

**PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE MORGAN CITY HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT**
January 13, 2025

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 January 13, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Ben Adams, President, convened the meeting with Commissioners, Deborah Garber, Joseph Cain, Adam Mayon, Steven Cornes, Matthew Glover, Matthew Tycer and Troy Lombardo in attendance. Also present in the meeting were Raymond Wade, Executive Director; Cindy Cuttrera, Economic Development Manager; Tori Henry, Office Manager; Michael Knobloch, Special Projects Manager; Gerard Bourgeois, Board Attorney; Lt. Jenelle Piche, United States Coast Guard ("USCG"); Robert Karam, T. Baker Smith; Bill Blanchard, GIS Engineering; Councilman Les Rulf, St. Mary Parish Council; Jeremy Meaux, Darnall, Sikes, Gardes & Frederick; and members of the general public.

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

It was moved by Mr. Mayon and seconded by Mr. Lombardo that the minutes of the regular meeting of December 13, 2024 be approved and adopted, with said motion carrying unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. Mayon that the report of receipts and disbursements for the month of December, 2024 be received and accepted and that all invoices presented to the Board for the month of December, 2024 be paid. Mr. Glover seconded that motion, which carried unanimously.

Jeremy Meaux presented Darnall, Sikes, Gardes & Fredericks' Audit Report to the Board for the year ending June 30, 2024 with an unmodified opinion on the District's financial statements, the highest audit opinion. Also, since no exceptions were found during the Statewide Agreed-Upon procedures audit, no testing will be required next year. Mr. Cornes moved to accept said report, which was seconded by Mr. Glover and carried unanimously.

Tim Connell reported that: (i) *Captain Frank* worked the Berwick Harbor and is finishing up Wax Lake Outlet, which will complete its dredging operations; (ii) *Mike Hooks* dredging in Bayou Chene is under way and expected to be completed in November; (iii) an IDIQ solicitation is available and will be opened when needed; and (iv) we currently have \$34 million of older funding and \$15 million in FY25 funding to work with. Lt. Piche inquired about funding for Stouts Pass, but Mr. Connell noted there was none and surveys show no issues.

Lt. Piche reported that: (i) 2,243 total transits in December through the VTS zone; (ii) there broadcasted two (2) MSIB's, including removing channel restrictions from Hurricane Francine and current dredging in Bayou Chene; (iii) the railroad bridge is currently stuck in the down position and being worked on; (iv) we may move into "high water" restrictions within the next few week due to snow melt; and (v) they will be conducting a Ports and Waterways Assessment (PAWSA) in March since the last one was conducted in 2000. She noted she is working with Cindy and Mac on stakeholders to invite.

Charles Brittingham reported that: (i) we are currently operating on a continuing resolution that expires on March 14th, so no budget will be passed until after that; and (ii) he is focusing on the FY26 president's budget and Mac encouraged him to stay after it.

Michael Knobloch reported that: (i) AIC is currently installing all security cameras around the facility; (ii) we will be adding TITLE VI documents on our website soon; and (iii) we will be requesting funding from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program, with the application due January 30th. It was moved by Mr. Mayon and seconded by Mr. Lombardo that the following resolution be submitted for \$8,000,000 but because the project site is located Census Tract 403 (which is designated as a Rural Area, an Area of Persistent Poverty, and a Historically Disadvantaged Area), there will be no match for Phase 4 – Concrete Cargo Transloading Area and Rail Extension Project, which resolution was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District does hereby authorize and support the submission of its proposed funding request entitled "*Phase 4 – Concrete Cargo Transloading Area and Rail Extension Project*" to the US Department of Transportation's (USDOT's) "*FY 2025 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity*" (RAISE) Grant Program. In addition, since the project totals \$8,000,000 and because the project

site is located Census Tract 403 (which is designated as a Rural Area, an Area of Persistent Poverty and a Historically Disadvantaged Area), the MCHTD requests that the entire \$8,000,000 come from the FY 2025 RAISE program. If fully-awarded, the project will complete *Phase 4* of the port District's informal "*Port of Morgan City Terminal Facility Infrastructure Improvement Master Plan*."

Robert Karam reported that he met with Mr. Wade and Mr. Knobloch to get creative and strategize use of the current funding to submit the revised permit application and final response to the Corps on the West Dock project.

Bill Blanchard reported that: (i) they issued the Notice to Proceed to US Coatings last week and work immediately began with no issues; (ii) dredging plans and specs have been approved by Facility Planning and Control and they plan to begin advertising January 27th; and (iii) they continue to design the bulkhead project. Mr. Cornes moved to authorize Amendment No. 1 for additional surveying services for Disposal Area 1 in the amount of \$20,000.00, which was seconded by Mr. Tyner and carried unanimously.

Cindy Cutrera reported that the next virtual quarterly update on the Lower Mississippi River Comprehensive Management Study will be on January 28th and she will send out the details when received; and (ii) we are working with a new client negotiating a lease of 30,000 square feet of property for \$4500 per month for two years and annual options to renew. Mr. Mayon moved to authorize Mr. Wade to execute said lease, which was seconded by Mrs. Garber and carried unanimously.

Gerard Bourgeois reported that: (i) new election of officers requires approval of Whitney Bank and Patterson State Bank banking resolutions. It was moved by Mr. Tyner and seconded by Mr. Lombardo to adopt the following resolution authorizing Messrs. Adams, Glover, Cornes and Mrs. Garber to sign on both the Hancock Whitney and Patterson State Bank accounts; which motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

A resolution providing for the execution of certain account agreements for the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District ("District"), with Patterson State Bank (PSB") and Hancock Whitney Bank ("HWB") (herein collectively, the "Banks").

WHEREAS, the MORGAN CITY HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT ("District") is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana, and is subject to the restrictions imposed under the laws of the State of Louisiana with respect to the investment of funds of municipalities, parishes and other political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, the District has received and reviewed the Banks agreements and such other documents material to establishment and/or modification of accounts with said Banks; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that,

- (1) PSB and HWB are designated as a depository(ies) for the funds of this District.
- (2) This resolution shall continue to have effect until express written notice of its rescission or modification has been received and recorded by such Banks.
- (3) All transactions, if any, with respect to any deposits, withdrawals, rediscounts and borrowings by or on behalf of the District with Banks prior to the adoption of this resolution are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.
- (4) Any of the persons named below, so long as they act in a representative capacity as agents of this District, are authorized to make any and all other contracts, agreements, stipulations and orders which they may deem advisable for the effect exercise of the powers indicated below, from time to time with said Banks, concerning funds deposited in PSB and/or HWB, moneys borrowed from either Bank or any other business transacted by and between the District and PSB or HWB subject to any restrictions stated below.
- (5) Any and all prior resolutions adopted by the District and certified to PSB and/or HWB as governing the operation of the District's account(s), are in full force and effect, unless supplemented or modified by this authorization.
- (6) The District agrees to the terms and conditions of any account agreement, properly opened by any authorized representative(s) of the District, and authorized PSB and HWB, at any time, to charge the District for all checks, drafts, or other orders, for the payment of money, that are drawn on the PSB or HWB, and contain the required number of signatures for this purpose.

- (7) If indicated, any person listed below (subject to any expressed restrictions) is authorized to:
Name and Title

(A) Ben A. Adams, President

(B) Deborah B. Garber, Vice President

(C) Steven W. Cornes, Treasurer
(D) Matthew K. Glover, Secretary

Indicate A, B, C, and/or D

 A, B, C, D (1) Exercise all of the powers listed in (2) through (6).
 A, B, C, D (2) Open any deposit or checking account(s) in the name of this association.
 A, B, C, D (3) Endorse checks and orders for the payment of money and withdraw funds on deposit with this Financial Institution. Number of authorized signatures required for this purpose 2.
 A, B, C, D (4) Borrow money on behalf and in the name of this association, sign, execute and deliver promissory notes or other evidences of indebtedness. Number of authorized signatures required for this purpose 2.

 A, B, C, D (5) Endorse, assign, transfer, mortgage or pledge bills receivable, warehouse receipts, bills of lading, stocks, bonds, real estate or other property now owned or hereafter owned or acquired by this association as security for sums borrowed, and to discount the same, unconditionally guarantee payment of all bills received, negotiated or discounted and to waive demand, presentment, protest, notice of protest and notice of non-payment.

Number of authorized signatures required for this purpose 2.

 A, B, C, D (6) Enter into written lease for the purpose of renting and maintaining a Safe Deposit Box in this Financial Institution. Number of authorized persons required to gain access and to terminate the lease 2.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Steven W. Cornes, Treasurer, be authorized and directed to do any and all act and things necessary, proper, or that may be required to carry out and accomplish the transactions contemplated above.

Mr. Bourgeois also noted that Mr. Wade had appointed Pete Orlando to act as his unpaid advisor and assist with current and upcoming projects. So, while off the Board, Mr. Orlando will continue to assist the District.

With there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Mayon and seconded by Mr. Lombardo that the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:



Matthew K. Glover, Secretary