

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026**

---

**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 1:37 P.M.**

---

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Michael A. Thomas, Chairman  
Jeanne E. Ferrer, Vice-Chair  
Darryl D. Berger, Secretary-Treasurer  
Sharonda R. Williams, Member  
Todd P. Murphy, Member  
Dale S. Revelle, Member

**MEMBER ABSENT:** James J. Carter, Jr., Member

**STAFF:** B. Branch, President & Chief Executive Officer  
J. Escudier, Chief Legal Officer  
L. Marino, Chief of Staff & Vice-President External Affairs  
Chief M. Montroll, Harbor Police Department  
A. Laurie, Chief Financial Officer  
K. App, Chief Commercial Officer  
C. Gilmore, Chief Engineering Officer  
M. Sulser, Director, Engineering  
G. Brown, Vice-President, People & Culture  
C. Labat, Director, Procurement  
K. Gilmore, Director, Real Estate  
S. Abu Naser, Controller  
A. Dawson, Director, Emergency Management  
T. Black, General Counsel  
C. Donze, Staff Attorney  
N. Dietzen, Staff Attorney  
E. Gondek, Manager, Berthing  
B. Bailey, Information Technology Specialist  
M. Austin, Information Technology Specialist  
J. Passaro, Manager, Engineering  
Lt. C. Cummings, Harbor Police Department  
Lt. C. Clark, Jr., Harbor Police Department  
A. Gulino, Deputy-Director, Waterfront Operations  
J. Gommel, Manager, Berthing  
K. Mills, Manager, Government & Community Affairs  
J. Fields, Marketing & Communications Officer  
K. Curth, Press Secretary

J. Guidry, Vice-President, Terminal and Waterfront Maintenance  
M. Singley, Executive Staff Officer  
S. Hodges, Board Secretariat

**GUESTS:** T. Bryant, NOPB  
C. Kocur, NOPB  
M. Scelson, NOPB  
G. Harris, NOPB  
A. Thompson, Stop the Grain Train  
C. Nicks, Stop the Grain Train  
P. Murano, Stop the Grain Train  
C. Robles, Volkert  
M. Moore, MOREO  
C. Antrum, The Hackett Group  
L. Averill, T. Baker Smith

**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 1:37 p.m.

**II. Public Comment**

Chairman Thomas called for public comment and Ms. Singley announced that three (3) 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.

Cheryl Nicks, Amanda Thompson, and Peter Murano 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 December 2025 volume and productivity statistics, along with a summary of the month's key highlights.

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

Chairman Thomas called for a motion to approve the public meeting minutes for December 2025, as previously circulated. Commissioner Williams moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Revelle seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**V. Action Items:**

**A. Acceptance of the Consolidated Financial Statements for December 2025.**

Mr. Laurie presented the consolidated financial statements for the month of December, a copy of which is made a part of these minutes. Commissioner Murphy moved to approve the consolidated financial statements and Commissioner Williams seconded.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Contract with Tetra Tech, Inc. to Provide Debris and Waste Monitoring and Management Services for a Period of Three Years in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,000,000 for the Full Contract Term.**

Mr. Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Revelle moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Ferrer seconded.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**C. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Amend the Contract with MiNO Marine LLC to Provide Engineering Services for the Mobile Harbor Container Crane Project, to Increase the Not-To-Exceed Amount by \$46,500.00.**

Mr. Gulino presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Williams moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Murphy seconded.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D. Consider Approval of a Resolution Approving and Adopting the Proposed Amendments to the Board's Bylaws.**

Mr. Escudier presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Berger moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Williams seconded.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**E. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Amend the Consulting Agreement with Prime Business Advisory Solutions, L.L.C., for Financial Consulting Services to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Cost of the Total Amount to \$550,000 for the Full Contract Term.**

Mr. Laurie presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Revelle moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Williams seconded.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**F. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Serve on the Board of Multiple Organizations.**

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

**VI. Chairman and Commissioners' Comments**

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

**VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Thomas called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Berger so moved and Commissioner Murphy seconded.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 1:58 p.m.