

GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION
AGENDA
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 at 10:30AM
Administration Office • 16829 East Main St • Cut Off, LA 70345
(Posted: September 4, 2020 at 4:05PM)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approve minutes for August 12, 2020 regular meeting
- V. Executive Director's Report
 - A. Northern Expansion
 - 1. Northern Expansion Slip C 1100' East Bulkhead (*Picciola & Associates*)
 - 2. Northern Expansion Slip D & Bayou Lafourche Dredge (*GIS Engineering*)
 - B. Airport Projects
 - 1. Aircraft Operations
 - 2. Airport Connector Road and Bridge (*Picciola & Associates*)
 - C. Other Projects
 - 1. OMB Review of Feasibility Study & WRDA Update (*GIS Engineering*)
 - 2. Tidal Creek Bridge & Culvert Improvements (*Picciola & Associates*)
- VI. Update from LA 1 Coalition
- VII. Public Comment
- VIII. Committee Reports
 - A. Executive Committee
 - 1. Consider approving the request from OMNI Energy Services for deferral of improvement rent on site GLF625
 - 2. Consider approving the request from Allport Services to lease Site GLF341
 - 3. Consider approving the Port's policy on Pay Philosophy
 - 4. Consider approving the Amendment to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Lafourche Parish Government for the Airport Connector Road and Bridge
 - 5. Consider approving the request from Oceaneering for a new Tower Lease TL117
 - B. Permits & Waterways Committee
 - 1. Review permits from Glen Plaisance, Corps of Engineers, and NOAA
 - C. Construction and Development Committee
 - 1. Consider rejecting the Airport Obstruction Removal proposal
 - 2. Consider approving the Lighting Agreement with DOTD for the Airport Connector Road and Bridge Project
 - D. Finance Committee
 - 1. Consider approving payment of August 2020 invoices and recognize expenditures over \$10,000
 - 2. Consider approving the August 2020 unaudited financial statements
 - 3. Adopt the 2020 ad valorem millage rate
 - 4. Consider approving the insurance renewals
- IX. Any Other Business
- X. Public Comment
- XI. Adjournment

*Serena L. Bruce, Legal/Projects Assistant
Greater Lafourche Port Commission
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OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION
September 10, 2020

The Board of Commissioners of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission met in regular session on Thursday, September 10, 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., John D. Ordonne, Jimmy Lafont, Rodney J. Gisclair Sr., Curtis Pierce, Larry Griffin, John Melancon, Jr., Mike Callais, and Kris Callais

ABSENT: None

Upon motion by Griffin second by Melancon, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the minutes for August 12, 2020 regular meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Northern Expansion – Engineer Joe Picciola reported Shavers-Whittle Construction is driving concrete piles for deadman and welding on the bulkhead for Slip C 1100' East Bulkhead project. They are complete with the pipe bumper, walers and steel sheets. They are ready to pour concrete for the deadman. Some minor setbacks due to weather but they are mainly on schedule. Engineer John Plaisance reported the Slip D & Bayou Lafourche Dredge project is being advertised with the pre-bid meeting today and the bid opening September 17th.

Airport Projects – Joe Wheeler, Airport Director reported the aircraft operations for August were 1678 with 6254 passengers, and 11,894 vehicles. The vehicle count is low however the radar counter was down for 5 days during the storms. Wheeler stated he usually also submits the GUARD data however the system may be broken but should have the data for you by next month. Melancon questioned the data mechanism, which Wheeler replied it is a computer that uses an algorithm with radio traffic that calculates your operations within a 5 mile area, but it also uses an ADS-B aircraft receiver to count that traffic. All aircraft is required to have an ADS-B which is part of the next generation of aircraft control system within a 5 mile radius. Engineer Joe Picciola reported on the Airport Connector Road and Bridge project. The 100% plans were submitted to DOTD and we are incorporating the minor comments received. We plan on sending the final plans today. We received approval on the Environmental Impact Study and received the FONSI which is the Finding of No Significant Impact which now opens the door to getting final authorization and right of way appraisals done. We have also been in touch with the USCG and submitted the FONSI for them to process the permit. We are on schedule to let the project in early November and award in early 2021. Executive Director Chett Chiasson stated he signed this morning the BUILD Grant agreement, which we needed the FONSI to be able to sign the agreement. We are also in the process of sending the request letter to DOTD for a conditional obligation for us to move forward. Bryce Autin reported on the right of ways for the Martin property. The 2 appraisers did their site inspection yesterday. We provided them with all the sales data from Mr. Martin's appraisal for them to consider whether or not they want to incorporate into their revised appraisal reports. We are hoping to get the revised appraisal reports to DOTD within the next few weeks. Mr. Autin stated for the remainder of the property the site visits are scheduled for this Friday which will also be sent to DOTD.

Other Projects – Chiasson reported on the OMB Review of Feasibility Study & WRDA Update. He stated last week he had a virtual meeting with Senator Cassidy to discuss the WRDA bill and when it may be taken on the Senate side. All indications are that the Senate will not take it up until after the election. It is not what we wanted to hear but as long as it passes is the key. We will continue to keep in touch with our Senators to make sure that happens. Engineer Joe Picciola reported on the Tidal Creek

Bridge & Culvert Improvements. The improvements taking place are in the mitigation area along Slip D. The plan is to add a concrete bridge to connect the tidal creek to Flotation Canal and we are also extending the culvert that goes into the marina. He stated at the culvert there will be a kayak launch and a wharf with a bridge for people that like to cast net. The project is currently advertising for bids with bid opening scheduled for September 30th.

Update from LA 1 Coalition – Henri Boulet reported Phase II of the LA 1 Improvement Project’s design is continuing to advance. LA DOTD is having the design consultant, HNTB Corporation, combine all the segments into one set of plans to bid the project out as one larger construction contract. At this point, LA DOTD feels that contract will be let in October 2021 and they expect to execute a construction contract by December 2021. The project is expected to be complete by December 30, 2027. On the project’s finances, \$416 million of funding has been identified. The last estimate for the construction cost was \$445 million. While the state will have to identify additional state funding, it has options at doing this over the 6-year construction period. The state has asked the Coalition to continue to work to garner industry match commitments. The state is working with Marquis Resources on finalizing arrangements to complete pipeline work on several pipelines where Phase II of the elevated highway will pass. LA DOTD has the majority of funding secured for this work and hopes to have it completed by the second quarter of 2021. Finally, Wisner reached out to the Coalition in support of the East Leeville Marsh Creation Project. The project would rebuild marshes on the east side of Bayou Lafourche near Leeville. The project is up for a competitive construction vote at CWPPRA’s December Technical Committee meeting. Wisner is trying to get letters of support from area businesses. If anyone is willing to provide a letter of support, please contact me and I can get you in touch with the project champion at Wisner. Melancon stated so bids will be opened October 2021 and expect to award the bids in December 2021, Boulet replied yes it takes about 2 ½ months to get the contract and bond documents from the successful bidder. Melancon stated it is a 6 year project, which Boulet replied yes.

President Cheramie opened the floor for any public comment. Darlene Lirette Cheramie announced her candidacy for Constable 4th Justice of the Peace Court #81.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee - The committee met September 2nd and September 8th in Cut Off present were Cheramie, R. Gisclair Sr., Melancon, and M. Callais.

Upon motion by R. Gisclair Sr. second by K. Callais, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the request from OMNI Energy Services Corp. to amend their lease GLF625 for deferral of improvement rent for 10 months from September to June 2021 and in July 2021 the improvement rent will be re-amortized to include the new deferred amount.

Upon motion by Ordonne second by Lafont, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the request from Allport Services to lease Site GLF341 a 4.78 acre tract of land along 17th Street in Port Fourchon.

President Cheramie presented for the board’s consideration the Port’s policy on Pay Philosophy. Direction Chiasson explained the change in policy and how it differs from the existing policy. The employees will still be evaluated however the excellent and successful rating will pay 2.5% with the 1% Port Performance totaling 3.5% increase. Upon motion by Griffin second by Pierce, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the Pay Philosophy.

President Cheramie presented for the board’s consideration the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Lafourche Parish Government. Chiasson stated the current agreement did not discuss the operation and maintenance post construction. The amendment states the Lafourche Parish Government will maintain the Airport Connector Road and Bridge and the Port will maintain the grass. Upon motion by M. Callais second by R. Gisclair Sr., the floor was open to public comment. Daniel Lorraine, Lafourche Parish Councilman addressed the board. He stated the Parish met Tuesday night and adopted this amendment 8-0-1. The board then voted to approve the amendment which resulted in all yeas.

Upon motion by K. Callais second by Ordonne, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the request from Oceaneering International for a new Tower Lease to install 2 radars and an AIS antenna a project in collaboration with the Department of Homeland Security.

Permits & Waterways Committee - The committee met September 2nd and September 8th in Cut Off present were Pierce, Lafont, Ordonne, and Cheramie.

Pierce presented for the board's review the permits from Glen Plaisance, Corps of Engineers, and NOAA.

Construction and Development Committee - The committee met September 2nd and September 8th in Cut Off present were Griffin, K. Callais, Lafont, and Cheramie.

Griffin presented for the board's consideration to reject the Airport Obstruction Removal proposal. Chiasson stated the first bid opening we received no bids and this second attempt of solicitations we received 1 bid however it exceeded the estimate. Bryce Autin stated that since this one bid exceeds the construction estimate we recommend rejecting the bid and we plan to re-bid next year when additional funds will be available. R. Gisclair questioned if we will identify more precisely what will be removed, which Chiasson replied yes. He stated we will make changes to the scope instead of the contractor doing the survey, we will have it surveyed to provide to the contractor next year when we rebid. Upon motion by R. Gisclair Sr. second by Griffin, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved to reject the bid from R.O.W.C., LLC for the Airport Obstruction Removal project.

Upon motion by Ordonne second by M. Callais, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the Lighting Agreement with DOTD for the Airport Connector Road and Bridge Project.

Finance Committee - The committee met September 2nd and September 8th in Cut Off present were Melancon, M. Callais, R. Gisclair Sr., and Cheramie.

Upon motion by Melancon second by M. Callais, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved payment of August 2020 invoices and recognized expenditures over \$10,000 which totaled \$1,165,613.20.

Upon motion by Melancon second by Lafont, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the August 2020 unaudited financial statements.

Chairman Melancon presented for the board to adopt the millage rate for the tax year 2020. Chiasson stated that we received from the Assessor's office our new millage rate of 7.80 mills to receive the same revenue as last year of \$4,059,241, however he doesn't believe that is the wish of the board. He stated last year was our 4th and final year to roll up to our max 6.83 mills which for this year would generate \$3.5 million. He stated when we rolled up last year, we committed to the public that we would roll back down for this year. He stated our recommendation to the board is to go down to 6.54 mills which would generate \$3,403,115 saving the tax paying public approximately \$600,000. Melancon then read the resolution out loud: "*Be it resolved, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2020 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by Greater Lafourche Port Commission for maintenance of 6.54 mills; Be it further resolved that the proper administrative officials of the Parish of Lafourche, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2020, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.*" Upon motion by Pierce second by M. Callais to adopt the 6.54 mills for tax year 2020, with no public comment, the roll call vote resulted in 9 yeas by Cheramie, Ordonne, Lafont, R. Gisclair Sr. Pierce, Griffin, Melancon, M. Callais, and K. Callais.

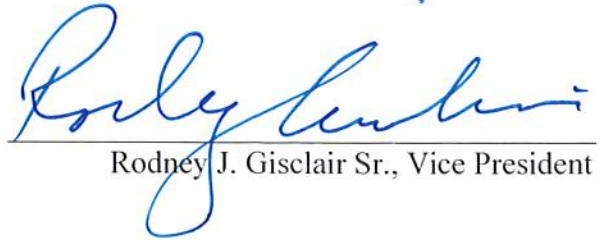
Melancon presented for the board's consideration the insurance renewals. Chiasson stated on Tuesday we went through the details thoroughly which were presented by Marsh USA. He stated it is the recommendation from the administration to go with all of the lowest quotes with the exception of Public Officials liability we recommend going with XL Catlin which gives us unlimited defense outside the limits. Upon motion by M. Callais second by Griffin, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the insurance renewal proposal presented by Marsh USA.

Upon motion by Lafont second by K. Callais, the board adjourned the meeting at 11:01AM.

ATTEST:



Harris Cheramie Jr., President



Rodney J. Gisclair Sr., Vice President