

AGENDA
November 12, 2009 at 10:30 AM
(Revised 11/10/09 at 1:50 PM)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Consider approval of minutes for October 14, 2009 regular meeting
- V. Executive Director's Report
 - A. Northern Expansion**
 - 1) Slip B Dredging, Phases 3 & 4 (J. Wayne Plaisance)
 - 2) Slip B East Bulkhead, Phase #4, Part II (Angelette-Picciola)
 - 3) Slip B Asphalt Dudley Bernard Road, Phase 2 (Angelette-Picciola)
 - B. Airport Projects**
 - 1) Localizer/DME (LPA Group)
 - 2) Approach Lighting
 - 3) Airport Drainage Canal
 - 4) Pump Station Upgrade
 - 5) Airport Road Asphalt Repair
 - C. FEMA Projects**
 - 1) Bathhouse
 - 2) Breakwater Repairs
 - 3) Beach Stabilization
 - D. Port Projects**
 - 1) Martin Terminal Slip #1 Repairs (EDA Grant)
 - 2) LA 3090
 - 3) Highway Embankment Stabilization
 - 4) Communications Tower
 - 5) LA 1 Project - Command and Control with AVMS
 - E. LA 1 Highway Improvements**
 - F. Coastal Issues**
- VI. Committee Reports
 - A. Executive Committee**
 - 1) Consider Landlord Agreement with Gulf Fleet Management
 - 2) Consider request from American Air Services to expand Lease Premises at Airport
 - 3) Consider request from Port Fourchon Marina regarding rental credit and sign usage
 - 4) Consider request from Byron Cheramie to lease property at the S.L. Industrial Park
 - 5) Consider Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Newell Normand, Sheriff of the Parish of Jefferson
 - 6) Consider Mitigation Servitude Amendment
 - 7) Consider request from the Beachfront Development District
 - 8) Consider the request by ERA for additional trailers and R/V Site
 - 9) Consider the Incoming Executive Director's Contract
 - 10) Consider the Documenting Formal Employment/Termination Policy
 - B. Permits & Waterways Committee**
 - 1) Review permit applications from Chevron Pipeline Company, Diasu Oil & Gas Co., Inc., and Nicholls State University
 - C. Construction & Development Committee**
 - 1) Consider DOTD resolution for 2010-2011 Aviation Priority Program projects
 - 2) Consider Change Order No. 1 from Phylway for the Paving A North Taxiway Project
 - 3) Consider Clear Lien Certificate from Chamico for the Debris Monitoring project
 - 4) Consider Clear Lien Certificate from Low Land Construction Co. for the Slip B Phase 4 - 700' Bulkhead
 - D. Finance Committee**
 - 1) Consider payment of October invoices and recognize expenditures over \$10,000
 - 2) Consider approving October Financial Statements
 - 3) Consider out of state travel request
- VII. Any other business
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Adjournment

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION
November 12, 2009

The Board of Commissioners of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission met in regular session on Thursday, November 12, 2009 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, John Melancon, and Ervin Bruce

ABSENT: Jimmy Guidry

Upon motion by Donald Vizier and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the minutes for October 14, 2009 regular meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Northern Expansion – Engineer John Plaisance reported that Coastal Dredging is on site for the Slip B Dredging project. He stated that the contractor is progressing well and should be complete in January. Director Falgout stated that once this project is complete 3 leases will be ready to commence and begin paying rental. Larry Picciola reported that Low Land is on site for the Slip B East 1100' Bulkhead, Phase #4. The whaler beams are installed and they will begin this week driving steel sheets. Mr. Picciola stated that the bid opening for Slip B Asphalt Dudley Bernard Road is on November 23rd at 2:00 pm. He stated that the base bid is to asphalt Dudley Bernard Road with Alternate 1 to do patching of roads in the Port and Alternate 2 to asphalt the Access Road from Dudley Bernard Road to N. Doucet Road.

Airport Projects – Airport Manager, Jason Duet reported that the Localizer/DME project Phase I of the instrument landing system is complete and we are waiting on the FCC license for the antenna which will take a few months for us to move forward. He reported that the bid opening for the Approach Lighting is scheduled for November 20th. This is Phase II of the instrument landing system to provide better visibility for aircrafts coming in the airport. Mr. Duet stated that the Airport Drainage Canal sweeping project is continuing and they are nearing the bridge. They should be complete in a few more months.

Mr. Breaux reported that the estimates for steel sheet pile for the Pump Station Upgrade came in higher than expected and we are working on lowering the cost for the new 36" pump. We will begin advertising as soon as the re-design is complete. He stated that the 2 pumps that went out at the beginning of October are back on line and operating. Mr. Breaux reported that Huey Stockstill had the low quote to repair the Airport Road south of the bridge. They should be on site within the next 2 weeks. Commissioner Vizier questioned if the approaching lighting will automatically come on at night, which Mr. Duet replied yes and they come on as pilots need them.

FEMA Projects – Mr. Chiasson reported that the plans for the Bathhouse are complete and have been sent to the fire marshal for approval. Once approval is received, we will begin advertising. He reported that the preconstruction meeting for the Breakwater Repairs project was held today. The notice to proceed will be issued for November 30th and the contractor should be complete by the end of the year.

Mr. Chiasson stated that Picciola & Associates is finalizing the scope of work with a mitigation plan for the Beach Stabilization to submit to FEMA to complete the project worksheet. The total project will be \$10 million which is \$5 million for 5,000' of geo tubes and \$5 million for the mitigation work extending the geo tubes across Bay Champagne. Commissioner Vizier questioned if the Bathhouse will be built flat on the ground, which Mr. Chiasson replied yes since FEMA designated it as a repair of the structure we can build it on the ground. Commissioner Vizier questioned if it would benefit us to elevate it, which Director Falgout replied that water is not a real issue for this structure since it is not in use during storms.

We will lay a slab on top of the existing slab to have some elevation but it will be built in the same location as before.

Port Projects – Mr. Chiasson stated that Angelette-Picciola is working on the plans for the Martin Terminal Slip #1 Repairs. He stated that Ardaman & Associates began soil borings on Tuesday. He stated that the Federal Highway Administration approved the DOTD contracts for the overlay of LA 3090. They plan to begin in December. Mr. Breaux reported that 800' of rip rap was installed in Golden Meadow using DOTD equipment for the Highway Embankment Stabilization. We do plan to install an addition 300' in the Golden Meadow area. We will then do some work in the Cut Off area.

Mrs. Danos reported that we will begin advertising for the Communications Tower on November 20th. She stated that the bids may come in over budget but we are seeking other funding sources along with possible profit sharing options. Mrs. Danos stated that the request for proposals for the LA 1 Project - Command and Control with AVMS will be received on December 16th.

Commissioner Lafont questioned if the Port's excavator will be working in the bayou in the future, which Mr. Breaux stated that it will be needed in the Port to construct retainer levees with the new Slip C project.

LA 1 Highway Improvements – Mr. Henri Boulet reported on the percentage of completion of Phase 1A (Fourchon to Leeville) of the LA 1 Project as of October 31st was 36.0%, and the percentage of time elapsed was 52%. 24 hour operations at the LA 1 Customer Service Center in Golden Meadow will continue until area kiosks are in place. The kiosks are very close to having their operating programs finalized. Again, the DOTD is aware that they are late in getting them out, but they want to make sure they operate problem free so customers and the merchant sites will not have problems with them. Press releases will be sent out immediately following the installation of the kiosk.

Starting Monday, November 16th toll violators who do not post-pay within 96 hours will receive a violation notice inclusive of a \$25 fine, in addition to the toll they owe. In good faith, the state provided a three month grace period of not charging the \$25 fine to provide ample time for honest mistakes made by drivers during this three month opening period. Violation notices for any toll violation prior to November 16th will just include the toll owed to the state, and those notices are just beginning to be mailed out.

Concerning the camera ordered by DOTD to catch any violators who attempt to bypass the toll by traveling in the lane of oncoming traffic next to the toll gantry, the camera has not yet been received, but I have conveyed to DOTD that the toll runners are causing a very dangerous situation to area drivers, and that this camera needs to be installed immediately upon receipt, and violators need to be issued appropriate significant fines.

Concerning job openings at the Customer Service Center, there still is one position as Accounting Specialist II open. You don't have to have a college degree to apply for this job. And, a special entrance wage rate has been approved by the civil service board, which should make the job more attractive.

Moving on to Phase 2 work, DOTD is currently meeting with land owners. They anticipate to begin making offers in about two weeks. The Real Estate Section estimates the Right of Way to be completed sometime in the middle of next year. By law they are required to give 90 days for the offers and then 90 days for them to move, minimal.

Concerning the Geotechnical work, the contract with Ardaman & Associates, Inc. will have Ardaman & Associates run through the alignment to provide Design Build Proposers adequate information for their Proposals. After this first round is complete, the Consultant will run back through the alignment for additional detailed information to be used.

Concerning Phase II construction funding, the LA 1 Coalition had what we felt was a very productive meeting with the USDHS Chief of Staff earlier this month, asking that they weigh in with Cabinet Level members of the administration concerning the need to fund Phase II, and address a well documented vulnerability to this nation's energy security. The Coalition as well met with our congressional delegation in Washington to have them press the USDOE for the promised DOE Economic Analysis on LA 1.

Finally, a delegation letter earlier this month was sent to USDOT Secretary Ray LaHood supporting our September 15th TIGER Grant submittal for \$300 million.

This month the LA 1 Coalition submitted a funding request to the DOTD's Infrastructure Priority Program, which can potentially receive funding of up to 10% of the state's federal revenue sharing proceeds. This year's 10% equaled \$630,000, of which the LA 1 Project received \$500,000 of those funds. DOTD can only utilize these funds on infrastructure directly affected by coastal land loss.

As well, this month the Coalition worked with the DOTD in a DOTD submitted Capital Outlay Application for Phase 2 pre-construction tasks, which would be utilized for related dredge work and/or design work.

Finally, this afternoon the DOTD will hear comments on their proposed Highway Work Plan for FY 2010-2011 at the Yenni Bldg. in Jefferson Parish. Some projects included in the plan are: Additional work on Hwy. 3090, electrical work on the G.M. Bridge, some concrete replacement and shoulder overlay on LA 3235 within Golden Meadow Corp limits, and Lockport Bridge Repairs to switches, the span lock, and the gate.

Commissioner Collins questioned if Mr. Boulet heard anything regarding the kiosk machine at Griffin's Marina in Leeville, which Mr. Boulet replied that he encouraged Mr. Don to send a letter to DOTD Secretary Ankner. I have a copy of the response letter. In February, DOTD looked at how to handle other request for kiosk machines so the state passed a policy to put them only in the areas the consultant recommended. Mr. Boulet stated that once the kiosk machines are operating the reports will show if one is under utilized then we can ask for it to be relocated to his place. He stated that basically it was a parking issue that the other place in Leeville got one. Commissioner Gisclair stated that Mr. Don is also documenting everyone that comes in and asks about the tolls for his own records.

Commissioner Gisclair stated that the land acquisition for Phase 2 is mostly large landowners with wells in the area. He questioned if the landowners are willing to cut a deal and possibly donate the land or are they asking for full value, Mr. Boulet replied that he knows that DOTD will ask for them to donate the land for it to be sold for \$1. Commissioner Vizier stated that with the storm over the weekend there was water on road going to Grand Isle. He questioned if there are any plans in the future to elevate that roadway, which Mr. Boulet replied yes the road between Fourchon and Grand Isle has always been a part of the Coalition's improvement plan. He stated that it is estimated at \$31 million to elevate up to 4.5 feet elevation. He stated that the best place to get these funds is through the CPRA. This program allows for the state to move forward with elevating highways that can also act as a first line of defense from storms. Director Falgout stated that there is a plan to elevate that roadway but there is not an identified funding source so we are not sure when it will be funded with all the upcoming infrastructure projects. Commissioner Vizier stated that with a new bridge being built in Grand Isle will they tear down the old bridge, which Mr. Boulet replied yes Federal law requires old bridges be removed.

Coastal Issues – Director Falgout stated that the storm this weekend caused coastal erosion however we only had minor changes in depth readings of our channel. The impacts along the shoreline were severe especially in the Bay Champagne and Elmer's Island area. He stated that hopefully we can get moving with our geo tube project before the next hurricane season. Commissioner Melancon questioned if this geo tube project is the same as used on Grand Isle, which Director Falgout replied yes. He stated that it appears the geo tubes were successful during the storm however we will study their impacts as well.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee - Chairman Griffin reported that the committee met on November 9, 2009 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were Wilbert Collins and Jimmy Lafont. John Melancon and Larry Griffin were absent. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.

Upon motion by Perry Gisclair and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the Landlord Agreement with Gulf Fleet Management subject to provisions by Port Attorney.

Upon motion by Ervin Bruce and second by John Melancon, the board unanimously approved the amendment request from American Air Services to expand Lease Premises (28' x 475') at the Airport.

Upon motion by Chuckie Cheramie and second by Perry Gisclair, the board unanimously pulled from the agenda the request from Port Fourchon Marina regarding rental credit and sign usage.

President Griffin presented for the board's consideration the request from Byron Cheramie to lease property at the S.L. Industrial Park. Director Falgout stated the Mr. Cheramie is interested in raising cattle and working hay on the site. He stated that the committee did not have interest in putting cattle on the site but were receptive to working hay. Discussions are continuing with Mr. Cheramie therefore no action needs to be taken.

Upon motion by Perry Gisclair and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Newell Normand, Sheriff of the Parish of Jefferson to be the contact person for the re-banding of radio frequencies in the regional area.

Upon motion by Chuckie Cheramie and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the Mitigation Servitude Amendment with Edward Wisner Donation Committee. Director Falgout stated that while preparing the Slip C project we want to mitigate the marsh area across from Pointe Fourchon which was not in the original servitude and this amendment will add that area to the servitude.

President Griffin presented to the board the request from the S.L. Beachfront Development District ("SLBDD"). Mr. Al Danos addressed the board and stated that Ms. Norman with Wisner is receptive to opening the beach every weekend next summer; therefore, since it is budget time he is requesting that the Port include in the budget to provide Harbor Police patrols for 18 weekends and the indemnity to Wisner and Chevron that was done last year. Director Falgout stated that the board questioned how much this will cost which we estimated for the full summer 18 weekends for Saturday and Sunday it would be \$28,354.94 however with the possible construction of our beach project it may end up being less. Mr. Danos stated that this would possibly begin April 15th and end September 15th. Commissioner Collins questioned if there is an additional cost for the insurance, which Director Falgout stated that it did not cost additional money for insurance. Upon motion by Perry Gisclair and second by Jimmy Lafont, the board unanimously approved the request by the SLBDD to provide Harbor Police patrols and indemnity to Chevron and Wisner for next summer.

Mr. Al Danos stated that the pilings on the former bed of Pass Fourchon were installed a number of years ago and additional pilings were installed in the spring of this year. We have had meetings with the Attorney General's office and the State Land's office to explain the situation of the pilings and the possibility of the SLBDD using this area. We have received a letter from State Land's office giving us permission to pull the pilings in the former bed of Pass Fourchon. He stated that since then he had discussions with Mr. Jim Caillouet and he stated that they would remove the pilings up to a +2 which is around the cement bags; however, they have not done so yet. He stated that at last night's meeting the SLBDD decided to move forward with their plans and passed a resolution requesting the Port Commission pull all the pilings in the former bed of Pass Fourchon and that is what he is requesting of the Port today. Director Falgout stated that this is dealing with only the pilings in the former bed of Pass Fourchon. This is not the pilings on each side of the roadway to the Gulf which will be clarified at a later time. Upon motion by Perry Gisclair and second by Chuckie Cheramie, the board unanimously approved the request by the SLBDD to pull the pilings in the former bed of Pass Fourchon.

Upon motion by Chuckie Cheramie and second by Ervin Bruce, the board granted the request from ERA Helicopters to place additional trailers on their site in Port. Director Falgout stated that the request for an R/V site will be held until further information is obtained.

Upon motion by Perry Gisclair and second by Chuckie Cheramie, the board unanimously approved the Incoming Executive Director's Contract with Mr. Chett Chiasson. Commissioner Lafont questioned if the contract is for 3 years, which Mr. Chiasson replied yes from January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2012.

Upon motion by John Melancon and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously approved documenting a Formal Employment/Termination Policy. Director Falgout stated that this would further define the Director's responsibilities as well as his interaction with the board.

Permits & Waterways Committee - Chairman Cheramie reported that the committee met on November 9, 2009 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were Chuckie Cheramie, Perry Gisclair, and Jimmy Lafont. Larry Griffin was absent. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.

Chairman Cheramie presented for the board's review the permit applications from Chevron Pipeline Company; Diasu Oil & Gas Co., Inc.; and Nicholls State University.

Construction & Development Committee - Chairman Bruce reported that the committee met on November 9, 2009 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were Ervin Bruce and Donald Vizier. John Melancon and Larry Griffin were absent. Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.

Upon motion by John Melancon and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously adopted the DOTD resolution for 2010-2011 Aviation Priority Program projects.

Upon motion by Ervin Bruce and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved Change Order No. 1 from Phylway for the Paving 'A' North Taxiway Project a deduction of \$158,734.13.

Upon motion by John Melancon and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously accepted the Clear Lien Certificate from Chamico for the Debris Monitoring project.

Upon motion by Wilbert Collins and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously accepted the Clear Lien Certificate from Low Land Construction Co. for the Slip B 700' Bulkhead.

Finance Committee - Chairman Melancon reported that the committee met on November 9, 2009 at the Administration Building in Galliano. Present were Wilbert Collins and Jimmy Guidry. John Melancon and Larry Griffin were absent. The Commission then discussed items that were discussed at the committee meeting.

Upon motion by Larry Griffin and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the payment of October invoices and recognized expenditures over \$10,000.

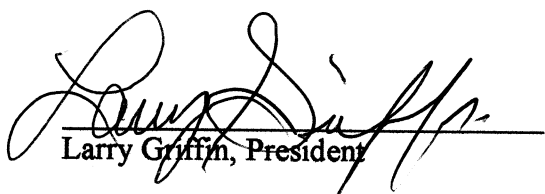
Upon motion by Jimmy Lafont and second by Wilbert Collins, the board unanimously approved the October Financial Statements.

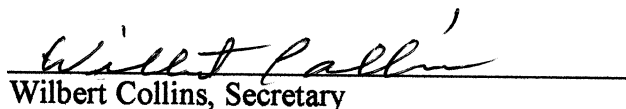
Upon motion by John Melancon and second by Ervin Bruce, the board unanimously approved the out of state travel request by April Danos to attend the AAPA IT Committee Meeting in South Carolina on December 1st.

President Griffin opened the floor for public comment. Mr. Farrell Charpentier addressed the board with his concerns of the Belle Pass lighting system. He stated that it is a substandard jetty and lighting system for the entrance of the Port and it is in terrible shape and needs immediate attention. He urged the Port to take a proactive approach and contact the USCG and the Corps with a request for review and recommendations on what is needed for an adequate lighting system. Mr. Charpentier recommended a possible VRB light (Variable Rotating Beacon) which puts out a distinctive light. He stated that one of the main problems is the background lights in the Port. He also recommended that the light should be installed on the jetties. He thanked the board for the opportunity to speak and also understands that the Port is working hard for Port Fourchon to be the best Port. He hopes the Port will put this project on the top of the list to get a lighting system that the mariners and the Port deserve. President Griffin thanked Mr. Charpentier for presenting his concerns and agreed that it needs to be addressed.

Upon motion by Jimmy Lafont and second by Perry Gisclair, the board adjourned the regular meeting.

ATTEST:


Larry Griffin, President


Wilbert Collins, Secretary