

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024**

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**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS, HELD IN THE FIRST FLOOR AUDITORIUM AT ITS OFFICE LOCATED AT 1350 PORT OF NEW ORLEANS PLACE, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN WALTER J. LEGER, JR. AT 1:45 P.M.**

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**MEMBERS**

Walter J. Leger, Jr., Chairman

**PRESENT:**

James J. Carter, Jr., Vice-Chairman

Sharonda R. Williams, Secretary-Treasurer

Joseph F. Toomy, Member

Jeanne E. Ferrer, Member

Todd P. Murphy, Member

**MEMBER**

Darryl D. Berger, Member

**ABSENT:**

**STAFF:**

S. Porteous, Chief of Staff

J. Escudier, Executive Counsel

M. Wypyski, Chief Operating Officer

A. Evett, Chief of Infrastructure

G. Brown, Chief of People & Culture

C. Gilmore, Director, Engineering

S. Granger, Director, Human Resources

Chief M. Montroll, Harbor Police Department

M. Gresham, Chief of Governmental Affairs

T. Black, Staff Attorney

S. Gauthier, Director, Cruise

C. Rollins, Director, Financial Reporting & Forecasting

C. Labat, Director, Procurement

K. Gilmore, Director, Real Estate

A. Brandenburg, Manager Insurance & FEMA Administration

L. Lofton, Manager, Internal Audit

P. Herring, Manager, Internal Audit

J. Bruner, Manager, Cruise

M. Villarreal, Manager, Claims

B. Skaggs, Manager, Sustainability

E. LeCompte, Environmental

A. Lopez-Salazar, Manager, Commercial

A. Villarrubia, Manager, Commercial

A. Romanov, Manager, Engineering

K. Curth, Press Secretary

K. Mills, Manager, Communications & Community Engagement

A. Randolph, Manager, Communications & Community Engagement

M. Singley, Board Secretariat

J. Fields, Marketing & Communications Officer

**GUESTS:**

T. Bryant, NOPB  
C. Kocur, NOPB  
D. Stegeman  
M. Durescutos  
L. Geosits  
E. Holder  
H. Murad  
J. Tetelbaum  
N. Gonzales  
J. Joney  
A. Salamah  
J. Dutreil  
S. Wang  
N. Leichtman  
A. Chapman  
A. Axon  
S. Vasudevar  
F. Allen  
T. Duplechin-Jones  
E. Maxwell  
M. Kligler  
T. Moser  
J. Chiarelli  
W. Wysession  
I. Ahmed  
M. Jones  
S. Dickey  
A. Sahibul  
J. Ygnatowiz  
G. Pelletier  
Navya  
Maya  
Elizabeth  
Amanda  
Adam  
E. Maxwell

**I. Roll Call & Determination of Quorum**

Following a roll call of Board members, Chairman Leger confirmed a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

**II. Report by the President and Chief Executive Officer**

In Ms. Christian's absence, Ms. Porteous, Chief of Staff, gave an overview of the March 2024 volumes. She also announced the dates of the upcoming open houses for the Louisiana International Terminal project.

### **III. Public Comment**

Chairman Leger called for public comment and Ms. Singley announced that sixteen (16) individuals had requested to make public comments of a general nature.

Prior to inviting the speakers to the podium, Ms. Singley read the Board's public comment parameters.

Elizabeth Campbell, Lauryn Geosit, Jane K., Niki Gonzalez, Ameera Salamah, Mary Helen Jones, Joshua Teitelbaum, Trey Moser, Samuel Dickey, Stephanie Wang, Nathan Leichtman, Anisah Sahibul, Nauiya, Elizabeth, Maya, Amanda Blackshaw, and Adam expressed their opposition to the war in Gaza, the Innovation Embassy, any business partnership with the Port of Ashdod or Israel, and asked that all charges against Felix Allen be dropped by the City Attorney.

At the conclusion of the public comment all speakers left the Auditorium.

### **IV. Approval of the Meeting Minutes for March 2024**

Chairman Leger called for a motion to approve the public meeting minutes for March 2024, as previously circulated. Commissioner Ferrer moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Toomy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **V. Action Items:**

#### **A. Acceptance of the Consolidated Financial Statements for March 2024**

Ms. Rollins presented the consolidated financial statements for the month of March, a copy of which is made a part of these minutes. Commissioner Ferrer moved to accept the consolidated financial statements and Commissioner Murphy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **B. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Professional Services Contract with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, L.L.C. to Provide Independent Financial Audit Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \$550,000 for the Full Contract Term.**

Ms. Rollins presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Carter moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Toomy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- C. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Lease with Star Marine Fleeting, L.L.C. for a Fleeting Operation on the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.**

Mr. Kyle Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Ferrer moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Carter seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- D. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to Roofing Solutions, LLC in the Amount of \$301,321 for Repairs to the Perry Street Wharf Shed Damaged by Hurricane Ida.**

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Toomy moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Murphy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- E. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Amend the Contract with Kiewit Louisiana Co. to Provide Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Services for the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) Site Development Project in Order to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Cost by \$14,600,000.**

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. After a brief discussion, including an inquiry from Commissioner Toomy on the cost estimation of the services, Commissioner Toomy moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Carter seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- F. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Amend the Contract with Eustis Engineering Services, LLC to Provide Geotechnical Services for the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) Project in Order to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Cost by \$365,000.**

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Carter moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Murphy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- G. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Contract with Bermello Ajamil & Partners, Inc. for Cruise Terminal Parking and Traffic Flow Assessment for a Period of Three Years in an Amount Not to Exceed \$200,000 for the Full Contract Term.**

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. After a brief discussion, including Commissioner Toomy's request for periodic reports on the study, Commissioner Ferrer moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Carter seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**H. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Amend the Contract with PCL Construction, Inc. for Repairs to the Nashville “A” Wharf Substructure in Order to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Cost by \$2,050,000.**

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Carter moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Murphy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**I. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Execute an Assignment and Transfer of Dry Docks and Dry Dock Leases to Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District.**

Mr. Escudier presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Murphy moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Toomy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**J. Consider Approval of a Resolution Recognizing May 22, 2024, as National Maritime Day, and May 2024, as Maritime Month.**

Ms. Porteous presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Ferrer moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Carter seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**VI. Announcement of the Intent to Present a Lease Agreement of Board-Owned Property for Consideration at the Next Regularly-Scheduled Board Meeting, in Accordance With La. R.S. 33:4717.2.**

In accordance with La. R.S. 33:4717.2, Mr. Escudier announced a lease item to be considered at the next Board meeting.

**VII. Chairman and Commissioners’ Comments**

Chairman Leger called for Commissioners’ comments but there were none.

**VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Leger called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Carter so moved and Commissioner Ferrer seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and Chairman Leger adjourned the meeting at 2:46 p.m.