

**THE NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC BELT RAILROAD COMMISSION  
FOR THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

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**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC BELT RAILROAD COMMISSION FOR THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS, HELD IN THE FIRST FLOOR AUDITORIUM OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS' OFFICES, LOCATED AT 1350 PORT OF NEW ORLEANS PLACE, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN CHARLES H. PONSTEIN AT 2:37 P.M.**

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**MEMBERS**

Charles H. Ponstein, Chairman

**PRESENT:**

Joseph F. Toomy, Vice-Chairman

Walter J. Leger, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer

William H. Langenstein, III, Member

Sharonda R. Williams, Member

James J. Carter, Jr., Member

**STAFF:**

B. Christian, Chief Executive Officer

T. Bryant, General Manager

C. Kocur, Vice-President, Engineering

I. McPherson, Director Operation Planning

A. Ferrand-Rodgers, Director, Organization Development

G. Harris, Manager Operations Support

L. Hensley, Superintendent, Transportation

**GUESTS:**

R. Wendel, Port of New Orleans

J. Escudier, Port of New Orleans

L. Mellem, Port of New Orleans

A. Evett, Port of New Orleans

C. Gilmore, Port of New Orleans

C. Coats, Port of New Orleans

R. Aragon Dolese, Port of New Orleans

C. Labat, Port of New Orleans

M. Scelson, Port of New Orleans

S. Gauthier, Port of New Orleans

A. Dawson, Port of New Orleans

Chief M. Montroll, Harbor Police Department

A. Lopez-Salazar, Port of New Orleans

K. Mills, Port of New Orleans

K. Curth, Port of New Orleans

J. Ragusa, Port of New Orleans

C. Gibson, Port of New Orleans

M. Sulser, Port of New Orleans

A. Villarubia, Port of New Orleans

E. Gondek, Port of New Orleans

S. Abu Nasser, Port of New Orleans

P. Beard, Port of New Orleans  
C. Falgoust, Port of New Orleans  
K. Howells Port of New Orleans  
M. Singley, Port of New Orleans  
J. Fields, Port of New Orleans  
A. Johnson, Port of New Orleans  
E. Beiser, Port of New Orleans  
T. Martin, Stuart Consulting Group, Inc.  
K. Caulkins, New Orleans Terminal, LLC  
S. Girau, Girau & Associates, LLC

## **I. Roll Call & Determination of Quorum**

Following a roll call, Chairman Ponstein confirmed a quorum and called the meeting to order at 2:37 p.m.

## **II. Report of the General Manager**

Ms. Bryant presented the General Manager's Report. She reported on January volumes and productivity statistics. She also announced the upcoming clean-up and industry safety audit for all Commission employees.

## **III. Public Comment**

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

## **IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes for January 2023**

Chairman Ponstein called for a motion to approve the public meeting minutes for January 2023, as previously circulated.

Commissioner Leger moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Langenstein seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **V. Action Items:**

### **A. Acceptance of the Financial Statement for January 2023**

Mr. Wendel presented the Commission's financial statement for the month of January, a copy of which is made a part of these minutes. Commissioner Leger moved to accept the financial statement and Commissioner Williams seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to Declare Approximately 22,660 Square Feet of Vacant Property Located Between Boyce and Mehurin Streets in Jefferson Parish as Surplus and to Enter into an Agreement with Hoist and Crane Service Group, Inc. for the Sale of the Property.**

Ms. Coats presented and recommended approval of the resolution. She stated that a change had been requested regarding the name of the prospective buyer.

Commissioner Langenstein proposed a motion to amend the agenda item to change the name of the buyer from “Hoist and Crane Service Group, Inc.” to “M.P. Financial Group, L.L.C.” Chairman Ponstein opened the floor for comments but there were none. Commissioner Leger seconded and the **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Vote on Amended Item B:**

**B. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to Declare Approximately 22,660 Square Feet of Vacant Property Located Between Boyce and Mehurin Streets in Jefferson Parish as Surplus and to Enter into an Agreement with M.P. Financial Group, L.L.C. for the Sale of the Property.**

Following a brief discussion, including questions from Commissioner Toomy on the rail removal and from Commissioner Langenstein on adjacent properties, Commissioner Leger moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Williams seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**VI. Chairman & Commissioners’ Comments**

Chairman Ponstein opened the floor for Commissioners’ comments but there were none.

**VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Ponstein called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Langenstein moved and Commissioner Leger seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and Chairman Ponstein adjourned the meeting at 2:46 p.m.