**PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF**

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF**

**THE MORGAN CITY HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT**

**December 12, 2016**

The Board of Commissioners (“Board”) of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (“District”) met in regular session at the District’s office at 7327 Highway 182, Morgan City, Louisiana on December 12, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. Duane Lodrigue, President convened the meeting with Commissioners Gary Duhon, Deborah Garber, Thomas Ackel, R. Scott Melancon, Tim Matthews, Sr., Joseph Cain and Ben Adams in attendance. Also present at the meeting were Raymond Wade, Executive Director; Tori Henry, Office Manager; Cindy Cutrera, Manager of Economic Development; Gerard Bourgeois, Board Attorney; Michael Knobloch, Knobloch Professional Services; Tim Connell, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Captain Blake Welborn, United States Coast Guard (“USCG”); Clayton Breaud, GSE/Providence Engineering; Mike Lowe, GHD Services; Councilman Elect, Mark Stephens; along with members of the media and general public.

The meeting was called to order and the presence of a quorum was noted. Mr. Wade led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

It was moved by Mr. Duhon and seconded by Mr. Ackel that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 14, 2016 be approved and adopted, with said motion carrying unanimously.

It was moved by Mrs. Garber that the report of receipts and disbursements for the month of November, 2016 be received and accepted and that all invoices presented to the Board for the month of November, 2016 be paid. Mr. Ackel seconded that motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Lodrigue welcomed newly elected councilman Mark Stephens and thanked him for attending the meeting.

Captain Welborn reported that: (i) the vessel passages from November are down about 600 for the year, averaging 15 per day; (ii) a four-day safety zone has been set for Wax Lake Outlet due to pipeline repairs. He also thanked the Port for use of their security vessel during a junior members’ promotion ceremony.

Tim Connell reported that: (i) ERDC should have the demonstration report by Christmas, outlining some success but not achieving the full 20’ over the length of the Channel. They do intend to make the next dredging event in the Bar Channel using a hopper dredge, employing the observed way to move forward and trying to optimize the results using this method. (ii) We have $5.5 million to spend on the Atchafalaya River and need to get the sandier material, which they are looking to award a Cutterhead contract in February for the Bay and Upper Bar Channel, with a goal of dredging down to minus 24’ by 250’. (iii) They received the MOA, which would allow the Port to contribute funds for dredging, which is currently being reviewed by Office of Counsel. Mr. Wade noted that WRDA has passed both House and Senate and is awaiting the President’s signature. (iv) Channel surveys will be completed by Christmas.

Mike Knobloch reported that: (i) USDOT FASTLANE grant application is due this week for $15 million to enhance and extend the dock with a 40% match or $6 million. It was moved by Mrs. Garber and seconded by Mr. Melancon that the Fast Lane Grant application be submitted in the amount of $15 million with a match of 40% and that the following resolution be adopted, which was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of the above, does hereby authorize the submission of a FY 2017 *Fostering Advancement in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (*FASTLANE) Grant application to the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) for its proposed “Wharf Extension and Enhancement Project,” which is estimated to total $15,000,000; and, it, also, agrees to provide a forty percent (40%) local match (estimated at $6,000,000) for the submitted FY 2017 FASTLANE Grant project.

(ii) FY15 Port Security Grant projects will be completed by March of 2017; (iii) FY16 Port Security Grant EHP #1 has been approved, but we are still awaiting #2; (iv) FY17 Port Security Grant will most likely not be announced until after the Continuing Resolution has expired and the new budget is passed.

Mike Lowe reported that GHD will attempt to relate the water quality surveys to the demo project once the Corps’ agitation dredge report is released.

Cindy Cutrera reported that: (i) Mr. Wade attended the WEDA Conference in Galveston, along with Corps of Engineers and numerous dredging contractors; (ii) CWPPRA has received funding from Congress for another twenty years, which was set to expire in 2018; (iii) she attended the CPRA board meeting, which several public comment deadlines were mentioned, including Coastal Master Plan, Navigation Focus Group, Deepwater Horizon Group, State Restore Plan; (iv) today we hosted the Atchafalaya Diversion stakeholder meeting where 52 people were in attendance, many of whom were not in agreement with the engineering and design of the diversion project. Mr. Cain urged all commissioners to attend the Master Plan public meeting on January 24th in Houma.

Mr. Bourgeois reported that: (i) the Corps of Engineers disposal easements along with the State land easements are up for renewal and we expect to hear from them this month; (ii) he received some comments from Danos on the short form lease; (iii) he received an email this morning that Baker Hughes Point’s 20 year lease is up for renewal; (iv) he had reviewed Mr. Knobloch’s Implementation and Procedures Manual for the port security grants and emphasized to the Board the numerous rules and regulations that have to be followed when grant money is accepted from FEMA.

Mr. Melancon nominated the current officers of the Board of Commissioners, namely, Duane Lodrigue, President; Gary Duhon, Vice-President; Deborah Garber, Treasurer; and Thomas Ackel, Secretary, for re-election to their posts for an additional year term. With no further nominations being offered, it was seconded by Mr. Cain that the nominations for the election of the current officers to the Board of Commissioners be accepted and said motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

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Thomas Ackel, Secretary