

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025**

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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 MICHAEL A. THOMAS AT 1:42 P.M.**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Michael A. Thomas, Chairman  
Jeanne E. Ferrer, Vice-Chair  
Sharonda R. Williams, Member  
Todd P. Murphy, Member  
James J. Carter, Jr., Member  
Dale S. Revelle, Member

**MEMBER ABSENT:** Darryl D. Berger, Secretary-Treasurer

**STAFF:** B. Branch, President & Chief Executive Officer  
J. Escudier, Chief Legal Officer  
Chief M. Montroll, Harbor Police Department  
K. App, Chief Commercial Officer  
K. Bulliard, Prime Consultant  
K. Gilmore, Director, Real Estate  
C. Gilmore, Chief Engineering Officer  
T. Black, General Counsel  
M. Sulser, Manager, Engineering  
G. Brown, Vice-President, People & Culture  
A. Lopez-Salazar, Marketing Commercial  
A. Dawson, Director, Emergency Management  
B. Bailey, Information Technology Specialist  
C. Labat, Director, Procurement  
K. Mills, Manager, Government & Community Affairs  
J. Fields, Marketing & Communications Officer  
A. Taylor, Procurement  
A. Coates, Vice-President, Cargo Development  
C. Donze, Staff Attorney  
S. Gauthier, Vice-President, Cruise  
A. Hanks, Manager, Cruise  
J. Bruner, Manager, Cruise  
L. Thornton, Procurement  
N. Dietzen, Staff Attorney  
M. Singley, Executive Staff Officer  
S. Hodges, Board Secretariat

- GUESTS:**
- T. Bryant, NOPB
  - C. Kocur, NOPB
  - M. Scelson, NOPB
  - A. Ferrand-Goodwin, NOPB
  - A. Thompson, Stop the Grain Train
  - C. Ponstein, St. Bernard
  - M. Moore, MOREO
  - M. Moore, MOREO
  - B. Perez, Holy Cross Neighborhood Association
  - A. Perez, Holy Cross Neighborhood Association
  - K. Boulton, Kiewit
  - M. Bowers, Kiewit
  - D. Lambert, GEC
  - M. Leblanc

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

Following a roll call of Board members, Chairman Thomas confirmed a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:42 p.m.

**II. Public Comment**

Chairman Thomas called for public comment and Ms. Singley announced that two (2) individuals had requested to make public comment on matters not listed on the agenda.

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

Amanda Thompson and Betty Perez expressed opposition to the lease agreement with Sunrise Foods International, Inc., the establishment of an organic grain terminal at the Alabo Street wharf, and the rehabilitation of the rail lines along Alabo Street.

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

Ms. Branch presented an overview of the November 2025 volume and productivity statistics, along with a summary of the month’s key highlights.

**IV. Approval of the Meeting Minutes for November 2025**

Chairman Thomas called for a motion to approve the public meeting minutes for November 2025, 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 November 2025.**

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

- B. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into Contract with DRC Emergency Services, LLC, to Provide As-Needed Emergency Debris Removal and Site Management Services for a Period of One Year with Two Additional Renewal Periods of One Year at the Board's Discretion, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,000,000 for the Full Contract Term.**

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Chairman Thomas called for a motion to amend the item and enter into a contract with a second contractor in addition to the other proposer. There were no questions nor comments and Commissioner Murphy seconded on the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Gilmore presented the proposed amended resolution:

**Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into Contracts with DRC Emergency Services, LLC and Dynamic Group, LLC, to Provide As-Needed Emergency Debris Removal and Site Management Services for a Period of One Year with Two Additional Renewal Periods of One Year Each at the Board's Discretion, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,000,000 Each for the Full Contract Term.**

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Murphy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- C. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Contract with All South Consulting Engineers, LLC to Provide As-Needed Damage Assessment and Disaster Recovery Services for a Period of Three Years in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,000,000 for the Full Contract Term.**

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

- D. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into an Agreement with Entergy Louisiana, LLC, for a Class 3 Facility Study that will Include Engineering and Cost Estimating Associated with the Alternate Main Power Feed to the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT), in an Amount Not to Exceed \$180,000.**

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Williams recused herself from voting on this item. Commissioner Murphy moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Revelle seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- E. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into an Agreement with Atmos Energy Corporation for Engineering and Design of the Relocation of its Natural Gas Line along E. St. Bernard Highway Associated with the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT), in an Amount Not to Exceed \$170,000.**

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

- F. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Amend the Contract with Ardurra Group, Inc., for the Access, Drainage, Earthwork, and Ground Improvement Contract Associated with the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT), to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Cost by \$500,000.**

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Williams 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 Amend the Contract with Design Engineering, Inc., for the Relocation of the East St. Bernard Highway and Associated Utilities for the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT), to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Cost by \$250,000.**

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

- H. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Amend the Contract with Linfield, Hunter & Junius, Inc., for the Offsite Terminal Rail & Relocation of the Chalmette Branch Rail Line Contract Associated with the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT), to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Cost by \$81,800.**

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 Enter into a Three-Year Software Licensing Agreement with Dell Corp., in the Amount of \$479,094.69, for the Renewal of Microsoft Office 365 Software Subscriptions and Core Licenses.**

Mr. Johnsen presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Revelle moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Ferrer seconded.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- J. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Contract with New Orleans Public Facility Management, Inc. to Utilize the Convention Center's Property for Overflow Cruise Parking on an As-Needed Basis, at a Cost of \$10 per Vehicle per Day, for a Period of One Year Starting on January 1, 2026.**

Mr. Gauthier presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Ferrer moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Williams seconded.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- K. Briefing on Renewal of and Amendments to the Board's Bylaws.**

Mr. Escudier informed the Commissioners that, pursuant to the regular five-year review of the Board's Bylaws, Staff is recommending some amendments to be approved during the January 2026 regular Board meeting.

- L. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to Arcco Power Systems in the Amount of \$525,760.12 for the Purchase and Delivery of Four Generac Industrial Diesel Engine Generators and Accessories under State Contract #4400026321 for the Replacement of Existing Generators.**

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

- VI. Closed Executive Session Convened in Accordance with La. R.S. 42:17A(2), to Discuss the Matter Entitled:**

- ***Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans v. MW Industrial Services, Inc., Docket No. 2021-05243, pending before the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana.***

Chairman Thomas read the agenda item aloud and called for a motion to enter into a closed executive session, convened in accordance with La R.S. 42:17(A)(2) to discuss the above matter.

Commissioner Carter moved to enter into a closed executive session and Commissioner Williams seconded. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and the Board entered into closed executive session at 2:17 p.m.

Following the conclusion of the discussion, Chairman Thomas called for a motion to end the closed executive session and return to the open meeting. Commissioner Carter moved to end the closed executive session and Commissioner Williams seconded. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and the closed executive session concluded at 2:35 p.m.

**VII. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Settlement Agreement in the Matter of: Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans v. MW Industrial Services, Inc., Docket No. 2021- 05243, pending before the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana.**

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

**VIII. Chairman and Commissioners' Comments**

Chairman Thomas asked for Commissioners' comments but there were none.

**IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Thomas called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Carter so moved and Commissioner Ferrer seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 2:36 p.m.