

**GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION**  
**BOARD MEETING AGENDA**  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024 at 10:30AM**  
**Administration Office · 16829 East Main St · Cut Off, LA 70345**  
*(Posted: June 11, 2024 at 9:00AM)*

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approve minutes for May 8, 2024 and May 22, 2024 meeting
- V. Executive Director's Report
  - A. Northern Expansion
    - 1. Northern Expansion Slip D Bulkhead (*GIS Engineering*)
  - B. Airport Projects
    - 1. Aircraft Operations
    - 2. Airport Connector Road and Bridge (*Picciola & Associates*)
    - 3. PAPI LED Upgrade (*GIS Engineering*)
    - 4. FBO Terminal (*GIS Engineering*)
  - C. Other Projects
    - 1. Leeville LA 1 Construction Canal Dredging & Mitigation (*Angelette Design*)
    - 2. Hurricane IDA Repair Projects
      - a. Breakwater Repairs (*Angelette Design*)
      - b. Fourchon Beach (*Angelette Design*)
      - c. Flotation Canal & Front Commercial Marina Dredge (*Picciola & Associates*)
      - d. Airport Hangar Replacement (*GIS Engineering*)
- VI. Presentation from Louisiana Cajun's Bayou
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENT
- VIII. Committee Reports
  - A. Executive Committee
    - 1. Consider approving the request from the Lafourche Fire District No. 3
    - 2. Consider approving the Intergovernmental Agreement with CPRA for the Port Fourchon/Fourchon Island Long Term Resiliency Analysis
    - 3. Consider approving marketing agreements with Bayou Civic Club, Cut Off Youth Center, and Town of Golden Meadow
  - B. Permits & Waterways Committee
    - 1. Review permits from GLPC and U.S. Corps of Engineers
  - C. Construction & Development Committee
    - 1. Consider approving the lowest responsive bid for Northern Expansion Slip D Bulkhead
    - 2. Consider adopting the DOTD resolution Certifying Compliance with Public Bid Law for the Northern Expansion Slip D Bulkhead project
    - 3. Consider approving the lowest responsive bid for the Breakwater Repairs
  - D. Finance Committee
    - 1. Consider approving payment of May 2024 invoices and recognize expenditures over \$25,000
    - 2. Consider approving the May 2024 preliminary unaudited financial statements
    - 3. Consider approving the 2023 audited financial report
      - a. Presentation of the 2023 Audit by LaPorte
- IX. Any Other Business
- X. Public Comment
- XI. Adjournment

*Serena L. Bruce, Legal/Projects Assistant*  
*Greater Lafourche Port Commission*  
*16829 East Main St., Cut Off, LA 70345*  
*(985)632-6701*

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION**  
**June 12, 2024**

The Board of Commissioners of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 10:30AM at the Administration Office 16829 East Main Street, Cut Off, LA 70345.

President Cheramie called the meeting to order then Secretary M. Callais called roll.

ATTENDED: Thomas Pitre III, Harris Cheramie Jr., Rodney Gisclair Sr., Reggie Ledet, Larry Griffin, John Melancon, Jr., Mike Callais, and Kris Callais

ABSENT: Jimmy Lafont

Upon motion by Melancon second by Griffin, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the minutes for May 8, 2024 and May 22, 2024 meeting.

**Executive Director's Report**

Northern Expansion – Engineer John Plaisance reported bids were opened on May 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Slip D Bulkhead project. The lowest bid received was from Dynamic Group with Base Bid of \$14,957,760.02 and Alternate No. 1 of \$1,552,241.50 totaling \$16,510,001.52.

Airport Projects – Deputy Port Director Davie Breaux reported the aircraft operations for the month of May were 1847, with 12,484 passengers, and 17,332 vehicles. Engineer Joe Picciola reported on the Airport Connector Road and Bridge project. Sealevel Construction has poured the concrete for the 2 main collars, machinery decks, and the approach aprons on both LA1 and LA308. The contractor is currently dredging in Bayou Lafourche for the correct depth and electrical conduit connection. The USCG has approved the bayou closures for the next few days from 7am – 12pm and from 1:30pm to 7pm. Engineer John Plaisance reported FAA flight check for the PAPI lights are scheduled for June 21<sup>st</sup>. Engineer John Plaisance reported the bid for the new FBO Terminal was awarded to B.E.T. Construction. Contracts are being signed.

Other Projects – Engineer Neil Angelette reported the Leeville LA 1 Construction Canal Dredging & Mitigation project is substantially complete and in the lien period.

Hurricane IDA Repair Projects – Engineer Neil Angelette reported bids were received yesterday for the Breakwater Repairs. The lowest bid received was from Rigid Constructors with Base Bid of \$6,986,989 and Alt. No. 1 of \$799,480 totaling \$7,786,469. Engineer Neil Angelette reported the Fourchon Beach project will be bid out in the next few weeks. Engineer Joe Picciola reported the Coastal Dredging Co. completed dredging the intersection of Flotation Canal for the Flotation Canal & Front Commercial Marina Dredge project. They will begin dredging Flotation Canal near Slip C and plan to hire a subcontractor for the marina portion. Engineer John Plaisance reported the Airport Hangar Replacement project is being advertised with bid opening scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup>. Executive Director Chiasson stated we continue to receive funds from FEMA and this morning we were notified they are processing \$2M for the wharf project.

Presentation from Louisiana Cajun's Bayou Tourism – Cody Gray, President and CEO introduced sales manager Ian Wallis and board chairman Monique Crochet. Gray presented the board with the 2023 Spirit of the Bayou Award which is a distinct honor representing Lafourche Parish and embracing the spirit of the bayou by promoting the importance of our waterways, coastline, and our ecosystem. Port Fourchon has changed the perception of energy production and created ways of experiencing the outdoors through the creation of the Coastal Wetlands Park, tidal creek, view finders, Fourchon Pavilion and most recently the kayak rentals. The Greater Lafourche Port Commission is building visitor attractions that highlight our precious

resources and educate the public on our important waterways. Chiasson thanked them for the award and stated it is good when there is witness to our passion from our staff, to our commission and our community recognizing that, and working with you guys. The Coastal Wetlands Park is just starting and will continue to grow to piece those parts together of how industry, environment, and community we can enjoy everything all together. Melancon thanked Thad Angelloz for all his work.

President Cheramie opened the floor for any public comment. Davie Breaux stated Andy Valaos and Noemi Cuevas with FAA visited the Airport this week. Chiasson thanked Fred Trowbridge with Scalise's office and Doug Cheramie with Governor Landry's office for attending.

### **Committee Reports**

Executive Committee - The committee met May 22<sup>nd</sup> in Fourchon. Present were Cheramie, Gisclair, Griffin with Lafont absent. They also met June 10<sup>th</sup> in Cut Off present were Cheramie and Gisclair. Griffin and Lafont were absent.

President Cheramie presented for the board's consideration the request from the Lafourche Fire District No. 3 for a second year of operations cost for Fourchon Fire Station of \$411,590.40 from July 2024 to June 2025. Chiasson stated the recommendation is to commit to half of the request for only this year. Upon motion by Ledet second by Melancon, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Lafourche Parish Fire Protection District No. 3 to provide protection and safety services in Port Fourchon and the Port shall contribute \$205,795.20 for six months by submitting two (2) quarterly payments of \$102,897.60 each (July and October).

Upon motion by M. Callais second by Pitre, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) for the Port Fourchon/Fourchon Island Long Term Resiliency Analysis (TE-0178) contributing \$1,500,000.

Upon motion by Gisclair second by Pitre, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreements with Town of Golden Meadow, Bayou Civic Club, and the Cut Off Youth Center for placement of signs/billboards at frequently visited public facilities promoting Port Fourchon in return for the Port's payment of \$5,000 to each entity.

Permits and Waterways Committee - The committee met May 22<sup>nd</sup> in Fourchon. Present were Gisclair, Pitre, Cheramie, with Ledet absent. They also met June 10<sup>th</sup> in Cut Off with all present.

Chairman Gisclair presented for the board to review the permits from GLPC and U.S. Corps of Engineers.

Construction & Development Committee - The committee met May 22<sup>nd</sup> in Fourchon. Present were K. Callais, M. Callais, Cheramie, with Lafont absent. They also me June 10<sup>th</sup> in Cut Off with Lafont absent.

Upon motion by K. Callais second by M. Callais, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the lowest responsive bid from Dynamic Group, LLC with Base Bid of \$14,957,760.02 and Alternate No. 1 of \$1,552,241.50 totaling \$16,510,001.52 for the Northern Expansion Slip D Bulkhead project.

Upon motion by K. Callais second by Griffin, with no public comment, the board unanimously adopted the DOTD resolution Certifying Compliance with Public Bid Law for the Northern Expansion Slip D Bulkhead project.

Upon motion by K. Callais second by Ledet, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the lowest responsive bid from Rigid Constructors with Base Bid of \$6,986,989 and Alternate No. 1 of \$799,480 totaling \$7,786,469.00 for the Breakwater Repairs.

Finance Committee - The committee met on May 22<sup>nd</sup> in Fourchon. Present were Melancon, K. Callais, Cheramie, and Griffin. They also met June 10<sup>th</sup> in Cut Off with Griffin absent.

Upon motion by Melancon second by Griffin, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved payment of May 2024 invoices and recognized expenditures over \$25,000 which total \$3,310,744.17.

Upon motion by Melancon second by Pitre, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the May 2024 preliminary unaudited financial statements.

Chairman Melancon presented for the board's consideration the 2023 audited financial report and recognized Mr. John Murray with LaPorte to present the audit findings. Mr. Murray presented the first report is the independent auditor's report which resulted in an unmodified opinion in accordance with general accounting principles. In reviewing the GASB Statement 87 there were leases that needed to be recorded which resulted in adjustment of \$8.1M. The second report is the governmental auditing standards which resulted in no compliance findings and no deficiencies in internal controls. The third report is the Single Audit Report when exceed \$750,000 in federal funds which resulted in compliance with requirements and resulted in an unmodified opinion and no finding.

The financial highlights are as follows: cash and investments \$85.6 million (30.9% decrease) due to the purchase of land, capital assets \$297.4 million, lease receivables \$586.7 million, and year end net position \$463 million (6.3% increase). The Port had annual operating revenues of \$43.9 million (1.8% increase), operating expenses \$28.6 million (10.7% increase), net operating income \$15.3 million (11.5% decrease), net income before capital grants \$23 million (25.4% increase), and capital grants \$11.8 million (47.4% decrease), net non-operating revenues \$7.7 million (613% increase), and net change in net position \$27.4 million (19.2% decrease). The graph for total revenues by source showed 36% lease rentals, 27% interest revenue, 17% capital grants, 7% investment income, and 4% ad valorem taxes. The graph for operating expenses showed 31% depreciation and amortization, 25% personnel services, 21% lease expenses, 15% maintenance-supplies-operations, and 8% other operating expenses. He stated future accounting changes will be GASB Statement 101 which will change how compensated absences are calculated in the 2024 financial statements. They also performed statewide agreed-upon procedures covering 14 categories of control and compliance area. No exceptions were identified in any of these categories. He thanked Miranda and the staff for going through this process. Upon motion by Melancon second by M. Callais, with no public comment, the board unanimously approved the 2023 audited financial statements.

President Cheramie opened the floor for any other business. Melancon stated that earlier in the legislative session he went with Devin Dedon with the Fire District to meet with Senator Mike Fesi and Representative Joe Orgeron and Orgeron helped the Fire District in securing \$400,000. He thanked Orgeron for assisting the Fire District, Port, and Ambulance District to bring better protection in our community.

President Cheramie opened the floor for any public comment. Chiasson stated that we are participants of the rodeos in Fourchon, the Fourchon Oilman's begins June 27<sup>th</sup> and the Golden Meadow - Fourchon Tarpon Rodeo is July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. All the rodeos in Port give back to the community with scholarships and grants to local non-profit organizations.

Upon motion by Ledet second by Pitre, the board adjourned the meeting at 11:02AM.

ATTEST:

  
Harris J. Cheramie, Jr., President

  
Charles M. "Mike" Callais, Secretary