

**THE NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC BELT RAILROAD COMMISSION
FOR THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2022**

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 3:01 P.M.

MEMBERS Charles H. Ponstein, Chairman
PRESENT: Joseph F. Toomy, Vice-Chairman
Walter J. Leger, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer
William H. Langenstein, III, Member
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, Organization Development
I. McPherson, Director, Operational Planning
T. Banks, Director Maintenance
L. Hensley, Trainmaster

GUESTS: R. Wendel, Port of New Orleans
J. Escudier, Port of New Orleans
L. Mellem, Port of New Orleans
G. Brown, Port of New Orleans
C. Coats, Port of New Orleans
R. Aragon Dolese, Port of New Orleans
S. Gauthier, Port of New Orleans
C. Labat, Port of New Orleans
M. Scelson, Port of New Orleans
G. Palermo, Port of New Orleans
B. McManus, Port of New Orleans
Chief M. Montroll, Harbor Police Department
Captain C. Turner, Harbor Police Department
Lieutenant C. Smith, Harbor Police Department
A. Lopez-Salazar, Port of New Orleans
A. Randolph, Port of New Orleans
K. Mills, Port of New Orleans
K. Curth, Press Secretary
P. Beard, Port of New Orleans
E. Gondek, Port of New Orleans
A. Villarubia, Port of New Orleans
J. Fields, Port of New Orleans

A. Johnson, Port of New Orleans
J. Graves, ELOS
J. Dawes, Gallagher
C. Jensen, TCI
R. Chauvin, Infinity Engineering

I. Roll Call & Determination of Quorum

Following a roll call, Chairman Ponstein confirmed a quorum and called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

II. Report of the General Manager

Ms. Bryant presented the General Manager's Report. She reported on September volumes and productivity statistics. She also announced the upcoming quarterly safety clean-up event and provided an update on the current negotiations between the railroad carriers and the unions.

III. Public Comment

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

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes for September 2022

Chairman Ponstein called for a motion to approve the public meeting minutes for September 2022, as previously circulated.

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

V. Actions Items:

A. Acceptance of the Financial Statement for September 2022

Mr. Wendel presented the Commission's financial statement for the month of September. Copy of this statement is made a part of these minutes. Commissioner Leger moved to accept the financial statement and Commissioner Carter seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

B. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to McCord Tie & Timber, Inc. for the As-Needed Purchase and Delivery of Cross Ties and Switch Ties for a Period of One Year with Two One-Year Renewal Options, at a Cost Not to Exceed \$1,665,417 for the Full Contract Term.

Mr. Banks presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Carter moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Leger seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

C. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to Brown Rail Equipment, LLC, for the Purchase and Delivery of a Hi-Rail Rotary Dump Truck, at a Total Cost Not to Exceed \$289,742.11.

Mr. Kocur presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including questions from Chairman Ponstein and Commissioner Langenstein on the manufacturing process of this type of vehicle and the recycling of the older equipment, Commissioner Toomy moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Langenstein seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

D. Consider Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to A & K Railroad Materials, Inc. for the Purchase and Delivery of 514 pieces of 80-foot 115-Pound Rail for the France Yard Expansion Project, at Total Cost Not to Exceed \$1,638,035.76.

Mr. Kocur presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including questions from Chairman Ponstein and Commissioner Langenstein on the timeline of the purchase and the length of material needed, Commissioner Langenstein moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Toomy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

E. Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to Enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Dupuy Storage and Forwarding, L.L.C. to Purchase the Property Known as Lot 5 of Square 17 at or Near 2700 North Peters Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Ms. Coats presented and recommended approval of the resolution. Following a brief discussion, including questions from Chairman Ponstein and Commissioner Langenstein on the appraisal process and the timing of the purchase, 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 Leger moved and Commissioner Toomy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and Chairman Ponstein adjourned the meeting at 3:17 p.m.