

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023**

A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS, HELD IN THE COMMERCIAL CONFERENCE ROOM, ON THE THIRD FLOOR, AT ITS OFFICES LOCATED AT 1350 PORT OF NEW ORLEANS PLACE, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JOSEPH F. TOOMY AT 1:33 P.M.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph F. Toomy, Committee Chairman
Walter J. Leger, Jr., Member
James J. Carter, Jr., Member
Sharonda R. Williams, Member
Jack C. Jensen, Jr., Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeanne E. Ferrer, Member
Darryl D. Berger, Member

STAFF: B. Christian, President & Chief Executive Officer
R. Wendel, Chief Financial Officer
L. Mellem, Chief of Staff
J. Escudier, Executive Counsel
A. Evett, Chief of Infrastructure
M. Wypyski, Chief Operating Officer
M. Scelson, General Counsel
T. Black, Staff Attorney
C. Labat, Director, Procurement
R. Aragon Dolese, Director Marketing & Communications
M. Singley, Board Secretariat

GUESTS: T. Bryant, NOPB
D. Patron, Phelps Dunbar
T. Murphy, Raymond James

I. Roll Call & Determination of Quorum

Following a roll call of Committee members Chairman Toomy confirmed a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

II. Public Comment

Chairman Toomy called for public comment but there was none.

In order to accommodate Mr. Gresham's unexpected travel plans, Chairman Toomy changed the agenda order and the Governmental Affairs Update was called first.

III. Governmental Affairs Update

Mr. Gresham provided a detailed briefing on the bills recently passed by the Louisiana State Legislature relating to development strategy for the state's ports and major project funding.

Chairman Toomy and Commissioner Jensen asked for clarifications regarding wharf security, low water levels, funding and implementation of the strategic development plans. Chairman Toomy suggested updating the Port's Master Plan and Ms. Christian provided some additional information on the current status of this project.

IV. Presentation of Additional Financial Information

Mr. Wendel provided some additional information on the Board and New Orleans Public Belt Commission (NOPB)'s combined cash flow situation, Capital Investment Program (CIP), budget projections, and outstanding funding.

Chairman Toomy as well as Commissioners Carter and Leger commented on the approaching deadline for Hurricane Ida insurance claims.

Mr. Wendel concluded his presentation by introducing Ms. Charlene Rollins, Director of Financial Reporting and Forecasting, to the Board.

V. Briefing on Procurement and Economic Inclusion

Ms. Labat gave a detailed presentation on the role of the Procurement Department and the bidding process. She listed the strategies currently in place to attract and include small businesses in all bidding opportunities.

Commissioners Carter, Jensen and Leger asked additional questions regarding the Small Business Enterprise and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise programs. Commissioner Carter praised Ms. Labat for providing these companies with opportunities to contribute to the needs of the Board.

VI. Closed Executive Session, Convened in Accordance with La R.S. 42:17A(2), to Discuss the Matter Entitled: *Coastal Cargo Company, L.L.C. v. Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans*, Docket No. 2023-2511, pending before the Civil District Court, Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana.

Chairman Toomy read the agenda items aloud and called for a motion to enter into a closed executive session, convened in accordance with La. R.S. 42:17A(2), to discuss the above matters.

Commissioner Jensen moved to enter into a closed executive session and Commissioner Leger seconded. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and the Committee entered into closed session.

Following the conclusion of the discussion, Commissioner Leger moved to end the closed executive session and return to the open meeting. Commissioner Carter seconded. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and the closed executive session concluded.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Toomy called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jensen moved, and Commissioner Leger seconded. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and the meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m.