THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 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 1:45 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Michael A. Thomas, Chairman James J. Carter, Jr., Member Sharonda R. Williams, Member Dale S. Revelle, Member
MEMBER ABSENT:	Darryl D. Berger, Vice-Chairman Todd P. Murphy, Secretary-Treasurer Jeanne E. Ferrer, Member
STAFF:	B. Branch, President and Chief Executive Officer L. Marino, Chief of Staff and Vice-President of External Affairs J. Escudier, Chief Legal Officer A. Laurie, Chief Financial Officer Chief M. Montroll, Public Safety & Emergency Management Officer K. App, Chief Commercial Officer M. Jensen, Chief Operating Officer C. Gilmore, Chief Engineering Officer K. Gilmore, Director, Real Estate S. Boh, Director, Communications T. Black, General Counsel N. Dietzen, Deputy General Counsel C. Donze, Staff Attorney C. White, Staff Attorney G. Brown, Vice-President, People & Culture C. Rapose, Project Manager, LIT H. Peltier, Engineering M. Sulser, Director, Engineering J. Passaro, Manager, Engineering C. Nguyen, Manager, Engineering B. Boughrara, Engineering A. Every, Manager, Accounting C. Labat, Director, Procurement T. Williams, Procurement K. Chinn, Procurement J. Moran, Procurement A. Taylor, Procurement K. Curth, Press Secretary

M. Austin, Information Technology Specialist
B. Bailey, Information Technology Specialist
A. Hanks, Manager, Cruise
A. Bierman, Manager, Insurance and FEMA Administration
K. Mills, Manager, Government & Community Affairs
J. Fields, Marketing & Communications Officer
A. Randolph, Manager, Communications & Community Engagement
M. Singley, Executive Staff Officer
S. Hodges, Board Secretariat

GUESTS:

T. Bryant, NOPB
C. Kocur, NOPB
L. LaCoste, NOPB
A. Thompson, Holy Cross Resident
S. Pearson, Stop the Grain Train
G. Varuso, Stop the Grain Train
J. French, Stop the Grain Train
B. Perez, Stop the Grain Train
E. Rullman, Ardurra Group, Inc.
R. Chauvin, Infinity Engineering
L. Lawler, Hardesty & Hanover
T. Wells, Waldemar & Nelson
S. Amato, Evans-Graves
M. Bowers, KIEWIT
T. Hunter, AECOM
Matthew Moore, Moreo
Maurice Moore, Moreo
P. West, EJES Inc.
C. Smith, Royal
E. Robinson

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 1:45 p.m.

Chairman Thomas appointed Commissioner Williams to serve as temporary Secretary-Treasurer for this meeting, in the absence of Commissioner Murphy.

II. Public Comment

Chairman Thomas called for public comment and Ms. Hodges announced that six (6) individuals requested to make public comment on matters not listed on the agenda.

Prior to inviting the speaker to the podium, Ms. Hodges read the Board's public comment parameters.

Amanda Thompson expressed opposition to the proposed organic grain terminal at the Alabo Street Wharf and the rehabilitation of the rail infrastructure serving the Alabo Street Wharf. Julie French, Elliot Robinson, Gail Varuso, Bette Perez, and Stefanie Pearson read excerpts from a *The Lens* news article concerning the proposed grain facility.

III. Report by the President and Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Branch presented an overview of the August 2026 volume and productivity statistics, along with a summary of the month's key highlights. She also congratulated Commissioner Carter on his recent installation as 84th President of the National Bar Association. Other Commissioners joined in congratulating Commissioner Carter.

IV. Approval of the Meeting Minutes for August 2026

Chairman Thomas called for a motion to approve the public meeting minutes for August 2026, as previously circulated. Commissioner Revelle moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Williams seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

V. Action Items:

A. Acceptance of the Consolidated Financial Statements for August 2026

Mr. Laurie presented the consolidated financial statements for the month of August, a copy of which is made a part of these minutes. Commissioner Williams moved to approve the consolidated financial statements and Commissioner Revelle seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

B. Consider Approval of a Resolution Confirming to Auditors the Board's Compliance with Applicable Laws and Accounting Principles as Set Out in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Compliance Questionnaire.

Mr. Laurie presented and recommended approval of the resolution. 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 Execute a One-Year Contract with United Healthcare Insurance Company to Provide Medicare Advantage Coverage to Eligible Board Retirees.

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

D. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to Cycle Construction Company, LLC in the Amount of $2,245,056.42 for the Louisiana International Terminal Preliminary Demolition Project.

Mr. Chris Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Revelle 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 Enter into a Contract with Evans-Graves Engineers, Inc. for Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) Project Management and On-Going Design Support Services for a Period of Eighteen Months 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 Revelle moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Carter seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

F. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Amend the Contract with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. for the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) Preliminary Design and Permit Support Services Project to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Cost by $4,021,783.

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

G. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Enter into Two (2) Separate Contracts with Modjeski and Masters, Inc. and Hardesty & Hanover, LLC to Provide As-Needed Moveable Bridge Inspection and Load Rating Professional Services, each for a Period of Three Years and Each in an Amount Not to Exceed $750,000 for the Full Contract Term.

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

H. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the President and Chief Executive Officer to Execute a Lease with Heniff Transportation Systems, LLC for approximately 8.7 Acres of Real Property Located at 6600 Terminal Road, New Orleans, LA 70126.

Mr. Kyle Gilmore presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Williams moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Revelle 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 Carter so moved and Commissioner Revelle seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m.