

**THE NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC BELT RAILROAD COMMISSION  
FOR THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING  
THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 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 JOSEPH F. TOOMY AT 3:45 P.M.**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joseph F. Toomy, Chairman  
Walter J. Leger, Jr., Vice-Chairman & Secretary-Treasurer  
Jeanne E. Ferrer, Member  
Darryl D. Berger, Member

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** James J. Carter, Jr., Member  
Sharonda R. Williams, Member

**STAFF:** B. Christian, Chief Executive Officer  
T. Bryant, General Manager  
C. Kocur, Vice-President, Engineering  
A. Ferrand-Rodgers, Director Organizational Development  
T. Banks, Director Maintenance  
G. Harris, Manager Operations Support

**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  
G. Brown, Port of New Orleans  
C. Gilmore, Port of New Orleans  
R. Aragon Dolese, Port of New Orleans  
A. Dawson, Port of New Orleans  
J. Guidry, Port of New Orleans  
M. Scelson, Port of New Orleans  
T. Black, Port of New Orleans  
C. Washington, Port of New Orleans  
K. Gilmore, Port of New Orleans  
C. Labat, Port of New Orleans  
Chief M. Montroll, Harbor Police Department  
A. Lopez-Salazar, Port of New Orleans  
E. Federer, Port of New Orleans  
J. Bruner, Port of New Orleans  
A. Villarubia, Port of New Orleans  
M. Sulser, Port of New Orleans  
K. Mills, Port of New Orleans

J. Ragusa-Nunes, Port of New Orleans  
A. Randolph, Port of New Orleans  
C. Gibson, Port of New Orleans  
M. Naquin, Port of New Orleans  
K. Barnes, Port of New Orleans  
A. Taylor, Port of New Orleans  
M. Singley, Port of New Orleans  
J. Fields, Port of New Orleans  
A. Johnson, Port of New Orleans  
C. Ponstein, Former Board Commissioner  
C. Renard, Rigid Constructors  
W. Evans, Jr., GIS  
T. Wells, Waldemar Nelson Co.  
P. West, EJES, Inc.  
R. Evans, Kearney Companies  
J. Gambino, Volkert  
K. Awzenne, GAC-Arch

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

Following a roll call of Commission members, Chairman Toomy confirmed a quorum and called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

#### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Toomy asked Commissioner Ferrer to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Ms. Bryant reported on the May volumes and productivity statistics. She concluded her report by providing an update on the France Yard expansion project.

#### **IV. Public Comment**

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

#### **V. Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 2023**

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

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

**VI. Action Items:**

**A. Acceptance of the Financial Statement for May 2023.**

Mr. Wendel presented the Commission's financial statement for the month of May, a copy of which is made a part of these minutes. Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Ferrer moved to accept the financial statement and Commissioner Berger seconded.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B. Consider Approval of a Resolution Adopting the New Orleans Public Belt Railroad Commission for the Port of New Orleans' Financial and Operating Plan for Fiscal Year 2024.**

Mr. Wendel presented and recommended approval of a resolution adopting the *Financial and Operating Plan for Fiscal Year 2024* ("FY 2024 Budget"). The Commission's FY 2024 Budget is presented on a consolidated basis with the fiscal year budget for the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, and a copy is made a part of these minutes. Commissioner Berger moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Ferrer seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**C. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to Amend the Agreement with Linfield, Hunter & Junius, Inc. for As-Needed Engineering Services, to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Cost by \$250,000 for a Total Not-to-Exceed Cost of \$1,750,000 for the Full Contract Term.**

Mr. Kocur presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Berger moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Ferrer seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to Wheelworx, LLC for the As-Needed Purchase and Delivery of Wheelsets, for a Period of One Year, with Two One-Year Renewal Options, at a Cost Not to Exceed \$3,496,500 for the Full Contract Term.**

Mr. Kocur presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Ferrer moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Leger seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**E. Consider Approval of a Resolution Declaring *The New Orleans Advocate* as the Official Journal of the New Orleans Public Belt Railroad Commission for the Port of New Orleans for Fiscal Year 2024.**

Ms. Scelson presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Commissioner Leger moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Ferrer seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **VII. Chairman & Commissioners' Comments**

Chairman Toomy opened the floor for Commissioners' comments but there were none.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Toomy called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Leger moved and Commissioner Berger seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and Chairman Toomy adjourned the meeting at 3:58 p.m.