

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 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 3:00 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

Darryl D. Berger, Member

Todd P. Murphy, Member

**STAFF:**

R. Wendel, Acting Chief Executive Officer

S. Porteous, Chief of Staff

J. Escudier, Executive Counsel

A. Evett, Chief of Infrastructure

C. Gilmore, Director, Engineering

K. Gilmore, Director, Real Estate

Chief M. Montroll, Harbor Police Department

C. Rollins, Director, Financial Reporting & Forecasting

M. Scelson, General Counsel

C. Labat, Director, Procurement

J. Guidry, Director, Maintenance

J. Gommel, Manager Berthing

A. Brandenburg, Manager Insurance & FEMA Administration

A. Romanov, Engineering

K. Curth, Press Secretary

A. Randolph, Manager, Communications & Community Engagement

M. Singley, Board Secretariat

J. Fields, Marketing & Communications Officer

**GUESTS:**

T. Bryant, NOPB

C. Kocur, NOPB

B. Richards, N-Y Associates, Inc.

E. Tesfaye, WWNO/WRKF

K. Strafford, Orion

J. Brown-Russell, JDR

J. Brown-Alexander, JDR

Gina K

S. Sojic-Borne, NOSHIP

Adam M, NOSHIP

N. Gonzalez, NOSHIP

M. Sanchez, NOSHIP  
J. T. Hannan, Office of the Governor, Intergovernmental Affairs  
J. Paglia  
M. Dicrescends  
S. Brunfield  
A. Mendez  
N. Tingle

**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 3:00 p.m.

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

Mr. Wendel gave an overview of the May 2024 volumes and productivity statistics and recognized the employees of the month.

**III. Public Comment**

Chairman Leger called for public comment and Ms. Singley announced that five (5) 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.

Nyx Tingle, Gina K, Serena Sojic-Borne, and Maya Sanchez 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 May 2024**

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

**V. Action Items:**

**A. Acceptance of the Consolidated Financial Statements for May 2024**

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

**B. Consider Approval of a Resolution Adopting the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans' Consolidated Financial and Operating Plan for Fiscal Year 2025.**

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

**C. Consider Approval of a Resolution Giving Preliminary Approval to the President and Chief Executive Officer to Issue *Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans Revenue Bonds* in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$100,000,000 in One or More Series to Fund Capital Improvements in the Port Complex and Refund the 2021A Notes; to Apply to the State Bond Commission for Approval of Said Indebtedness; and to Undertake Other Actions in Connection Therewith.**

Mr. Escudier presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Murphy recused himself from discussion of and voting on this item. Commissioner Toomy moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Berger seconded.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Commissioner Berger left the meeting at 3:30pm.

**D. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Professional Services Contract with Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, LLC to Provide Property and Casualty Insurance Broker Services for a Period of Three Years with Two One-Year Renewal Options, at an Annual Cost Not to Exceed \$300,000.**

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

**E. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Reimbursement Agreement with Gulf South Pipeline Company, LLC in the Amount of \$357,000 to Conduct Engineering, Environmental Permitting, and Right-of-Way Acquisition for the Relocation of a High-Pressure Natural Gas Pipeline for the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) Project.**

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Murphy 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 Amend the Contract with Kiewit Louisiana Co. to Provide Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Services for the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) Site Development Project to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Cost by \$3,214,945.**

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Toomy asked for clarifications on the scope and timeline of the contract and moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Williams seconded. **MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY**

- G. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Contract with Orion Industrial Construction, LLC for Repairs and Improvements to the Harbor Police Department Fireboat Mooring Structure in the Amount of \$234,000.**

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Toomy asked for clarifications on the demolition phase. Commissioner Ferrer moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Murphy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- H. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to Magnolia Midstream, LLC for the As-Needed Purchase and Delivery of Marine Diesel Fuel, for a Period of One Year, with Two One-Year Renewal Options, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,378,980 for the Full Contract Term.**

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

- I. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to Bell Lumber and Pole Company in an Amount Not-to Exceed \$1,160,700 for the As-Needed Purchase and Delivery of 80-Foot Untreated Coast Douglas-Fir Piles.**

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

- J. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Amend the Contract with Maintenance Dredging I, LLC for Maintenance Dredging Services to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Cost by \$800,000.**

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

**K. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Lease with Sunrise Foods International, Inc. for the Establishment of a Bulk Organic Grain Terminal at the Alabo Street Wharf.**

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

**L. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into an Agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway Company for the Alabo Lead Rehabilitation Project in an Amount Not to Exceed \$3,300,000.**

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

**M. Consider Approval of a Resolution Adopting and Implementing the *Small Business Opportunity Program*.**

Ms. Labat presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Carter thanked staff for implementing this program, moved to approve the resolution and read it aloud. Commissioner Williams seconded. Chairman Leger also recognized the importance of this program for the local economy. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**N. Consider Approval of a Resolution Declaring *The New Orleans Advocate* as the Official Journal of the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans for Fiscal Year 2025.**

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

Chairman Leger called for any new business, and Commissioner Carter made a motion to amend the agenda to include a resolution authorizing the Chairman of the Board to solicit proposals from national search firms and appoint a Search Committee related to the search for the position of President and Chief Executive Officer. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion to amend the agenda.

Commissioner Carter presented and moved to approve the resolution authorizing the Chairman of the Board to solicit proposals from national search firms and appoint a Search Committee related to the search for the position of President and Chief Executive Officer. Commissioner Ferrer seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Chairman Leger stated that the selection of a national search firm was anticipated to be completed within two weeks in order to begin the process swiftly.

**VI. Chairman and Commissioners' Comments**

Chairman Leger called for Commissioners' comments. Commissioner Ferrer thanked staff for diligently working on Sunrise Foods International, Inc. lease and the rehabilitation project of the Alabo Street wharf.

**VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Leger called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Williams so moved and Commissioner Ferrer seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and Chairman Leger adjourned the meeting at 3:57 p.m.