

GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION
AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020 at 10:30AM
Administration Office • 16829 East Main St • Cut Off, LA 70345
(Posted: February 7, 2020 at 3:35PM)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approve minutes for January 8, 2020 regular meeting and January 29, 2020 special meeting
- V. Executive Director's Report
 - A. Northern Expansion
 - 1. Northern Expansion Slip C 400' East Part 2 Bulkhead (*Picciola & Associates*)
 - 2. Northern Expansion Slip C 1100' East Bulkhead (*Picciola & Associates*)
 - 3. Coastal Wetlands Park
 - B. Airport Projects
 - 1. Aircraft Operations
 - 2. Airfield Drainage Improvements – Construction Phase (*Duplantis Design Group*)
 - 3. Airport Connector Road and Bridge (*Picciola & Associates*)
 - C. Other Projects
 - 1. Section 203 Feasibility Study (*GIS Engineering*)
 - 2. Flotation Canal Embankment Work
- VI. Update from Restore or Retreat
- VII. Public Comment
- VIII. Committee Reports
 - A. Executive Committee
 - 1. Consider approving the request from American Integration Contractors to extend the Port Complex office lease
 - 2. Consider approving the NOAA Ports System Amendment
 - 3. Consider approving the nominations for the South Lafourche Levee District appointment
 - B. Permits & Waterways Committee
 - 1. Review permits from Louis Cheramie and Greater Lafourche Port Commission
 - C. Construction and Development Committee
 - 1. Consider approving the Substantial Completion Certificate from Byron E. Talbot Contractors for the Airfield Drainage Improvement project
 - D. Finance Committee
 - 1. Consider approving payment of January 2020 invoices and recognize expenditures over \$10,000
 - 2. Consider approving the out of state travel requests
- IX. Any Other Business
- X. Public Comment
- XI. Adjournment

*Serena L. Bruce, Legal/Projects Assistant
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OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION
February 12, 2020

The Board of Commissioners of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 10:30AM at the Administration Office 16829 East Main Street, Cut Off, LA 70345.

President Harris Cheramie, Jr. called the meeting to order and Secretary M. Callais then called roll.

ATTENDED: Harris Cheramie, Jr., Rodney R. Gisclair, Rodney J. Gisclair, Sr., Curtis Pierce, Larry Griffin, John Melancon, Jr., Mike Callais, and Kris Callais

ABSENT: Jimmy Lafont

Upon motion by Griffin second by Melancon, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the minutes for January 8, 2020 regular meeting and January 29, 2020 special meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Northern Expansion – Engineer Joe Picciola reported Sealevel Construction is driving concrete piles for deadman for Slip C 400' East Part 2 Bulkhead Project. They are also welding the pipe bumper on the outside of the steel sheets. Sealevel has been having some delays due to weather and may be a month late on contract time. Engineer Joe Picciola reported Shavers-Whittle is the contractor for the Slip C 1100' East Bulkhead Project. They are in the preconstruction period of buying and painting steel. They plan to move a crane on site this week to start driving the test piles. Executive Director Chett Chiasson reminded the board we will not dredge the 400' now, we will wait until the 1100' bulkhead is complete and dredge both at the same time. Davie Breaux reported Grand Isle Shipyard continues to bring in material for the future parking site at the Coastal Wetlands Park. We also did soil borings for the future bridge over the tidal creek along Flotation Canal. Thad Angeloz stated he continues to work on the second submittal for the Land & Water Conservation grant that is due in April.

Airport Projects – Joe Wheeler, Airport Manager reported the aircraft operations for January are 1,894 operations, 9,328 passengers, and 17,146 vehicles. The substantial completion certificate for the Airfield Drainage Improvement project is up for approval today. Engineer Joe Picciola reported on the Airport Connector Road and Bridge project. The state permit is out on public notice. We also submitted permits with the US Coast Guard and the Corps including the wetland delineation survey. We are working on the 60% design plan submittal. He stated yesterday he along with Chett and Archie met with the State's Traffic Division regarding the intersections at LA 1 and LA3235. The state would be willing to entertain a waiver only if it is backed up by the information from the traffic study. We do have a meeting tomorrow morning with our traffic engineers to discuss possibilities. We may have to make some compromises unless we want a long drawn out fight. After the meeting, we will come back to the Port with some recommendations. Melancon questioned if this is for the traffic light on LA 1, which Picciola replied it is the intersection design which includes turning lanes, acceleration lanes, and traffic lights. Chiasson stated we have a meeting later today with the right of way folks. Appraisals are being done. Things are moving along on the project and we will be able to make some decisions in the upcoming months. Picciola stated today at 2pm we are meeting with the utility companies to discuss relocating utilities and DOTD will be attending.

Other Projects – Engineer John Plaisance reported on the Section 203 Feasibility Study stating 3 weeks ago we delivered to DC the final version of the report. Since then, we have not heard back from them on their initial review of the report. Chiasson stated after the review it will go to the ASA office for approval then to the WRDA process. Davie Breaux reported on the Flotation Canal Embankment Work which is a small area that was washed out from storms. We are in the process of getting the contractor Tidewater Docks to install rip rap and dirt fill which will be approximately a \$25,000 project.

Update from Restore or Retreat (ROR) – Simone Maloz stated at this time of year we work on comments for the state’s annual plan on how they will spend the funds they have for this year and the next 2 years. She stated this year the plan is \$900M in coastal work and protection across the state but in the next 2 years it ramps up to over a billion. The majority of that over 75% is spent on construction. ROR goes through the plan and highlights the areas of interest and shares that with local agencies like the Port and industry groups to see if they want to send comments. Overall it is very exciting that we are about to get over a billion dollars a year for coastal restoration and protection projects. From an update yesterday, 28 projects will go to bid this year alone ranging from mega projects to little projects in the area. ROR continues to work on GOMESA which is our share of offshore royalty revenues. We did hit our cap in the President’s budget of secure funding of revenue sharing. We continue to work in DC on how to change the cap or the allocation on how that money comes. In Louisiana, we do have a good case because that money is protected in a trust fund. She stated the Louisiana Legislature is coming up and there is a Coastal Day on April 15th and new Bayou Region Day on May 21st. Lastly, Restore or Retreat is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year in May as well. We may look at doing some things together if possible.

President Cherie opened the floor for public comment. Chiasson reported Henri Boulet with LA 1 Coalition is out today working on industry match since our meetings in DC with the Governor, Secretary of DOTD Shawn Wilson, Congressman Steve Scalise, US DOT, and Federal Highway Administration talked about the LA 1 project and the state’s application to complete that section of the elevated highway. DOTD will be submitting the INFRA grant application by February 21st. There are numerous letters of support that will be included in the application. We are excited about that opportunity basically all matching funds are there along with the Port’s contribution and our commitment to the project. The expansion of the intersection at the 90 degree turn is just about complete. The lines are painted however it is not fully opened yet, they need to put up the light poles. It should be open in a few weeks.

Chiasson then presented a plaque to the outgoing Representative Jerry Truck Gisclair who has been very supportive to us for the past 12 years. Chiasson then read the plaque “In appreciation for your years of dedicated service and leadership on behalf of Port Fourchon and the South Lafourche Leonard Miller, Jr. Airport”. Representative Gisclair then thanked the board. He stated the work over the last 12 years went from walking in 2008 with a \$1.2B surplus from previous administration to \$2B deficient back to a \$350M surplus. We went through some highs and lows with the oil spill, some results of Hurricane Katrina continued to roll in, but the perseverance of the people working together laying ground work for the LNG plant coming which he was happy to be part of that process. The Transportation Committee which is mandated by law they go through every highway district in the state in a week and a half period. The most effective trip was the tour of Port Fourchon which allowed representatives from other areas of the state to see what Port Fourchon is about. Seeing is believing. When they saw the size of vessels, cranes, and infrastructure, they realized the need to support the elevated highway. He congratulated Representative Tanner Magee from Houma for House Bill 578 that took the BP money to get our match for the federal grant that may be coming to finish the last 8.5 miles. It has been 12 years, 12 sessions, and many special sessions but it was a great enjoyable time serving the public. One thing he enjoyed was being Vice Chairman on the Special Committee of Veterans and Military Affairs besides doing highway, public works, ag and natural resources. He enjoyed his 12 years and will support Representative Bagala and Senator Fesi where he can help and you all with his radio stations. President Cherie stated on behalf of the board he thanked Gisclair for his service to this community. Cherie stated a few weeks ago he along other commissioners went to DC to meet with FAA and the Corps. He thanked the commissioners for doing their part to continue the growth of the Port. He stated a lot of people don’t understand that part of this Port’s success is going to DC getting support from them.

Daniel Lorraine Parish Councilman addressed the board stating after meetings with several organizations such as ROR, Port Commission, North Lafourche Levee District, South Lafourche Levee District and others the Parish passed an ordinance July 9, 2019 for \$14.5M of GOMESA funded projects. He stated last night the Parish passed a Cooperative Endeavor with the Port Commission for \$2M. He then went through the list of projects in the 10th Ward: LA 1 Improvements from Golden Meadow to

Leeville \$1.2M, Larose Navigable Locks \$5M, Port Commission Fourchon Beach Restoration \$2M, and Serigny Levee Flood Protection Project \$800,000. He was happy last night and thanked Chett and Mike Callais who attended the meeting for support. Chiasson thanked Lorraine and the Parish Council for support in working with us on that project. As we have seen in the last several years, as we continue working together, we will continue to see success.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee - The committee met January 29th in Cut Off present were Cheramie, M. Callais, R. Gisclair Sr., and Melancon. The committee also met February 10th in Cut Off with all members present.

Upon motion by R. Gisclair Sr. second by M. Callais, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the request from American Integration Contractors to extend the Port Complex office lease.

Upon motion by Melancon second by R. Gisclair, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the NOAA Ports System Amendment to add 1 wave buoy east of Port Fourchon.

Upon motion by M. Callais second by R. Gisclair Sr., with no public comment, the board unanimously nominated Monty Vegas for the appointment to the South Lafourche Levee District Board.

Upon motion by R. Gisclair Sr. second by Pierce, with no public comment, the board unanimously nominated Glenn Vizier for the appointment to the South Lafourche Levee District Board.

Permits & Waterways Committee - The committee met January 29th in Cut Off present were Lafont, R. Gisclair, and Cheramie. Pierce was absent. They also met February 10th in Cut Off with all members present.

Pierce presented for the board's review permits from Louis Cheramie and Greater Lafourche Port Commission.

Construction and Development Committee - The committee met January 29th in Cut Off present were Griffin, K. Callais, Lafont, and Cheramie. They also met February 10th in Cut Off with all members present.

Upon motion by Griffin second by K. Callais, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the Substantial Completion Certificate dated December 20, 2019 from Byron E. Talbot Contractors for the Airfield Drainage Improvement project.

Finance Committee - The committee met January 29th in Cut Off present were Melancon, M. Callais, R. Gisclair Sr., and Cheramie. They also met February 10th in Cut Off with all members present.

Upon motion by Melancon second by M. Callais, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the payment of January 2020 invoices and recognized expenditures over \$10,000 which total \$1,435,608.55.

Upon motion by Melancon second by R. Gisclair Sr., with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the out of state travel requests from Chett Chiasson to attend meetings with federal agencies in DC dates to be determined, Chett Chiasson and Commissioners to attend the AAPA Spring Conference in DC March 16th – 19th, and Chett Chiasson to attend the National Ocean Industries Association in DC April 22nd – 24th.

Upon motion by Pierce second by R. Gisclair, the board adjourned the meeting at 11:07AM.

ATTEST:



Harris Cheramie Jr., President



Charles M. "Mike" Callais, Secretary