

MISSISSIPPI PORT AUTHORITY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

June 23, 2026

Minutes of the Mississippi State Port Authority Board of Commissioners Meeting,
Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at 2510 14th Street, Suite 1450, Gulfport, Mississippi at which
the following Commissioners and staff were present:

Commissioners: Mark Loughman, President
Robert J. Knesal, Vice-President
Kathryn Dennis Spear, Secretary
James Moody, Treasurer
Cowles Symmes, Commissioner

Staff: Jon Nass, CEO
Shawn Meyer, COO
Jennifer Smith, Chief of Staff/CAO
Kecia Laneaux, Executive Affairs Manager
Todd Harman, Director of Finance
Errol LaRue, Director of Government Affairs
Matt Gabbett, Director of Operations
Gary Pitcovich, Assistant Director of Operations
Teresa Ehrlich, Project Manager
Cindy Ford, Contract/Administrative Assistant
KeCheira Shelby, Principal Accountant
Michelle Freeman, Receivables/Finance Analyst
Melissa Scallan, Director of Communications & Marketing
Kristen Bellati, Marketing & Public Relations Specialist
Samantha Gundlach, Communication & Marketing Assoc.

Ben Stone, Legal Counsel

Others: Nick Moody, MP Design
Joey Beattie, SSH-Gallagher

Commissioner Loughman noted the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order
at approximately 9:00 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Loughman.

The invocation was given by Michelle Freeman, MSPA.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No public comments.

Commissioner Symmes moved to approve the Minutes from May 28, 2026, Board
Meeting. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Symmes moved to approve travel (July 13-15) – Nass to Washington, DC;
(July 13-15) – Moody to Washington, DC; (September 21-24) – Nass to Houston, TX;

and (September 21-24) – Meyer to Houston, TX. Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Moody left the meeting.

Commissioner Symmes moved to approve the disbursements for Equitable Financial Life Insurance Company (\$1,805.17) and Arthur J. Gallagher (\$1,571.00). Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Moody returned to the meeting.

Commissioner Loughman left the meeting.

Commissioner Moody moved to approve the disbursement for Mississippi Power Company (\$163,274.10). Commissioner Symmes seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman returned to the meeting.

Commissioner Spear left the meeting.

Commissioner Moody moved to approve the disbursement for D.N.P., Inc. (\$165,438.70). Commissioner Symmes seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Spear returned to the meeting.

Commissioner Symmes moved to approve the disbursements listed below except for Equitable Financial Life Insurance Co., Arthur J. Gallagher, Mississippi Power Company and D.N.P, Inc. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

FINAL CHECKLIST FOR JUNE 23, 2026
BILLS FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY 2026 AND JUNE 2026 APPROVED AND PAID
FROM THE GROSS REVENUE FUND OF THE MS STATE PORT AUTHORITY AT GULFPORT

CHECK NO.	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
63040	AGJ Systems & Networks, Inc.	IT Services	327.54
63041	Amazon Capital Services, INC.	Office Supplies	1,382.13
63042	City of Gulfport	Water	14,424.52
63043	C Spire Wireless	Cell Phone Services	1,677.98
63044	C Spire Business Solutions	Office Phones/Internet	1,826.62
63046	ECO Commercial Roofing, LLC	Shed 53 Roof Repair	7,000.00
63047	Equitable Financial Life Insurance Co.	Employee Deductions	1,805.17
63048	Federal Express Corp.	Express Mail Services	18.83
63049	Fuelman	Fuel for MSPA Vehicles	695.39
63050	Arthur J. Gallagher	Insurance	1,571.00
63051	Great Southern Club	Business Dev. Meetings & Monthly Dues	1,075.49
63052	Whitney Bank Divisional Property	July Office Lease Suite 1450	29,348.92
63053	Whitney Bank Trust & Asset Management	Investment Services	25,185.48
63054	Imperial Bag & Paper Co., LLC	Janitorial Supplies	1,303.65
63055	Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals, Inc.	Membership Dues	825.00
63056	Jerry's Lawn Mower Sales	Equipment Parts	342.09
63057	Robert J. Knesal	Per Diem	40.00
63058	Mark P. Loughman	Per Diem	80.00
63059	McClatchy Company, LLC	Legal Ads - Bids & Employment	1,693.20
63060	James Moody	Per Diem	40.00
63061	MS Power Company	Electricity	163,274.10
63062	Pass Road Mini Storage, LLC	Storage Unit Rent	189.00
63063	Redd Pest Solutions	Pest Control Services	120.00
63064	Cowles Edgar Symmes	Per Diem	120.00
63065	Union Auto Parts	Maintenance Supplies	757.92
63066	Greenheck Fan Corporation	Maintenance Supplies	1,004.14
63067	Upchurch Services, LLC	Organic Room Chiller Repair	7,299.31

63068	USA Poultry & Egg Export Council, Inc.	Membership Dues	4,300.00
63069	United States Postal Service	PO Box Lease	398.00
TOTAL			268,125.48
TRANSFERS			
ACH	AirGas Gulf States	Acetylene, Oxygen and Argon Cylinders	437.49
ACH	Norma Jean Ladner Soro	Transcription Services	354.48
ACH	Seal Electrical, Inc.	Light Install & Repair	2,592.06
ACH	Gary Pitcovich	Reimbursement - TWIC Renewal	116.00
ACH	Zoro Tools, Inc.	Maintenance Supplies	3,190.24
ACH	Errol LaRue	Reimbursement	239.40
ACH	SSA Conventional, Inc.	Trailer Rent - Cotton Compress	900.00
ACH	Jon T. Nass	Reimbursement	2,566.09
ACH	South Mississippi Business Machines	Copier Lease & Maintenance	396.10
ACH	Portable Services, Inc	Portable Restroom Services	875.00
ACH	KLDiscovery Ontrack, LLC	Professional Services	1,477.00
ACH	Kathryn Dennis Spear	Per Diem	40.00
ACH	Timeless Designs of Lucedale LLC	Interior Plant Maintenance	279.69
ACH	U.S. Bank	Subscriptions, Office Supplies, Meeting Supplies	3,907.40
ACH	SoftResources LLC	ERP Consulting Services	2,362.50
ACH	Aesir Services, Inc.	Environmental Online Consultants	500.00
ACH	Covenant Government Affairs, LLC	Professional Consulting Services	10,000.00
ACH	NEXTAFF	Temp Employee - Receptionist	1,256.18
ACH	Tyler Technologies, Inc.	ERP Setup	3,490.00
ACH	EcoWaste Solutions	Dumpster	1,065.00
TOTAL			304,170.11

Commissioner Symmes moved to approve the Port User Licenses, pending receipt of all fees and insurance documents. Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

The following items were approved:

RENEWAL LICENSES:

Vendor All Crane Rental
 Arrow Sysco Food Services
 Auto Chlor Services
 Dockside Services
 Eagle Energy, Inc.
 Maymar Marine Supply
 Wrist USA (World Ship Supply)

Steamship Agent: Biehl & Company
 Dole Fresh Fruit
 General Steamship Corporation
 GAC Shipping

Stevedore: CSA Equipment Co., LLC
 Ports America Gulfport, Inc.

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve the following progress payments:
 Balch & Bingham (\$38,605.00), HDR Engineering (\$65,695.00), and MP Desgin (\$159,461.35). Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

The HDR Engineering amount was amended from \$65,943.00 to \$65,695.00 due to a clerical error.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Symmes moved to approve Amendment No. 2 to MP Design Group contract 23-EN-01 to extend services at current rates on July 1, 2026, for one (1) additional year, expiring on June 30, 2027, to allow the completion of the following active Work Orders:

- Work Order No. 8 - Support for the USACE Channel Deepening and Widening Feasibility Study.
 - Work Order No. 11 - Geotechnical and Construction Materials Testing Services
 - Work Order No. 12 - Engineering and Surveying Services for Maintenance Dredge
 - Work Order No. 14 - Engineering Services for East Pier Containment Berm
 - Work Order No. 15 - Modification of USACE East Pier Expansion Permit
 - Work Order No. 17 - Design and Construction Phase Services for Painting Main Gate, Water Tower, and Shed 16
 - Work Order No. 18 - Engineering Services for Inspection, Engineering, and Survey Services for Rail Replacement
 - Work Order No. 20 - Repainting West Pier Tenant Gates Project (Crowley, Chiquita and Dole)
 - Work Order No. 21 - Engineering Services for Under Wharf Concrete Repairs.
- Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Symmes moved to approve approval of Modification No. 1 to Work Order No. 17 under Contract 23-EN-01 to increase funding by \$19,950.00, for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$82,460.00. The increase in funding is associated with the additional repairs to West Pier Security Gate and assessment, design, and repair coordination for damage sustained to the east side canopy of Shed 16 during the two high-wind storm events that occurred last month. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Spear left the meeting.

Commissioner Symmes approved Change Order No. 2 to Contract 26-EN-02 with DNP, Inc. for Miscellaneous Painting Projects to increase funding by \$103,000.00, for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1,002,279.92 and increases contract time to 148 days, for a revised completion date of 10/26/2026. The increase in funding is associated with repairs to damage sustained to the east side canopy of Shed 16 during the two high-wind storm events that occurred last month. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Spear returned to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Symmes moved to approve 26-EN-04 with Twin L Construction, Inc. for the Repainting West Pier Tenant Gates Project. June 3rd, 2026, MSPA received and opened three (3) bids for Repainting West Pier Tenant Gates Project. Twin L. Construction, Inc. submitted the lowest and best bid of \$336,250.00. Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve the recommended functional operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year ending June 30, 2027. This functional operating budget is similar to the LBO budget previously approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 26, 2025. Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

ENGINEERING UPDATE:

Shawn Meyer reported on current engineering projects.

OPERATIONS REPORT:

Shawn Meyer reported on the maritime activity for May 2026:

Vessels	14		Vehicles	14,000
Tugs	6		Railcars	678
Tonnage (YTD)	1,905,957		Barges	42
Tonnage	131,971		TEU (monthly)	15,259
TEU's (short tons)	163,275		Cruise line	0

Year-to-date tonnage decreased by 7 percent, and monthly tonnage decreased by 21%, this was due to the bulk carrier last year. The large increase was due to a bulk carrier. Fiscal year-to-date TEU's declined by 5 percent, and monthly TEU's decreased by 1 percent due to market trends.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

Executive Director Nass informed the Board of the upcoming Budget Workshop to be held prior to the next board meeting. Dates will be circulated to Board members, with a proposed date being July 21, 2026.

Director Nass also reminded the Board that beginning with July 26, 2026, the regular Board meeting start time will be adjusted to 10:30 a.m.

The Gulf Coast Business Council is scheduled to meet on Friday, July 26, 2026, at which Director Nass will be presenter.

The Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIPD) grant process is currently underway.

Director Nass provided an update on the Deepening and Widening project, noting that the effort has been in development for the past three and a half years. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Chief Report has now recommended the project, representing a significant milestone in advancing the initiative.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S COMMENTS:

Ben Stone thanked the Commission for its hard work and ongoing efforts.

MDA'S COMMENTS:

No present.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Loughman thanked the staff, contractors and partners along with a special thank you to the congressional delegation who were part of the Deepening and Widening of the channel efforts.

Commissioner Symmes moved to close the meeting to discuss the need for an Executive Session. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

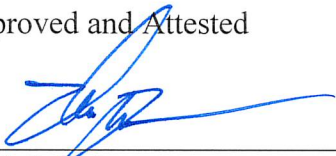
Commissioner Symmes moved to enter Executive Session to litigation, location, relocation or expansion of a business and prospective leasing of land. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

(THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT APPROXIMATELY 9:43 A.M.)

Commissioner Symmes moved to adjourn. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:35 a.m.

Approved and Attested



Mark Loughman
President



Kathryn Dennis Spear
Secretary