

AGENDA  
October 8, 2008 @ 10:30 AM

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Consider September 10, 2008 regular meeting minutes for approval
- V. Executive Director's Report
  - A. Northern Expansion Update:**
    - 1) Slip B, West Bulkhead, Project #3 – John Plaisance
    - 2) Slip B, East Bulkhead, Project #4, Phase I – 700 LF – Larry Picciola
    - 3) Slip B, East Bulkhead, Project #4, Phase II – 1,100 LF – Larry Picciola
  - B. Airport Update/Project Status**
  - C. FEMA Update**
  - D. Highway Improvements**
  - E. Hurricane Update**
- VI. Committee Reports
  - A. Executive Committee**
    - 1) Consider approving the DOTD IT agreement
    - 2) Consider approving the request from Bollinger-Fourchon, LLC for an Amended Landlord Agreement
    - 3) Consider approving the request from C-Port, LLC for a Landlord Disclaimer Agreement for sites 607 & 608
  - B. Permits & Waterways Committee**
    - 1) Permits:
      - a. Exxon Mobil Pipeline Company
      - b. Bollinger Fourchon, LLC
      - c. Superior Shipyard & Fabrication, Inc.
  - C. Construction & Development Committee**
    - 1) Consider approving Change Order No. 1 by Weeks Marine for Pass Fourchon Dredging
    - 2) Consider approving Change Order No. 1 by Ronald Adams for EDA Waterline and Roadway
    - 3) Consider adopting the DOTD Resolution Certifying Compliance with Public Bid Laws for Northern Expansion Slip B 700' Bulkhead
    - 4) Consider adopting the DOTD Resolution for the 2009-2010 Aviation Priority Program
    - 5) Consider approving the FAA Grant Agreement by resolution ratifying Director's signature
  - D. Finance Committee**
    - 1) Consider payment of September invoices and recognize expenditures over \$10,000
    - 2) Consider approving the September financial statement
    - 3) Consider approving out of state travel requests
- VII. Any other business
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Adjournment

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION  
October 8, 2008

The Board of Commissioners of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, October 8, 2008 at 10:30AM.

President Griffin called the meeting to order and Secretary Collins called roll.

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

ABSENT: John Melancon

Upon motion by Perry Gisclair and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the September 10, 2008 regular meeting minutes.

**Executive Director's Report**

Northern Expansion Update – Mr. Andre Uzee reported that the contractor is scheduled to begin testing the pile program tomorrow for Slip B, West Bulkhead, Project #3. The steel sheets should be delivered on site next week. Once the results are received from Eustis Engineering, we will begin driving piles. Director Falgout questioned the pile testing program, which Mr. Uzee stated that they drove six piles throughout the area and they chose 2 of the most inconsistent to test one in compression and one in tension. Commissioner Cheramie questioned the company doing the test piles, which Mr. Uzee stated that it is Eustis Engineering. Gore Engineers was used for the boring samples but they didn't have time to do the testing.

Engineer Larry Picciola reported that the notice of award and contracts have been sent to Low Land Construction Co. for signing for the Slip B, East Bulkhead, Project #4, Phase I – 700 LF. Once these are signed, we will schedule a preconstruction meeting to issue the notice to proceed. Engineer Picciola reported that the plans for Slip B, East Bulkhead, Phase II – 1,100 LF should be ready by the next committee meeting. Director Falgout questioned if a test pile program will be done on this site, which Mr. Picciola replied yes.

Airport Update/Project Status – Airport Manager, Jason Duet reported that the drainage clearing is completed on both sides of the levee. Mr. Breaux stated that the South Lafourche Levee District is planning on spraying on the opposite side of the canal to control weeds. We have contacted the Lafourche Parish Government to place the sweep dredging of the canal on their list to do this winter to help water flow in the area. Mr. Duet reported that the contractor should complete the paving portion of the Waterline and Roadway project by next week. There is a change order for additional 21 days due to the storms. The site prep portion of the Parallel Taxiway project is scheduled to be complete by November. The remaining portion of this project is the relocation of the ditch, spreading the top soil on the 500' section on north of the runway, and replacing the wind cone. The bid opening for the Paving North Taxiway is scheduled for tomorrow. The Port received a grant from FAA for \$4.6 million for this project. He stated that the Port competed nationally for these funds. Mr. Duet stated that the DOTD resolution on the agenda is done yearly which states that the sponsor will continue to develop the airport in accordance with the master plan. Director Falgout stated that we can't say enough about the help from the Congressional Delegation and the willingness of this Commission for putting up funds which resulted in the FAA Grant of \$4.6 million. This is not normal for our type of airport which usually receives under a million dollars of funds. This Commission is very proud of our efforts and our decisions in the past and the support from our delegation. Commissioner Collins exited the meeting.

FEMA Update – Mr. Chett Chiasson reported that the bucket dredging of Nerby Collins Marina is complete for the Pass Fourchon Dredging project. Picciola & Associates will survey the pass again to compare quantities of material since the storms. Mr. Chiasson reported that there is a change order on

the agenda for 21 days for this project. Weeks Marine has moved from our project and is currently dredging for the Corps in Belle Pass. This project is estimated to take 20 days to dredge to a -28 ft. depth. They are estimating 650,000 cubic yards of material. Director Falgout stated that he talked with the Corps to bring the pipe closer to the main jetty to fill the void. The Corps will meet with the contractor to relay the request to build sand from the jetties eastward. The Corps' authorized depth is -26 ft. plus 3 ft. advanced maintenance which we should have -29 ft. to -30 ft. dredging which means that at normal tide we should have -31 ft. in the channel. Commissioner Cheramie questioned if photos were sent to the Corps regarding the inadequate size of the rocks placed on the jetties, which Director Falgout stated that Colonel from New Orleans visited the Port three weeks before the storms, at which time, Director Falgout pointed out the size of the rocks and lodged his opinion that they were too small and won't work. The Colonel had the opportunity to fly over the coast the day after the storm to see that the rocks did not hold up. Director Falgout did send him all the photos that we had. The Corps understands what they have to do and have suggested to the Washington level that the cost to repair is approximately \$11 million. The supplemental bill of \$1.6 billion was passed by Congress and a portion of that went to the Corps but we are not sure if we have full allocation to fund this project. Hopefully, we will see an improved jetty project soon.

Mr. Chiasson reported that he is working on a debris contract with FEMA to remove the debris in the Port. He stated that in the past years the Parish picked up the debris, but now as an applicant we are responsible for our own debris contract. Commissioner Gisclair questioned if the debris from Katrina was ever buried on the beach, which Mr. Chiasson reported that the remaining 10,000 cubic yards of vegetative debris was never buried on the beach to create dunes. He stated that DNR took over that project but it was never done. He stated that we may still use this vegetative matter for dunes and if not it will be hauled off with the new debris from the recent storms. Commissioner Lafont questioned if the designated site on Flotation Canal Road for debris was conveyed to the tenants, which Director Falgout stated that this is a staging site for debris for the Port and tenants.

Mr. Chiasson reported that there are repairs needed to the Pavilion at the Public Boat Launch. He questioned the board if they support doing the repairs from the hurricane damage and other maintenance repairs at the same time. The cost is \$28,920 out of pocket for maintenance and FEMA repairs are \$11,407. The maintenance repairs consist of replacing the beams, trim, and a portion of the roof. The FEMA damage repairs consist of missing panels, lights, and electrical. Commissioner Gisclair questioned if the bathhouse is a separate issue, which Mr. Chiasson replied yes this will be addressed later. Director Falgout stated that we will ask FEMA to replace the bathhouse at a different location. The plan is to relocate and elevate it closer to LA 3090 at the boat launch.

Mr. Chiasson reported that the cost to repair the warehouse at Operations is \$19,473. Director Falgout stated that the top half of the sheets will remain and we will replace the bottom half with break-away walls. Mr. Chiasson reported that these are quotes from Gilliam Construction which all quotes are being recorded as required by FEMA. Commissioner Cheramie questioned if the board is still approving projects over \$50,000, which Director Falgout replied yes. These quotes are under \$50,000 and within budget and we are just informing the board and if anyone has objections in proceeding with the repairs just let us know.

Highway Improvements – LA 1 Coalition Executive Director Henri Boulet reported that there was shoulder destruction on LA 1 from the hurricanes. He asked DOTD to classify this as an emergency repair to begin work within 30 days rather than 90 days but he is waiting on their reply.

Phase 1A of the LA 1 Project (between Port Fourchon and Leeville) is now 15% complete as of September 30<sup>th</sup>. Phase 1D work (Tolling Equipment) is progressing. You may have noticed construction activity commencing on the Customer Service Center on Highway 3235 in Golden Meadow.

Phase 2 of the LA 1 Project (between Leeville and Golden Meadow) DOTD had an Interagency Meeting yesterday which presented to federal and state agencies the revised alignment within the original EIS study area. No agencies in attendance appeared to have objections, so the DOTD LA 1 Project Team will now move ahead with ordering R/O/W maps. Those maps should be in hand in January, and DOTD would then start a six to nine month R/O/W acquisition process, likely to be

completed by the fall of next year. The recent hurricanes have slowed down FEMA feedback on our preliminary Hazard Mitigation Grant Application for \$3.5 million of design monies for Phase 2. We are still hoping the project may be moved to DOTD's "A" list, which has been guaranteed \$33 million of Hazard Mitigation Project funds for qualified projects. Should we not get on this list, the application would go into the state's very competitive general pool, where statewide only \$73 million is available for multiple agencies. Concerning the LA 1 Project's Phase 2 receiving construction funds from any federal energy bill, the Coalition's representatives in Washington do not feel that energy legislation will be addressed this year. We continue to tell our congressional delegation that the project needs "outright funding", and no more investigating. As well, I am seeing some movement in assistance from both US Homeland Security and the US Department of Energy. The Department of Energy should be providing a draft of the Economic Assessment of LA1 to me within the month. The Coalition did recently submit formal comments to the United States Minerals Management Service on a new 5-year Offshore Drilling Plan. While the comments supported the opening of new areas in the Outer Continental Shelf, it also was an opportunity to tell MMS that mitigating the impacts of MMS traffic to our road needs to happen before additional impacts are brought upon us.

The state took new bids on the Larose Bayou Lafourche Bridge September 24<sup>th</sup>. This time the low bid came in at \$33.6 million, rather than \$30 million, which was June's low bid. Again, the state has several million dollars of funds available from the federal bridge replacement program, but their challenge is in funding the remaining. State surplus funds could be critical to this project, and several local public officials have weighed-in with the Governor and the DOTD Secretary on this long delayed project.

Commissioner Vizier questioned the increased cost of the Larose Bridge, which Mr. Boulet replied that we are still pushing for this bridge to be replaced because of the evacuation routes and the existing pontoon bridge is not dependable. Commissioner Vizier questioned the date of completion for Phase 1A, which Mr. Boulet replied that completion date is summer of 2011. Director Falgout questioned when DOTD is expected to repair the damages on LA 3090, which Mr. Boulet replied that LA 3090 is scheduled for an overlay in their next fiscal year but he will send them photos and try to push this to be repaired sooner due to the further damage done by the storms.

Hurricane Update – Director Falgout presented to the board a slide presentation of photos from Hurricane Ike of Belle Pass, Port Fourchon, Fourchon Beach, Golden Meadow Floodgates, and the Leeville area. There was a considerable amount of water in Port for Ike with up to 60 mph sustained winds for 18 hours. The jetty system in Belle Pass, Fourchon Beach, and the Beach Access Road all experienced additional damages from Ike. There is no more sand on the beach only clay material. The Maritime Forest Ridge held up well and protected the north side of the Port. The Entergy crew of 300 trucks that located at the Public Boat Launch after Gustav evacuated once the water started coming up. Harbor Police played a big role in escorting people out of the Port which resulted in a few officers remaining in the Port during the storm. The vehicles were elevated on blocks and the crew weathered the storm in the Operations Center. The Port is working to remove the debris in the Port as soon as possible. Director Falgout stated that different places had different amounts of water for example ERA in Fourchon reported higher water for Katrina & Rita than for Ike, however, in the Larose area there was some of the highest water levels. The storm had unprecedented amounts of water through Bayou Lafourche all the way to Thibodaux. Restore or Retreat is working with the Bayou Freshwater District to clear the trees in the Thibodaux area and further specify the need to dredge the northern part of the bayou to allow greater water flow.

## **Committee Reports**

Executive Committee - Chairman Griffin reported that the committee met on October 6, 2008 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were Larry Griffin, John Melancon, Jimmy Lafont and Wilbert Collins. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.

Upon motion by Perry Gisclair and second by Chuckie Cheramie, the board unanimously approved the DOTD IT Agreement which involves the electronic signs for the new elevated highway system to be connected to our computer backbone system to assist in relaying messages to motorists.

Upon motion by Jimmy Lafont and second by Jimmy Guidry, the board unanimously approved the Bollinger-Fourchon, LLC Amended Landlord Agreement which involves all three sites in Port.

Upon motion by Ervin Bruce and second by Jimmy Guidry, the board unanimously approved the request from C-Port, LLC for a Landlord Disclaimer Agreement for sites 607 & 608.

Permits & Waterways Committee - Chairman Cheramie reported that the committee met on October 6, 2008 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were Chuckie Cheramie, Larry Griffin, Perry Gisclair and Jimmy Lafont. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.

Chairman Cheramie presented to the board the permits by Exxon Mobil Pipeline Company; Bollinger Fourchon, LLC; and Superior Shipyard & Fabrication, Inc.

Commissioner Cheramie questioned the dredging of Bollinger's site and the placement of heavy equipment and cranes along the bulkheads in Port, which Director Falgout replied that there were some concerns of a -30 ft. draft because the bulkhead is not designed for that. Bollinger will begin dredging away from the bulkhead which will mostly be in the center of the slip to place the dry dock. They do have crane pads around the slip to operate their cranes on. The dry dock will be situated in the middle of the slip and will not allow cranes to work on and off of it. Bollinger will place the spoil in the pipeline canal and return it to marsh which will help protect the area.

Construction & Development Committee - Chairman Bruce reported that the committee met on October 6, 2008 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were Ervin Bruce, Larry Griffin, and John Melancon. Donald Vizier was absent. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.

Upon motion by Perry Gisclair and second by Chuckie Cheramie, the board unanimously approved Change Order No. 1 for 21 additional days by Weeks Marine for the Pass Fourchon Dredging project.

Upon motion by Ervin Bruce and second by Jimmy Guidry, the board unanimously approved Change Order No. 1 for 21 additional days by Ronald Adams Contractors for the Waterline and Roadway Project at the airport.

Upon motion by Ervin Bruce and second by Perry Gisclair, the board unanimously adopted the DOTD Resolution Certifying Compliance with Public Bid Laws for the Northern Expansion Slip B 700' Bulkhead project.

Upon motion by Ervin Bruce and second by Donald Vizier, the board unanimously adopted the DOTD Resolution for the 2009-2010 Aviation Priority Program.

Chairman Bruce presented for the board's consideration approving the FAA Grant Agreement by resolution ratifying the Director's signature. Director Falgout stated that the grant in the amount of \$4,611,240.00 for construction of the Taxiway came out of a general fund for airports and was sent with a deadline to return. This resolution will approve the grant and ratify Director Falgout's signature on the agreement. Upon motion by Donald Vizier and second by Jimmy Guidry, the board unanimously approved the resolution.

Finance Committee - Commissioner Guidry reported that the committee met on October 6, 2008 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were John Melancon, Jimmy Guidry, Wilbert Collins, and Larry Griffin. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.


Upon motion by Jimmy Guidry and second by Chuckie Cheramie, the board unanimously approved payment of September invoices and recognized expenditures over \$10,000.

Upon motion by Donald Vizier and second by Jimmy Guidry, the board unanimously approved the September financial statement.

Upon motion by Jimmy Guidry and second by Jimmy Lafont, the board unanimously approved the out of state travel requests by Jason Duet to attend the FAA Conference on October 21<sup>st</sup> in Houston, and April Danos to attend the AAPA IT Committee Meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup> in New Jersey.

Upon motion by Jimmy Lafont and second by Chuckie Cheramie, the board adjourned the regular meeting.

ATTEST:

  
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Larry Griffin, President

  
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Donald Vizier, Vice President