AGENDA
DECEMBER 13, 2000

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Consider November 8, 2000 Regular Meeting Minutes for approval

V. Consider November 21, 2000 Special Meeting Minutes for approval

VI. Executive Director's Report
  A. E-Slip Expansion Updates
    1. 2nd leg
    2. 3rd leg
  B. Northern Expansion Update
  C. Highway Improvements
  D. Millennium Port Update
  E. Bayou Clean Up

VII. Committee Reports
  A. Executive Committee:
    1. Consider authorizing Executive Director to advertise for bids for fuel
    2. Consider authorizing Executive Director to advertise for bids for reef shells
    3. Consider adopting Ad Valorem Tax Ordinance for the year 2001
    4. Consider authorizing Executive Director to enter into an agreement with SLEC
    5. Consider approving a 2-year audit engagement letter
    6. Request from MER
    7. Request from Offshore Support Services
    8. Consider approving termination of Enviro Ventures' lease

  B. Construction & Development Committee:
    1. Request from ERA Aviation

  C. Finance Committee:
    1. Consider payment of Invoices and recognize Expenditures over $10,000
    2. Consider November 2000 Financial Statement for approval
    3. Consider revised 2000 Budget for approval
    4. Consider 2001 Budget for approval

  D. Personnel Committee:

  E. Legal, Permits & Waterways Committee:
    1. Letters of No Objection
      i. Carrizo Oil & Gas, Inc.

VIII. Any other business

IX. Adjournment

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION
December 13, 2000

The Board of Commissioners of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission met in regular session in the Conference Room of the Administration Building in Galliano, Louisiana on Wednesday, December 13, 2000 at 10:30 AM pursuant to the provision of due notice in writing to each and every member thereof and duly posted in the manner prescribed by law.

Vice-President Melancon called the meeting to order and requested that Secretary Terrebonne call the roll.

PRESENT: Johnny Melancon, Rodney Terrebonne, Larry Griffin, Jimmy Lafont, Harry Cheramie, Donald Vizier, Ervin Bruce, and Wilbert Collins

ABSENT: Dudley Bernard

Also present were Ted M. Falgout, Executive Director; Loulan Pitre, Port Attorney; Larry Picciola, Joe Picciola, and John Plaisance, Port Engineers; Davie Breaux, Assistant Director; Susan Martin, Accountant Administrator, and Addie Callais, Administrative Specialist.

Vice-President Melancon led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-President Melancon requested a moment of silence in honor of the Board's deceased President, Mr. Dudley Bernard.

Vice-President Melancon opened the floor to nominations for a Commissioner to replace the vacancy in Seat A. Upon motion by Larry Griffin, second by Rodney Terrebonne, the board unanimously agreed to appoint Mrs. Mary Lee Bernard to fill the vacant seat created by the death of her husband, Mr. Dudley Bernard.

Attorney Pitre swore in Mrs. Bernard, and she took her seat on the Board of Commissioners.

Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Wilbert Collins, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the minutes from the November 8, 2000 Regular Meeting.

Upon motion by Wilbert Collins and second by Mary Lee Bernard, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the minutes from the November 21, 2000 Special Meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

E-Slip Expansion Updates

2nd leg – Port Engineer Larry Picciola reported that Duphil has the contracts to sign. He anticipates construction beginning in two weeks and continuing for approximately three weeks.

3rd leg – Port Engineer Joe Picciola reported that the welding on the extension portion of the bulkhead is almost complete. The contractor still needs to sand blast and paint some touch-up spots. The contractor anticipates completion somewhere around December 27, 2000. The contract says that the job must be finished by January 8, 2001. The dredging portion is in the Lien period.

Northern Expansion Updates

Port Engineer John Plaisance reported that both EDA and DOTD have granted the Port permission to advertise for bids. The closing date for advertisements will be January 16, 2001.

Director Falgout reported that cross-sections are being done on the mitigation area as required by the permit before planting can occur. Planting in the mitigation area is scheduled to take place in early spring to early summer.

Highway Improvements

Director Falgout reported that the capital outlay requests have been submitted to the state for funding of the Leeville Bridge replacement. State Representative Loulan Pitre said that the federal bridge replacement funds used by the state to build bridges has a scoring system, and right now, the score assigned to the Leeville Bridge does not qualify it for replacement. Some creative package of funding will be necessary to replace the bridge. Representative Pitre will be meeting with the Secretary of the Department of Transportation to talk about putting together a package of funding from various sources to get this project built. The Environmental study is being conducted now, and the results are expected sometime in the middle of 2001.

Millennium Port Update

Director Falgout reported that he and Roy Francis with the LA 1 Coalition have presented the conceptual plan to the Millennium Port Authority as well as several other groups. Additional groups are interested in seeing a presentation of the plan. The plan will be presented to the SCIA on January 16, 2001 and the Chamber of Commerce in early February. Director Falgout feels that this project is gaining momentum as more people see the overall benefits of the strategic plan for this entire area.

Bayou Clean Up

Director Falgout reported that the project is moving along well. Assistant Director Davie Breaux reported that two lifts have been done along LA 308 at a cost of about $35,000 for four miles of reinforcement. The debris removal completed at the onset of this project cost a total of about $32,000. The first lift has been completed along the two-mile stretch of LA 1 up to the Golden Meadow seawall. Four culverts will be replaced, and the second lift will be completed at a cost of approximately $25,000, giving the total project a cost of $92,000. Director Falgout reported that the capital budget for 2001 has funding in it to complete a lift all the way to Larose and to plant marsh grass to help stabilize the embankment that will be built.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

Director Falgout explained that R & A Electrical, Inc., who is a lessee of the Port Commission, has yet to clean up the site damaged by its former sublessee, Tiger Technologies. R & A would like to assign its lease to Valure Electric. The Executive Committee recommended that the Commission not approve the assignment until R & A has cleaned the site. Upon motion by Harry Cheramie and second by Larry Griffin, the board unanimously approved issuing a notice of default to R & A Electrical giving the company 30 days in which to clean up the site.

Vice-President Melancon presented for board approval a request from MER to sublease to Philips Services a parcel of property along LA 3090. The Executive Committee recommended that the board approve this request. Upon motion by Wilbert Collins and second by Mary Lee Bernard, the board unanimously granted permission to MER to sublease to Philips Services.

Vice-President Melancon presented for board approval a request from Kajun Truck Plaza to sublease to Bayou Gaming Mangement, LLC a parcel of property along LA 3090. The Executive Committee recommended that the board approve this request. Upon motion by Donald Vizier and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously granted permission to Kajun Truck Plaza to sublease to Bayou Gaming Management.

Vice-President Melancon presented for board approval a request for assignment of property described as Tract I from Offshore Support Services to Galliano Marine Service. The Executive Committee recommended that the board approve this request. Upon motion by Rodney Terrebonne and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously granted permission to Offshore Support Services to assign its rights and interests in Tract I to Galliano Marine Service.

Vice-President Melancon presented for board approval the cancellation of Enviro Ventures' lease. The Executive Committee recommended that the board approve the cancellation. Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously approved the cancellation of Enviro Ventures' lease and authorized Vice-President Melancon to execute any and all necessary documents required to complete this transaction.

Vice-President Melancon presented for board approval the need to authorize Executive Director Ted Falgout to advertise for bids for fuel for the year 2001. The Executive Committee supported this action. Upon motion by Mary Lee Bernard and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously authorized Executive Director Falgout to advertise for bids for fuel.

Vice-President Melancon presented for board approval the need to authorize Executive Director Ted Falgout to advertise for bids for construction materials for the year 2001. The Executive Committee supported this action. Upon motion by Donald Vizier and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously authorized Executive Director Falgout to advertise for bids for construction materials.

Vice-President Melancon presented for board approval an audit engagement letter from Bergeron & Lanaux for a period of two years. The Executive Committee recommended that the board accept the letter. Upon motion by Rodney Terrebonne and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the two-year audit engagement letter with Bergeron & Lanaux.

Construction and Development Committee

Chairman Ervin Bruce presented for board approval a request from ERA Aviation to place culverts in 250 linear feet of the ditch adjacent to ERA's leased site. The Construction and Development Committee recommended that the board approve this request. Upon motion by Rodney Terrebonne and second by Donald Vizier, the board unanimously approved ERA's request to install culverts provided the property will not be used for ERA's operations but merely is being filled as a safety measure to prevent potential roll-overs when landing.

Chairman Bruce presented for the board's consideration requests from Fourchon Seafood and Abdon Callais Offshore to lease docks in the Commercial Marina. Fourchon Seafood requested permission to lease both docks being released by American Oilfield Divers, and Abdon Callais Offshore requested permission to lease the easternmost wharf. Upon recommendation by the Construction and Development Committee, motion by Donald Vizier, and second by Rodney Terrebonne, the board unanimously agreed to allow Fourchon Seafood to lease one wharf and Abdon Callais Offshore to lease the other wharf.

Chairman Bruce presented for the board's acceptance the low quote for the re-coating of the oilfield service dock. Director Falgout reported that the oilfield service dock needs to be blasted and painted, and Cajun Cutters, Inc. submitted the lowest quote for the job in the amount of $30,225.00. Upon motion by Mary Lee Bernard and second by Larry Griffin, the board unanimously accepted the low quote of Cajun Cutters, Inc. and authorized Executive Director Falgout to execute a contract with Cajun Cutters, Inc. for the completion of this job.

Chairman Bruce presented for the board's acceptance the low quote for the repairs to the Nerby Collins Marina Tie Back System. Director Falgout reported that the Eastern side of the Nerby Collins Marina Tie Back System has some weaknesses. As a preventive measure, it will be repaired. LeBro Construction, Inc. submitted the lowest quote at $27,335.19. Upon motion by Harry Cheramie and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the low quote of LeBro Construction, Inc. and authorized Executive Director Falgout to execute a contract with LeBro Construction, Inc. for the completion of this job.

Vice-President Melancon questioned Assistant Director Davie Breaux on the status of the Fisherman's Marina Electrical Service project. Mr. Breaux reported that the specifications of that job are still being perfected. The original estimate was based upon a large panel box whose cost for replacement would be very high since the factory has to make special arrangements to make it. In an effort to keep the cost of future repairs low, a new panel box is being sought.

Finance Committee

Chairman Donald Vizier recognized the expenditures over $10,000 and recommended the invoices for payment. Upon motion by Donald Vizier and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved paying the invoices.

Chairman Donald Vizier presented for board approval the November 2000 Financial Statement. Upon motion by Donald Vizier and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously approved the Financial Statement for November 2000.

Chairman Donald Vizier presented for board approval a revised 2000 budget. Director Falgout reported that the revision is simply a removal of the contingency money the Port did not spend this year because there was no major disaster or hurricane. Upon motion by Donald Vizier and second by Harry Cheramie, the board unanimously approved the revised 2000 budget.

Chairman Donald Vizier presented for board approval the 2001 budget. Director Falgout gave a brief overview of the budget, explaining that the operating revenues would be approximately $6.5 million and operating expenditures would be approximately $6.2 million. He further reviewed that the non-operating revenue budget is $2,020,000, and the non-operating expenditures are $997,000. The net income is $1.3 million. The capital projects budget is $22,727,000. Of that capital budget, the Port has obtained over $12 million in outside revenues. Approximately $10.5 million of the capital budget will be funded solely by the Port. The Port's total budget for 2001 will be $29 million. Director Falgout further explained that included in the budget is a 4% pay raise for all 22 classified employees and two of the three unclassified employees, excluding himself only. He also explained that the proposed budget would include $25,000 to the LA 1 Coalition; $5,000 to the South Louisiana Economic Council; $10,000 to Restore or Retreat; and $20,000 to the Lafourche Parish Fire District.

Board member Harry Cheramie presented for board approval a motion removing the pay raises for the 2 unclassified employees from the 2001 budget. Board member Jimmy Lafont seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken in which the motion was defeated by a vote of five to two, with only Harry Cheramie and Jimmy Lafont voting for the amendment.

The board approved the 2001 budget as originally presented by a vote of five to two upon motion by Donald Vizier and second by Rodney Terrebonne, with Harry Cheramie and Jimmy Lafont opposing the budget.

Personnel Committee

Chairman Melancon commended the Port's employees for their efforts in obtaining $9.8 million from the Port Priority Program. He moved that a letter of commendation be sent to the employees thanking them for their hard work in the year 2000. Donald Vizier seconded that motion, and the board unanimously approved it.

Chairman Melancon moved that the Executive Director inquire with Civil Service as to whether the Commission can give all employees a $200.00 special recognition award for a job well done. Jimmy Lafont seconded that motion, and the board unanimously approved it.

Legal, Permits, and Waterways Committee

Chairman Larry Griffin presented for the board's approval requests for letters of no objection from Carrizo Oil & Gas, Inc. and Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc. Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Jimmy Lafont, the board unanimously approved issuing letters of no objection to Carrizo and to Pioneer.

Chairman Griffin presented for the board's discussion the use of the mitigation area that is among the land the Port purchased from LL&E. Director Falgout explained that the Northern Expansion lease with the Wisners has stipulations regarding the use of the site known as the "Plaisance site." The question has arisen regarding how the Port proposes to manage that site. The requirements in the lease say that there can be no commercial fishing in the waters and no hunting on the lands subjected to the Wisner lease. The question stands whether the Commission should allow the public to access these lands, and if so, under what conditions should they be allowed on the land so as to insure that the Port's agreement with the Wisner's is not violated. Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Rodney Terrebonne, the board unanimously agreed to table the issue until further information can be gathered by the Committee.

Any other business

Board member Donald Vizier reported that the first of several Senior citizens' tours will be held on Friday, December 15, 2000, with the Senior Citizens' group from Larose. In the months to come, the Senior Citizens' groups from Galliano, Cut Off, Golden Meadow, and Leeville will be invited as well. These Port tours are privately funded by local businesses.

Vice-President Melancon announced that the December 26, 2000 committee meeting is cancelled. The next committee meeting will be January 9, 2001, and the next board meeting will be January 10, 2001. The new commissioners will be sworn in at the next meeting.

Board member Donald Vizier told out-going board member P.T. Terrebonne that is has been a pleasure working with him for the last twelve years, and he wished him well for the future.

Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting.

ATTEST:

Donald Vizier, Secretary/Treasurer

Johnny Melancon, Vice-President