

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023**

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS, HELD IN THE FIRST FLOOR AUDITORIUM AT ITS OFFICES LOCATED AT 1350 PORT OF NEW ORLEANS PLACE, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN JACK C. JENSEN, JR. AT 2:44 P.M.

MEMBERS

Jack. C. Jensen, Jr. Chairman

PRESENT:

Joseph F. Toomy, Vice-Chairman

Walter J. Leger, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer

William H. Langenstein, III, Member

Charles H. Ponstein, Member

Sharonda. R. Williams, Member

James J. Carter, Jr., Member

STAFF:

B. Christian, President & Chief Executive Officer

R. Wendel, Chief Financial Officer

J. Escudier, Executive Counsel

L. Mellem, Chief of Staff

M. Stolzman, Chief Operating Officer

A. Evett, Chief of Infrastructure

G. Brown, Chief of People & Culture

C. Gilmore, Director, Engineering

R. Aragon Dolese, Director, Marketing & Communications

M. Scelson, General Counsel

T. Black, Staff Attorney

S. Gauthier, Director, Cruise

A. Ferrand-Rodgers, Director, Organizational Development

Chief M. Montroll, Harbor Police Department

A. Lopez-Salazar, Manager, Commercial

K. Mills, Manager, Communications & Community Engagement

K. Curth, Press Secretary

J. Ragusa-Nunes, Deputy-Director, Governmental Affairs

A. Randolph, Manager, Communications & Community Engagement

C. Gibson, Manager, Business Development

A. Taylor, Procurement

K. Howells, Procurement

M. Singley, Board Secretariat

J. Fields, Executive Assistant, Communications

A. Johnson, Executive Assistant

GUESTS:

T. Bryant, NOPB

I. McPherson, NOPB

C. Kocur, NOPB
L. Hensley, NOPB
G. Harris, NOPB
B. Rousselle
K. Alikhani, ECM Consultants, Inc.
Judge E. Bopp
S. Bopp
L. Bopp
J. Ferrer, Crescent River Port Pilots Association
E. Acosta, St. Bernard Port, Harbor & Terminal District
R. Gonzales, St. Bernard Port, Harbor & Terminal District
T. Ajabitaner, Crescent River Port Pilots Association
L. Copeland, Crescent River Port Pilots Association
B. Roussel
C. Ponstein

I. Roll Call & Determination of Quorum

Following a roll call of Board members, Chairman Jensen confirmed a quorum and called the meeting to order at 2:44 p.m.

II. Report by the President and Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Christian gave an overview of the March volumes and reported on the JOC Breakbulk & Project Cargo conference recently held in New Orleans. She also announced the development of the Gulf South Commerce Park, in partnership with St. Tammany Corporation.

Commissioner Ponstein asked if any flooding issues were to be expected from the Mississippi River. Chairman Jensen thanked Board and Rail staff for their participation to the International Freight Forwarders & Customs Brokers Association Tank Symposium and also inquired about cruise lines making new port of calls in New Orleans.

III. Public Comment

Chairman Jensen asked for any agenda-related or general public comments, but there were none.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes for March 2023

Chairman Jensen called for a motion to approve the public meeting minutes for March 2023, as previously circulated.

Commissioner Williams moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Carter seconded.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

V. Action Items:

A. Acceptance of the Consolidated Financial Statements for March 2023

Mr. Wendel presented the consolidated financial statements for the month of March, a copy of which is made a part of these minutes. Following a brief discussion, including Chairman Jensen's request for clarification on the container volumes, Commissioner Langenstein moved to accept the consolidated financial statements and Commissioner Ponstein seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Vice-Chairman Toomy joined the meeting at 3:01pm.

B. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Renew the Board's Workers' Compensation Insurance Policy with LWCC at an Estimated Cost of \$644,699 based on Current Estimated Payroll Expenditures, All Arranged Through Arthur J Gallagher Risk Services, Inc.

Mr. Wendel presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including questions from Commission Leger and Chairman Jensen on the cost of insurance and the number of employees covered, Commissioner Leger moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Carter seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

C. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to D & D Construction LA, LLC in the Amount of \$635,000 for the Napoleon Avenue Wharf A Pile Bracing.

Mr. Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Ponstein moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Toomy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

D. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into an Amendment to the Contract with Modjeski and Masters, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$500,000, for As-Needed Engineering and Professional Services for Moveable Bridges.

Mr. Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Langenstein moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Ponstein seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

E. Consider Approval of a Resolution Recognizing May 22, 2023, as National Maritime Day, and May 2023, as Maritime Month.

Ms. Aragon Dolese presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion including Commissioner Leger's commend of this annual event,

Commissioner Leger moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Langenstein seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

VI. Administration of Oath of Office to Ms. Jeanne E. Ferrer and Mr. Darryl D. Berger.

Commissioners Langenstein and Ponstein expressed their gratitude for serving on the Board for five years. They both listed some of the Board's main achievements during their tenures and thanked all the commissioners and staff who worked along them.

All the Commissioners as well as Ms. Christian thanked and praised the two outgoing commissioners for their exceptional service and welcomed Ms. Ferrer and Mr. Berger to the Board.

The Hon. Judge Bopp administered the oath of office to Ms. Jeanne Ferrer and Mr. Escudier officiated for Mr. Darryl Berger. Afterwards, both commissioners expressed their pride and enthusiasm for having the opportunity to serve on the Board and contribute to its mission.

VII. Chairman and Commissioners' Comments

Chairman Jensen and commissioners Toomy and Leger reiterated their welcome to the new commissioners.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Jensen called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ferrer so moved and Commissioner Berger seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and Chairman Jensen adjourned the meeting at 3:42 p.m.