

**THE NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC BELT RAILROAD COMMISSION
FOR THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021**

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC BELT RAILROAD
COMMISSION FOR THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS, PROPERLY NOTICED AND
AUTHORIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCLAMATION 67 JBE 2021, CONVENE
D REMOTELY VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE ON THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021 AT
2:11 P.M.**

**MEMBERS
PRESENT:** William H. Langenstein, III, Chairman
Charles H. Ponstein, Vice-Chairman
Darryl D. Berger, Secretary-Treasurer
Joseph F. Toomy, Member
Walter J. Leger, Jr., Member

**MEMBERS
ABSENT:** Tara C. Hernandez, Member

STAFF: B. Christian, Chief Executive Officer
M. Stolzman, General Manager
C. Kocur, Vice President, Engineering
J. Oldham, Vice President, Transportation & Mechanical
J. Escudier, Executive Counsel
M. Scelson, General Counsel
F. Hasbun, Manager, Administration
T. Bryant, Manager, Marketing & Sales

GUESTS: M. Ganon, Port of New Orleans
R. Wendel, Port of New Orleans
A. Evett, Port of New Orleans
T. Rives, Port of New Orleans
D. Cordell, Port of New Orleans
R. Aragon Dolese, Port of New Orleans
M. Verderame, Port of New Orleans
J. Guidry, Port of New Orleans
E. Pansano, Port of New Orleans
C. Labat, Port of New Orleans
G. Palermo, Port of New Orleans
B. McManus, Port of New Orleans
M. Gresham, Port of New Orleans
J. Mansour, Port of New Orleans
J. Sholar, Port of New Orleans
S. Gauthier, Port of New Orleans
C. Gilmore, Port of New Orleans
A. Coates, Port of New Orleans
L. Louviere, Port of New Orleans
J. Ragusa, Port of New Orleans

C. Alfonso, Port of New Orleans
C. Falgoust, Port of New Orleans
J. Woodward, Port of New Orleans
A. Madere, Port of New Orleans
A. Brandenburg, Port of New Orleans
P. Jackson, Port of New Orleans
M. Singley, Port of New Orleans
Chief R. Hecker, Harbor Police Department
Capt. M. Montroll, Harbor Police Department
B. Bourgeois
B. Adams
D. Pierson, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Economic Development
J. Evans
K. Price
Morris
N. Reins
W. Evans
W. Wachel

I. Roll Call & Determination of Quorum

Following a roll call of Board members, Chairman Langenstein confirmed a quorum and called the meeting to order at 2:11 p.m.

II. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes for March 2021

Chairman Langenstein called for a motion to approve the public meeting minutes for March 2021, as previously circulated.

Commissioner Ponstein moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Toomy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

III. Public Comment

Chairman Langenstein called for any agenda-related or general public comments, but there were none. Ms. Verderame confirmed there were no public comments submitted in advance or via the Zoom Chat feature.

IV. Action Items:

A. Acceptance of the Financial Statement for March 2021

Mr. Wendel presented the Commission's March financial statement, a copy of which is made a part of these minutes. He provided an overview of the monthly and fiscal year-to-date revenues and expenses for the period ending March 31, 2021. He noted that operating revenue and expenses exceeded budgeted projections, bringing the year-to-date total operating revenue close to \$900,000 over the revised budget and only \$326,000 below this time last year.

Commissioner Toomy moved to accept the financial statement and Commissioner Ponstein seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

V. Report of the General Manager

Mr. Stolzman presented the report. He stated that local switching volume for the month of March was the highest of the last 12 months. Class I switching increased as well, as additional services were added for customers. Railcar storage volume remained significantly above budget expectations, and intermodal container volumes were at a record high. Dwell numbers were slightly elevated in March, due to an increase in traffic on the rail network. Mr. Stolzman noted that the increase in dwell time does not reflect any serious issues, as traffic remained fluid. Decreases in Engineering and maintenance productivity for the month were attributable to adverse weather conditions and lumber shortages. The car shop continued to operate efficiently and locomotive availability remained at 100%.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Langenstein called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ponstein so moved and Commissioner Toomy seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and Chairman Langenstein adjourned the meeting at 2:19 p.m.