

Minutes of a meeting of the Plaquemines Parish Council, as the Sole Governing Authority of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District, held in the Pointe-a-la-Hache Council Chambers, 18055 Hwy. 15, Pointe-a-la-Hache, Louisiana on Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 3:02 p.m., pursuant to notice to all members with a quorum present as follows:

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

Kim M. Toups, Secretary

ABSENT: Commissioner Mark Cognevich

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

The Prayer was said and the Pledge was recited.

The following items were deferred:

- Item 6b, “A Resolution authorizing Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District to execute an agreement with Sustainability Partners; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto”; and
- Item 6d, “An Ordinance to amend and as amended, readopt the Plaquemines Parish Port, Harbor & Terminal District 2023 Manpower Table; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto”.

The following items were withdrawn:

- Item 6f, ‘A Resolution authorizing Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District to enter into a Per Task Order Agreement for Ferry Improvements with Infinity Engineering on an as needed per task orders basis as directed by Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District Executive Director; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto;
- Item 6g, “An Ordinance to amend and as amended the Plaquemines Parish Port, Harbor & Terminal District 2023 Operating Budget of Revenue and Expenditures; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto”; and
- Item 6h, “An Ordinance to amend the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District’s 2023 Revenue & Operating Expenditure Budget to complete the Sustainability Partners; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto”.

There being no matters for Agenda Item 2, “Executive Session”, Commissioner Guey moved to Agenda Item 3, “Status Report by the Executive Port Director”. Without objection, so ordered. The following was reported by Mr. Tillotson:

- It has been a busy couple of weeks;
- Plaquemines Day in Baton Rouge was very successful;
- An update was provided regarding the two State Bills. The first was introduced by Senators McMath and it focused on providing a strategy for the five Ports. There would be a Board and a seat for one of the Deep Water Ports. Mr. Tillotson hopes Plaquemines will be able to sit at that seat. Senator Connick’s Bill focus is migrating all of the State Ports’ Master Plans into one master plan;
- Next year Plaquemines Port will be working with our legislators to have our Port Projects placed into the Deep Water Ports Master Plan;
- Progress is being made on the Piano Keys. There will be two introductions made today and after that there are 10 parcels remaining.
- The Port spent a few days with the Bridges Group collecting data and looking into which direction they will be headed. A decision should be made in the next 90 to 120 days;
- The Port will meet with Jefferson Parish leaders, the Union Pacific Railroad and other stake holders on June 2nd regarding the rail by-pass;

- We have a meeting scheduled for June 5th with USACE Col. Jones on a variety of projects within the Port region;
- The second Port Construction meeting with construction stakeholders on June 7th. Focus is to coordinate with all the construction companies and to insure they are focused on public safety;
- We are estimating that currently there are 3000 to 35000 construction workers working on Port related projects today and it could get as high as 9000 next year. Meeting with the President and discussing idea of getting Lanier working on this project;
- Although there has been a lot of progress on the Ferry issues, they continue to evaluate what the next steps will be. A lot of progress has been made and they hope to have a plan to present to the Board within the next 30 days;
- The Port is still being challenged to retain employees and hire new employees. They continue to work diligently for solutions to sustain employees; and
- There will be interviews next week for the Communications Director for the Port and had some very good interviews with Legal Secretaries. There has also been some discussion on salaries.

President Hinkley spoke regarding the RV spots needed in the future. The Administration is comprising a list on the spots in action or in the process of becoming parks.

Commissioners and the Port Administration then discussed the following:

- RV spots needed for the influx of Construction Workers and the need to identify available properties;
- Discussion of salaries and the possibility of the Parish helping when the Roll-Over is done; and
- The State Port bills were discussed and Mr. Tillotson stated they know they are coming and the Port is preparing to participate to try to make the best of what will possibly come;

There was no report provided under Agenda Item 3a, “Financial Report/Budget to Actual” and there were no matters under Agenda Item 4, “Bids and Advertisements”. Therefore, Commissioner Guey moved to Agenda Item 5, “Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions”. Without objection, so ordered. The following legislation was introduced:

1. An Ordinance authorizing Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District to purchase land owned by Edgar Guillermo Lumbreras; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER GUEY
2. An Ordinance authorizing Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District to purchase land owned by Michelle C. Posey; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER GUEY
3. A Resolution authorizing Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District to enter into a Per Task Order Agreement, identified as Task Order No.2 for project management services with respect to the Sustainability Partners (SP) contract with Infinity Engineering on an as needed per task orders basis as directed by Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District Executive Director; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER GUEY
4. A Resolution authorizing Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District to authorize Kyle & Associates, LLC to advertise for public bid for improvements to the Alliance Water Booster Station; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER GUEY
5. A Resolution authorizing the Port Executive Director, Charles D. Tillotson, for and on behalf of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District to name and accept the proposal of the Plaquemines Gazette, as the Official Journal for the Plaquemines Parish Council, as the sole governing authority of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER GUEY

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

Commissioner Guey offered a substitute for Item 6c.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-68

The following Ordinance was offered by Commissioner Guey who moved for its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District Manpower Structure to create and fund the unclassified position of Director of Communications; and otherwise provide with respect thereto.

DIGEST: With the increased Port development activity and public information commitments to the community as well as the Port development partners, it has become necessary to create the position of Director of Communications to circulate vital public information. *The digest is for informational purposes only and is superseded by the language of the actual ordinance or resolution.*

WHEREAS, empowered by LA R.S. 34:1352.....”the Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District....may contract with and employ attorneys, clerks, engineers, superintendents, and such other employees and agents and fix their compensation and term of employment as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of their authority.”; and

WHEREAS, the Council as the sole governing authority of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District has determined that in order to carry out the purposes of advancing the Port development, public information and community outreach in and around Plaquemines Parish, it is necessary to create the position of Director of Communications and to hire a full-time employee to fill that position; and

WHEREAS, the base yearly salary of the newly created position of Director of Communications, not including FICA Taxes, Retirement and group insurance not to exceed \$90,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, The Port and the Director of Communications will enter into a mutually agreed upon Employment Contract;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT:

SECTION 1

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 to create the unclassified position of Director of Communications.

SECTION 2

The Director of Communications shall work directly for the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District under the direct supervision of the Deputy Port Director and Executive Director.

SECTION 3

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

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section and as a whole.

Commissioner Newsom seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Commissioners Tyronne Edwards, Brian Champagne, Chris Schulz, Stuart J. Guey, Patricia McCarty, Ronnie Newsom, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., and Mitch Jurisich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Mark Cognevich

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 25th day of May, 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-154

On motion of Commissioner Guey, seconded by Commissioner Schulz, and on roll call all

members present and voting “YES”, except Commissioner Cognevich who was “ABSENT”, the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution authorizing Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District to enter into a Per Task Order #1 Agreement for container terminal permitting and name change with United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) from LA23 to Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District (PPHTD) with Lanier & Associates on an as needed per task orders basis as directed by Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District Executive Director; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

DIGEST: Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District would like Lanier & Associates on an as needed basis per task order, number (1), to provide a cost proposal for container terminal 408 permitting assessment, name change with United States Army Corp of Engineers from LA23 to Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District, as well as other assigned task orders. *The digest is for informational purposes only and is superseded by the language of the actual ordinance or resolution.*

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Plaquemines Parish Council, as the sole governing authority of the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District to implement the Port’s development objectives, specifically with regards to contracting for professional consulting services on an as needed basis per task orders as directed by the Executive Director Charles Tillotson;

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 authorizes Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District to enter into a Per Task Order Agreement Lanier & Associates.

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.

Commissioner Guey moved to Agenda Item 7, “New Business”; however, there were no matters to address.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 23-155

On motion of Commissioner Guey, seconded by Commissioner LaFrance, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, except Commissioner Cognevich who was “ABSENT”, 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 May 11, 2023, 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 Parish 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 Schulz, seconded by Commissioner Newsom, and on roll call all members present voting "YES", except Commissioner Cognevich who was "ABSENT", the meeting adjourned at 3:52 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.