called the roll.

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

ABSENT: None

President Vizier presented for the board's consideration the Executive Director position. Commissioner John Melancon made a motion to approve the contract for the Executive Director as presented to the board which was second by Wilbert Collins. The floor was opened for discussion. Commissioner Lafont acknowledged the deleted item that stated that this contract supersedes any and all other agreements or board actions that may contradict the duties herein. He also questioned whether the Section VII still says the same thing even after the deletion. Mr. Autin read the second paragraph of Section VII to the board and stated that the revised contract does not state the same thing. The revised contract supersedes prior agreements between the executive director and board, but has no effect on prior board actions and agreements with third parties. Mr. Autin stated that the revised language of Section VII is standard in agreements and only represents agreements between the board and the director.

Commissioner Lafont questioned the section calling for the Port to insure him, and asked whether he was already insured as an employee. Mr. Rome replied that he is insured as an employee under the Port's director's policy when acting in good faith on behalf of the Port and no additional insurance will be required. Commissioner Lafont questioned the extra insurance needed to cover the director if there are claims for attorney fees and further stated that the Port needs to notify our insurance company before approving this contract. Mr. Rome stated that the Port's insurance covers for attorney fees. Director Falgout explained that for the graveyard issue, the Port didn't have any insurance that would have covered what was demanded of the Port. Director Falgout reported that this language was added to reimburse any legal costs incurred for defense of acts done by him in good faith as the director. He stated that this was added because of what was learned in the past from the Leeville Graveyard issue. Commissioner Guidry questioned if the legal cost involves our insurance company, which Director Falgout replied that this agreement to reimburse legal cost would be between the Port and the director. This would go into effect if he is personally sued or involved and it is determined that he acted in good faith on behalf of the Port he would be reimbursed by the Port Commission for legal fees. President Vizier stated that in the graveyard issue the Port paid for the commissioners to hire their attorneys, but Director Falgout had to hire his own attorney which he personally incurred that cost. Commissioner Guidry concluded that it wouldn't be an insurance claim. Commissioner Cheramie stated that you have to notify the insurance company if we put this language in the contract. Commissioner Lafont agreed that the insurance company needs to be notified. President Vizier requested that Mr. Rome notify our insurance company and report to the board the results at next the meeting. Director Falgout stated that he feels comfortable that it is not an insurance

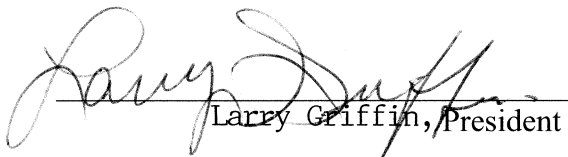
issue and he will remove it from the contract if the insurance company disagrees. The board then voted which resulted in 7 yeas and 2 nays by Jimmy Lafont and Chuckie Cheramie.

President Vizier presented for the board's consideration to approve the Assessor's request to take legal action for taxes paid under protest. Director Falgout explained that there are 3 pipeline companies that paid taxes under protest. The judgment was rendered earlier this year and the court ordered local parish assessors to value the subject property rather than the Louisiana Tax Commission. In accordance with that order, the Parish revalued the pipeline property and our values were challenged by the pipeline companies. They are faced with a long legal battle with these pipeline companies and the attorney general issued an opinion for employment of an attorney on a contingency fee basis which means that these funds will be paid out of any funds awarded by the court. He is requesting that all taxing bodies participate to pay 10% of the money which would go toward attorney fees. Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Wilbert Collins, the floor was open for discussion. Commissioner Gisclair questioned if this could be expanded or is it only the three names given, which Mr. Autin replied these are the only three companies involved in the suit. The board then voted which resulted in all yeas.

President Vizier opened the floor for any other business. Director Falgout stated that he was appointed as an alternate for a 2-year term on the Outer Continental Shelf Policy Committee. This committee advises the Secretary of Interior on OCS policy. This 2-year time will be critical on how the OCS revenue sharing will unfold. He will have an opportunity to be at the table with national leaders to discuss and device a policy on OCS issues. It will require numerous meetings in Washington when Representative Mr. Meloy is unavailable to attend.

Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by John Melancon, the board adjourned the special meeting.

ATTEST:

  
Larry Griffin, President

  
Wilbert Collins, Secretary