

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2022**

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 2:09 P.M.

MEMBERS

Jack. C. Jensen, Jr. Chairman

PRESENT:

Joseph F. Toomy, Vice-Chairman

Walter J. Leger, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer

William H. Langenstein, III, Member

Charles H. Ponstein, Member

James J. Carter, Jr., Member

Sharonda. R. Williams, Member

STAFF:

B. Christian, President & Chief Executive Officer

R. Wendel, Chief Financial Officer

J. Escudier, Executive Counsel

L. Mellem, Chief of Staff

G. Brown, Chief of People & Culture

C. Coats, General Manager, Maritime & Asset Management

R. Aragon Dolese, Director, Marketing & Communications

S. Gauthier, Director, Cruise

C. Labat, Director, Procurement

M. Scelson, General Counsel

G. Palermo, Deputy General Counsel

B. McManus, Staff Attorney

Chief M. Montroll, Harbor Police Department

Captain C. Turner, Harbor Police Department

Lieutenant C. Smith, Harbor Police Department

A. Ferrand-Rodgers, Director Organizational Development

A. Lopez-Salazar, Manager, Commercial

A. Randolph, Manager, Communications & Community Engagement

K. Mills, Manager, Communications & Community Engagement

K. Curth, Press Secretary

P. Beard, Manager Real Estate

E. Gondek, Manager, Terminal Operations

A. Villarubia, Manager, Commercial

J. Fields, Executive Assistant, Communications

A. Johnson, Executive Assistant

GUESTS:

T. Bryant, NOPB

C. Kocur, NOPB

I. McPherson, NOPB

T. Banks, NOPB
L. Hensley, Jr., NOPB
J. Graves, ELOS
J. Dawes, Gallagher
C. Jensen, TCI
R. Chauvin, Infinity Engineering

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 2:09 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Jensen asked Commissioner Ponstein to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Jensen thanked former Board Chairman Ponstein for his service and leadership.

III. Report by the President and Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Christian asked Ms. Mellem, Chief of Staff, to present this month's report. Ms. Mellem gave an overview of the September volumes. Afterwards, she announced some upcoming events such as the Annual Procurement Fair and the Truck Driver Appreciation Week. She also reported on the Harbor Police Job Fair held on the campus of the University of New Orleans earlier this month. She concluded her report by congratulating Ms. Bryant, General Manager of the New Orleans Public Belt Commission for the Port of New Orleans (NOPB), for being chosen as a 2022 honoree in the Railway Age "Women in Rail" awards program.

Chairman Jensen inquired about the dredging process and whether reduced barge traffic from low river conditions may effect rail activity. He also announced his participation to the Truck Driver Appreciation events.

IV. Public Comment

Chairman Jensen asked for any agenda-related or general public comments, but there were none.

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes for September 2022

Chairman Jensen called for a motion to approve the public meeting minutes for September 2022, as previously circulated.

Commissioner Toomy moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Ponstein seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

VI. Action Items:

A. Acceptance of the Consolidated Financial Statements for August 2022

Mr. Wendel presented the consolidated financial statements for the month of September, a copy of which is made a part of these minutes. Following a brief discussion, including questions from Commissioners Langenstein, Carter and Chairman Jensen, regarding NOPB's labor expenses and the possibility of fuel surcharges, Commissioner Carter moved to accept the consolidated financial statements and Commissioner Langenstein seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

B. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into Annual Agreements to Provide Employee Benefits for Health, Dental, Vision, Long-Term Disability, Accidental Death and Dismemberment, and Life Insurance Coverage.

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

C. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Contract with Royal Engineers and Consultants, L.L.C., to Provide Construction Management and Estimating Services for the Nashville Wharf "A" Substructure Repairs Phase 2, for an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,000,000 for the Full Contract Term.

Mr. Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Ponstein moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Toomy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

D. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to Tuna Construction, L.L.C. in the Amount of \$1,852,000 for the Repairs to the Port Administration Building for Damages Caused by Hurricane Ida.

Mr. Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including a question from Commission Ponstein on the contractor's background, Commissioner Leger moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Langenstein seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

E. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to D. L. Daigle & Co., L.L.C. in the Amount of \$455,000 for the Repairs to the Harbor Police Building for Damages Caused by Hurricane Ida.

Mr. Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including questions from Commissioner Ponstein on the starting date of the

contract and from Chairman Jensen on the funding for this project, Commissioner Langenstein 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 Enter into an Amendment in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,500,000 to the Contract with Boh Bros. Construction Co., L.L.C., to Provide Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Services for the Jourdan Road Terminal Wharf Substructure Repair Project.**

Mr. Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including questions from Commissioner Langenstein, Vice-Chairman Toomy and Chairman Jensen regarding the assessment of the amendment amount, the duration of the stabilization phase, and the Board's ability to terminate the contract, Commissioner Williams moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Carter seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- G. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Berthing Agreement with NCL Bahamas LTD. d/b/a Norwegian Cruise Lines for a Term of Five Years, with One Three-Year Renewal Option.**

Mr. Gauthier presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including questions from Commissioner Ponstein and Vice-Chairman Toomy on the passenger capacity of the NCL vessels, Commissioner Ponstein moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Langenstein seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- H. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Execute a New Lease Agreement with CAT 5 Composites, L.L.C. for Property Located at 5100 Jourdan Road, New Orleans, LA.**

Ms. Coats presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including questions from Commissioner Carter and Chairman Jensen on the type of business provided by the tenant and its leasing history with the Board, Commissioner Leger moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Toomy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- I. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Services Contract with Romeo Papa, L.L.C., to Provide As-Directed Port Security Services Through a State-Funded Pilot Program for a Period of Six Months at a Cost of \$2,000,000 for the Full Contract Term.**

Mr. Escudier presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including questions from Commissioner Ponstein, Langenstein, Carter, Chairman Jensen and Vice-Chairman Toomy on the potential benefits of the contract, its

possible expansion, the cost to the Harbor Police Department and the size of the vessels used for surveillance service, Commissioner Ponstein moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Carter seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

J. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Settlement Agreement in the Matter Entitled *Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans v. M/V CMA CGM BIANCA et al.*, USDC-EDLA Case No. 20-2179.

Mr. Escudier presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Williams moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Leger seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

VII. Chairman and Commissioners' Comments

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

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Jensen called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ponstein so moved and Commissioner Leger seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and Chairman Jensen adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.