

Minutes of a meeting of the Plaquemines Parish Council, as the Sole Governing Authority of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District, held in the Belle Chasse Council Chambers, 333 F. Edward Hebert Blvd., Bldg. 203, Belle Chasse, Louisiana on Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 3:00 p.m., pursuant to notice to all members with a quorum present as follows:

PRESENT: Commissioner Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Tyrone Edwards
Commissioner Brian Champagne
Commissioner Chris Schulz
Commissioner Stuart J. Guey
Commissioner Patricia McCarty
Commissioner Ronnie Newsom
Commissioner Mitch Jurisich
Commissioner Mark Cognevich

Kim M. Toups, Secretary

Charles Tillotson, Melissa Folse and Christie Nielsen were present representing the Port.

The Prayer was said and the Pledge was recited.

There being no matters to address under the following Agenda Item 2, "Executive Session", Commissioner LaFrance moved to Agenda Item 3, "Status Report by the Executive Port Director". Without objection, so ordered.

- Charles Tillotson introduced himself as the new Executive Port Director. He wished everyone a Happy New Year and said that he looks forward to working with everyone;
- He has looked closely at the Ferry Department and he has made the ferry schedule a priority. The Port will work diligently for new solutions;
- He has reviewed the Port financials and they are working on bridging the gap of not having a Finance Director;
- Jalen Brown is the new Director of Security; and
- They are closely looking at the process and will begin providing the information needed for Board meetings on the Friday before the meetings;

Council Member LaFrance inquired about the sale of PLT property and that he has been told they are selling the CPRA. He further stated that the Port had first right of refusal; however, he was told by Mr. Tillotson that the price is 36 million dollars and the Port does not have those kind of funds.

There being nothing to report under Agenda Item 3a, "Financial Report/Budget to Actual", and no matters under Agenda Item 4, "Bids and Advertisements", Commissioner LaFrance moved to Agenda Item 5, "Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions". The following legislation was introduced:

1. A Resolution authorizing Executive Director, Charles D. Tillotson, of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District to enter into a Professional Services Agreement for Financial Consulting Services with _____; and otherwise, to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER GUEY
2. An Ordinance to amend and as amended to readopt the Plaquemines Parish Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Section 2-18, *Rules for Transaction of Business Before the Council, as the Sole Governing Authority of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District*, Rule 17; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER GUEY
3. A Resolution authorizing and directing the Port Chairman to amend Melissa Folse's employment contract; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER GUEY
4. A Resolution authorizing the Executive Director, enter into an agreement with Mercury Public Affairs to provide consulting, advisory, and lobbying services regarding Port representation at the Federal and Regional level for a one-year term; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER GUEY

5. An Ordinance authorizing Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District to purchase land owned by Dana C. King, Jr.; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER GUEY
6. A Resolution to authorize the Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District (“District”) in accordance with the CEA and Lease Agreement to sell the property identified within Exhibit B of the Lease Agreement to Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (“CPRA”); and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER GUEY

Commissioner LaFrance moved to Agenda Item 6, “Ordinances and Resolutions on second reading and final passage”. Without objection, so ordered.

There were no matters under Agenda Item 6a.

Commissioner LaFrance moved to Item 6c.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-8

On motion of Commissioner Cognevich, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, and on roll call all Commissioners present and voting “YES”, the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution electing the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District Vice-Chairperson for 2023; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT it hereby elects Council Member Brian Champagne, as Vice-Chairperson of the Parish Council in its capacity as the sole governing authority of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District to act as Port Vice-Chairperson in meetings of the Council as the Port and in all matters relative to the Port for the term of office effective January 1, 2023, ending at Midnight, December 31, 2023, or until his successor had been appointed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and the Port employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

Commissioner LaFrance reverted back to Item 6b.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-9

On motion of Commissioner Cognevich, seconded by Commissioner LaFrance, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution electing the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District Chairperson for 2023; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT it hereby elects Council Member Stuart Guey as Chairperson of the Parish Council in its capacity as the sole governing authority of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District to act as Port Chairperson in meetings of the Council as the Port and in all matters relative to the Port for the term of office effective January 1, 2023, ending at Midnight, December 31, 2023, or until his successor has been appointed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH PORT, HARBOR AND

TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Port employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

A brief recess was taken for the new Chairman to take over at 3:14 p.m. The meeting resumed at 3:20 p.m.

Commissioner Guey moved to Agenda Item 7, “New Business”.

Under Agenda Item 7a, “Resolutions wherein suspension is being sought” there four items to address.

Under Item 7a(1), Commissioner Guey offered a Motion to Suspend the rules and to add an item titled, “A Resolution authorizing the Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District to extend the current agreement for Professional Services with Dwyer, Cambre and Suffern to assist the Port with land acquisitions; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto” for consideration at today’s meeting. Commissioner Cognevich seconded the motion and on roll call, all members present voting “YES”, the motion was adopted by a vote of 9-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-10

On motion of Commissioner Guey, seconded by Commissioner Cognevich, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution authorizing the Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District to extend the current agreement for Professional Services with Dwyer, Cambre and Suffern to assist the Port with land acquisitions; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20-288 authorized the Port Executive Director to enter into a contract for Professional Services with Dwyer, Cambre & Suffern in order to provide legal counsel and services for a period of one year, ending December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the above referenced agreement was extended for one (1) additional year with an effective date of January 1, 2022, ending December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District is requesting a second extension to the agreement ending December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the second extension shall be for one (1) additional year with an effective date of January 1, 2023, ending December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Plaquemines Parish Council to contract for professional services to assist with land acquisitions for the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District with Dwyer, Cambre & Suffern from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL, AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT the Port Chairman is hereby authorized and directed to amend the contract with Dwyer, Cambre & Suffern to assist the Port with land acquisitions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT by the Plaquemines Parish Council that the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

Under Agenda Item 7a(2), Commissioner Guey offered a Motion to Suspend the rules and to add an item titled, "A Resolution to amend the Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District Manpower Structure to change one Full-Time Ferry Captain III position to two (2) Part-time Ferry Captain III; and otherwise provide with respect thereto" for consideration at today's meeting. Commissioner Cognevich seconded the motion and on roll call, all members present voting "YES", the motion was adopted by a vote of 9-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-11

On motion of Commissioner Guey, seconded by Commissioner Cognevich, and on roll call all members present and voting "YES", the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution to amend the Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District Manpower Structure to change one Full-Time Ferry Captain III position to two (2) Part-time Ferry Captain III; and otherwise provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, the Council as the sole governing authority of the District has determined that in order to continue to carry out the purposes of providing public transportation for the citizens of Plaquemines Parish, it is necessary to create the position of Part-time Ferry Captain III and to hire an employee to fill that position; and

WHEREAS, the Plaquemines Parish Port, Harbor and Terminal District hereby request the Civil Service Commission and amend their Pay Plan and Classification Schedule to transfer one (1) full time Ferry Captain III position into two (2) part-time Ferry Captain III positions on Pay Grade 28; and

WHEREAS, the base yearly salary of the newly created positions of two (2) Part-time Ferry Captain III, not including FICA Taxes, Retirement and group insurance is \$31,000 per year each;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 34:1351 et seq, the Plaquemines Parish Council as the sole governing authority of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District does hereby request the Civil Service Commission to amend the Manpower Structure to substitute one Full-time position for two (2) Part-Time Ferry Captain III positions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT The Part-time Ferry Captain III shall work directly for the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District under the direct supervision of the Ferry Manager subject to all Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT he Parish Council does hereby recommend to the Plaquemines Parish Civil Service Commission a pay scale commensurate with the responsibilities of the position for an entry level of Pay Grade 28.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

Under Agenda Item 7a(3), Commissioner Guey offered a Motion to Suspend the rules and to add an item titled, “A Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to execute and file grant applications for various projects, annual certifications and assurances, and execute grant agreements on behalf of the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto” for consideration at today’s meeting. Commissioner LaFrance seconded the motion and on roll call, all members present voting “YES”, the motion was adopted by a vote of 9-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-12

On motion of Commissioner Guey, seconded by Commissioner LaFrance, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES, the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to execute and file grant applications for various projects, annual certifications and assurances, and execute grant agreements on behalf of the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District has a need for port improvements; and

WHEREAS, Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District desires to apply for grant funding to implement and/or improve projects related to port operation; and

WHEREAS, Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District is a political body duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Louisiana and is eligible to apply for Federal funds;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT the Executive Director is hereby designated as an Authorized Representative for Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District to apply for and execute grant agreements for funding assistance of port improvement projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Port employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

Item 11a(4), “A Resolution changing the date of the January 26, 2023, Port, Harbor & Terminal District Meeting to January 31, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto” was withdrawn.

Commissioner Guey moved to Agenda Item 8, “Approval of Minutes”. Without objection, so ordered.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-15

On motion of Commissioner LaFrance, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, the following Resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT it hereby approves the minutes of the December 8, 2022, regular Port Meeting, as recorded by the Secretary of this Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately

certify and release this Resolution and that Port employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution.

There being no further business to come before this Council, on motion Commissioner Cognevich, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, and on roll call all members present voting "YES", the meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary

For a full transcript of discussions and presentations a video of this meeting is available for viewing on the Parish website www.plaqueminesparish.com or on YouTube.