

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 18, 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 3:02 P.M.

MEMBERS Jack. C. Jensen, Jr. Chairman
PRESENT: Joseph F. Toomy, Vice-Chairman
Walter J. Leger, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer
Sharonda. R. Williams, Member
James J. Carter, Jr., Member
Jeanne E. Ferrer, Member
Darryl D. Berger, Member

STAFF: B. Christian, President & Chief Executive Officer
R. Wendel, Chief Financial Officer
J. Escudier, Executive Counsel
L. Mellem, Chief of Staff
A. Evett, Chief of Infrastructure
G. Brown, Chief of People & Culture
C. Coats, General Manager, Maritime & Asset Management
C. Gilmore, Director, Engineering
R. Aragon Dolese, Director, Marketing & Communications
A. Dawson, Director Emergency Management
T. Black, Staff Attorney
A. Coates, Director, Trade & Economic Development
Chief M. Montroll, Harbor Police Department
Captain C. Turner, 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
M. Naquin, Manager, Real Estate
J. Moran, 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
H. Lundy
C. Ponstein, former Board Commissioner
R. Guidry, PEEC
B. Rousselle, PEEC
T. Wells, Waldemar Nelson Cp.
B. Moldaner, T.Baker Smith
C. Hall, Stantec
S. Girau, Girau and Associates
G. Carroll, Management Engineering
J. Martin, Design Engineering, Inc.
S. Waguespack

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 3:02 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Jensen asked Commissioner Ferrer to lead the pledge of Allegiance.

III. Report by the President and Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Christian first announced the multiple events scheduled for the celebration of Maritime Month. Afterwards, she provided a report on the April volumes. She concluded her presentation by announcing the upcoming departure of Chief Operating Officer, Mike Stolzman, and General Manager of Maritime and Asset Management, Christie Coats, and thanked them both for their leadership and significant achievements. She added that the new Chief Operating Officer, Matthew Wypyski, will begin on June 5th.

IV. Public Comment

Mr. Hunter Lundy and Mr. Stephen Waguespack each requested public comment to address the role of the Port of New Orleans in Louisiana's future and the importance of projects that will increase the state's prosperity and competitiveness.

Chairman Jensen thanked both speakers for their strong interest in the Port of New Orleans and the maritime industry.

V. Approval of the Meeting Minutes for April 2023

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

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

VI. Action Items:

A. Acceptance of the Consolidated Financial Statements for April 2023

Mr. Wendel presented the consolidated financial statements for the month of April, a copy of which is made a part of these minutes. Following a brief discussion, including Chairman Jensen's request for clarification on the forecasted cruise budget for the rest of the fiscal year, Commissioner Leger moved to accept 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 Three-Year Software Licensing Agreement with FinancialForce.com, Inc., in the Amount of \$539,728.44, for the Annual Renewal of FinancialForce Accounting and Procurement Software Services.

Mr. Wendel presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including a question from Chairman Jensen on cyber security, Commissioner Leger moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Berger seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

C. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Contract with Design Engineering, Inc. to Provide Engineering and Professional Services for the Design of the Relocation of East St. Bernard Highway and Associated Utilities for the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) for a Period of Two Years, for an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,400,000 for the Full Contract Term.

Mr. Evett presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Leger emphasized that the relocation design was significantly influenced by the St. Bernard community's input and moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Carter seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

D. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to Barriere Construction Co., L.L.C. in the Amount of \$24,189,460 for the Nashville Avenue Terminal Paving Improvements: Phase I Project.

Mr. Evett presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including a question from Commissioner Carter on the selection process and from Chairman Jensen and Vice-Chairman Toomy on the duration of the contract term, Commissioner Williams moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Berger seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

E. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Certify Volumes and Approve Importers' Applications to Louisiana Economic Development for Use of the Louisiana Import Tax Credit.

Ms. Coates presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including requests for additional information on the tax credit application process from Chairman Jensen and Commissioners Leger, Carter and Berger, Commissioner Carter moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Toomy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

F. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Consent to an Assignment of the Lease Agreement with Hillebrand Bulk Liquids, Inc. for the Property Located at 8000 Jourdan Road, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Ms. Coates presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Williams moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Ferrer seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

G. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Three-Year Agreement with HUB International Gulf South Limited for Health and Welfare Benefits Broker and Consultant Services, Effective June 1, 2023.

Ms. Brown presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Carter moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Ferrer seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

VII. Appointment of the Nominating Committee

Chairman Jensen appointed commissioners Williams, Ferrer and Berger to serve as the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee will meet before the June regular Board Meeting and will provide a recommendation to the full Board for a vote on a proposed ballot of officers. Commissioner Williams will serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee.

Commissioner Williams gladly accepted the nomination.

VIII. Chairman and Commissioners' Comments

Chairman Jensen opened the floor for Commissioners' comments but there were none.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Jensen called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Leger so moved and Commissioner Carter seconded.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY and Chairman Jensen adjourned the meeting at 3:48p.m.