

MISSISSIPPI PORT AUTHORITY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

June 24, 2021

Minutes of the Mississippi State Port Authority Board of Commissioners Meeting, Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 2510 14th Street, Suite 1450, Gulfport, Mississippi at which the following Commissioners and staff were present:

Commissioners: E.J. Roberts, President
Robert J. Knesal, Vice-President
James C. Simpson, Jr., Secretary
John Rester, Treasurer
Jack Norris, Commissioner

Staff: Jon Nass, CEO
Matthew Wypyski, Deputy Director/COO
Kim Purchner, Executive Asst./HRO
Nick Foto, Deputy Program Manager
DeeDee Wood, CFO
Carlos Bell, Director of Public Engagement
Errol LaRue, Govt. & Legal Affairs Manager
Matt Gabbett, Deputy Director of Operations
Kim Aguiard, Marketing & Media Manager
Gary Pitcovich, Crane Manager
Shawn Meyer, Director of Operations
Mel Arsenault, Director of Grant/Workforce Dev.
Allison Chimenya, Marketing Specialist

Ben Stone, Legal Counsel
David Duhe, Legal Counsel

Others: Philip Carter, MDA
Brian Smith, Watkins Eager
Michael Sheely, Jacobs Engineering
William Collins, LBO
Deborah Coleman, LBO
Duane Wilson, Chemours
Brian Cuevas, USM
Bruce Newton, Digital Engineering
Joey Beattie, SSH/BXS Insurance

Commissioner Roberts noted the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Roberts.

The invocation was given by Carlos Bell, MSPA.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve the Minutes from May 27, 2021. Commissioner Rester seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Rester moved to approve travel (June 21-23) Nass to Miami, FL; (July 28-29) Nass, LaRue, Aguillard, Bell to Philadelphia, MS. Commissioner Simpson seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Simpson moved to approve the disbursements listed below. Commissioner Rester seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

DISBURSEMENTS THROUGH JUNE 08, 2021
BILLS FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE 2021 APPROVED AND PAID
FROM THE GROSS REVENUE FUND OF THE MS STATE PORT AUTHORITY AT GULFPORT

CHK#	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	CHK AMT
57156	American Assoc. of Port Auth.	Membership Dues	17,624.00
57157	ABB, Inc.	Crane Inspection and Maintenance	14,394.24
57158	AGJ Systems & Networks, Inc.	Computer Maintenance	4,465.00
57159	Sparklight	Internet Services	91.18
57160	CenterPoint Energy	Natural Gas Services	28.85
57161	CenterPoint Energy	Natural Gas Services	28.85
57162	City of Gulfport	Water	6,194.64
57163	Collection Services Center	Employee Deductions	90.06
57164	ESL Power Systems, Inc.	Rebuild Reefer Plugs	12,166.06
57165	Federal Express Corp.	Express Mail Services	39.52
57166	Fuelman	Fuel for MSPA Vehicles	706.14
57167	Goodwill Industries of South Mississippi	Registration Fee	50.00
57168	Grainger, Inc.	Maintenance Supplies and Batteries for Drills	983.04
57169	Great Southern Club	Monthly Dues and Business Expenses	707.82
57170	MS State Treasurer Fund 3360900000	Telephone/Internet Services	204.59
57171	Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals, Inc.	Membership Dues	825.00
57172	Newell Paper Co.	Janitorial Supplies	482.22
57173	Kalmar USA, Inc.	Tools and Supplies to Replace Spreader Plugs	908.36
57174	Errol LaRue	Registration Fee	25.00
57175	Lowe's Home Center, Inc.	Truck Toolbox and Maintenance Supplies	1,124.46
57176	Shawn Meyer	Travel Expenses	121.58
57177	MS Dept. of Human Services CRDU	Employee Deductions	156.00
57178	MS Power Company	Electricity	131,427.67
57179	MS Pub. Employees Credit Union	Employee Deductions	320.00
57180	Jonathan T. Nass	Travel Expenses	245.92
57181	Pass Road Mini Storage, LLC	Storage Unit Rent	180.00
57182	PTW	Tires for MSPA Vehicles - Unit #'s 7, 22 and 24	1,336.74
57183	Redd Pest Solutions	Pest Control Services	90.00
57184	RJ Young Company, Inc.	Printer Maintenance	482.56
57185	ServiceWear Apparel, Inc.	Employee Uniforms	546.80
57186	Norma Jean Soroe	Transcription Services	504.48
57187	Specialty Hose & Fabrication	Replacement Hydraulic Hoses for Cranc Spreader	100.09
57188	Star Service Inc. of Mobile	HVAC/R Maintenance and Repair Services	1,585.50
57189	Swetman Security Services, Inc.	Security Guard Services	59,963.92
57190	Southern Tire Mart, LLC	Tires for Backhoe	694.04
57191	Trane U.S., Inc.	Freight Charges for Compressor	50.00
57192	Vacuum Truck Sales & Service, LLC	Trunking Hose for Street Sweeper	1,102.09
57193	Waste Management	Waste Removal Services	571.40
57194	Zoro Tools, Inc.	Repair Supplies and Ladders for Crane Maintenance Rack	3,319.99
TRANSFERS			
06/03/21	State School Insurance Fund/DFA	06/2021 Employee Health and Life Insurance	22,259.88

06/03/21	Public Employment Retirement	Retirement Match and Withheld	55,376.72
06/04/21	Deferred Compensation	Employee Deductions	1,232.50
		Total	<u>\$342,806.91</u>

FINAL CHECKLIST FOR JUNE 24, 2021
 BILLS FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE 2021 APPROVED AND PAID
 FROM THE GROSS REVENUE FUND OF THE MS STATE PORT AUTHORITY AT GULFPORT

CHK #	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	CHK AMT
57201	AFLAC	Employee Deductions	1,683.06
57202	AirGas Gulf States	Acetylene, Oxygen and Argon Cylinders	126.48
57203	AT&T Corp	Website Hosting	89.96
57204	Barefield Workplace Solutions, Inc.	Office Supplies	129.90
57205	B.E.A.R.	Repair Gantry Motor on Crane #2	1,860.00
57206	Card Services	Conference Registration Fees and Business Travel Expenses	5,266.95
57207	Certex USA, Inc.	Wire Rope Spools	250.00
57208	Chancellor, Inc.	Proxy Switches for Cranes	2,310.00
57209	Sun Coast Business Supply	Signature Stamp	16.96
57210	Collection Services Center	Employee Deductions	90.06
57212	Dean Jaramillo	A/P Checks	612.85
57213	Emerald TC, LLC	Tech Support	46.25
57214	Ewing/Kessler Parts & Supply, LLC	Repair Parts for Electrical Platform A/C Units	1,318.26
57215	Federal Express Corp.	Express Mail Services	104.88
57216	Fuelman	Fuel for MSPA Vehicles	787.80
57217	Grainger, Inc.	Small Hand Tool, Oil Transfer Pump and Batteries	700.51
57218	Guardian	Employee Deductions	1,877.59
57219	Hancock Bank	July Lease for Suite 1450	25,316.64
57220	Harbor Square Parking Garage	Parking Garage Quarterly Rent	3,185.25
57221	Jerry's Lawn Mower Sales	Mower Canopy and Maintenance Supplies	560.72
57222	Kalmar USA, Inc.	Replacement Rollers and Buffers for Cranes	2,661.80
57223	Keeling Co. - Gulfport	Replacement Parts for Irrigation System	768.19
57224	Robert J. Knesal	Per Diem	120.00
57225	Lowe's Home Center, Inc.	Maintenance Supplies	168.76
57227	MS Dept. of Human Services CRDU	Employee Deductions	156.00
57228	MS Pub. Employees Credit Union	Employee Deductions	320.00
57229	MSPA Petty Cash Fund	Replenish Petty Cash	138.68
57230	Jon T. Nass	Business Expenses	16.04
57231	National Crane Services, Inc.	Annual OSHA Inspections/Certifications for Cranes	5,495.00
57232	Necaise Locksmith	Customs Booth Lock Repair	247.50
57233	Jack Norris	Per Diem	160.00
57234	Odgers Berndtson, LLC	Executive Director Search Expenses	2,623.11
57235	Pass Road Mini Storage, LLC	Storage Unit Rent	155.00
57236	The Port Employees Assoc.	Employee Deductions	136.00
57237	Legal Shield	Employee Deductions	118.61
57238	Kim Purchner	Business Expenses	26.35
57239	Eluse J. Roberts	Per Diem	120.00
57240	Rotary Club of Gulfport	Business Expenses	102.00
57241	Rotolo Consultants, Inc. dba RCI	Landscape Services	2,073.48
57242	Sorg Printing, LLC	Business Cards	38.00
57243	James C. Simpson, Jr.	Per Diem	120.00
57244	South Mississippi Business Machines	Copier Maintenance	1,138.00
57245	Southern Printing & Silkscreen	Logos and Names for Employee Uniforms	180.00
57246	Southern Admin. and Benefits	Employee Deductions	1,000.00
57247	Specialty Hose & Fabrication	Replacement Valves for Cranes and Hoses for Forklift	836.30
57248	SSA Gulf Inc.	Office Trailer Rent for Cotton Compress	850.00
57249	Swetman Security Services, Inc.	Security Guard Services	29,087.09

57250	System Scale Corporation	Calibration of Inbound/Outbound Scales	1,025.00
57251	TeleSouth Communications, Inc.	Maritime Week Advertising	400.00
57252	United Way of South MS, Inc.	Employee Deductions	267.76
57253	United States Postal Service	P.O. Box 40 Service Fee	322.00
57254	Vision Service Plan	Employee Deductions	234.88
57255	Vulcan Construction Materials, LLC	Limestone for Cotton Compress	3,069.18
57256	Waste Management	Waste Removal Services	24.90
57257	DeeDee Wood	Registration Fee for Continuing Education	170.00
57258	Matthew Wypyski	Business Expenses	160.82
57259	Zoro Tools, Inc.	Batteries for Crane #1 UPS System and Maintenance Supplies	2,328.81
CHECKS DATED 06/16/21 AND RELEASED PRIOR TO SCHEDULED CHECK RUN			
57195	Sparklight	Cable Services	178.96
57196	City of Gulfport	Water	4,081.44
57197	Department of State	Passport Renewal for J. Nass	140.00
57198	Waste Management	Waste Removal Services	370.36
57199	C Spire Wireless	Cell Phone Services	1,033.95
57200	C Spire Business Solutions	Telephone/Internet Services	2,977.29
TRANSFERS			
06/09/21	Federal Tax Deposit	Payroll Tax Deposit	24,788.47
06/10/21	MS Department of Revenue	Employee Deductions	6,944.00
06/17/21	MS Department of Revenue	Sales Tax Payment	13,354.46
06/18/21	Deferred Compensation	Employee Deductions	1,232.50
06/23/21	Federal Tax Deposit	Payroll Tax Deposit	29,033.83
Total			\$187,328.64

Commissioner Simpson moved to approve the Port User Licenses, pending receipt of all fees and insurance documents. Commissioner Rester 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.; Kirby Inland Marine; Maymar Marine Supply; Wrist USA (World Ship Supply)

Steamship Agent: Biehl & Company; Dole Fresh Fruit; General Steamship Corporation; Norton Lilly International; GAC Shipping

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

Pilot: Murrel Hilton, II; Robert Wren

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve the following progress payments: Balch & Bingham (\$46,068.29); CH2MHill (\$48,196.98); Digital Engineering (\$54,043.00); Jacobs Engineering (\$30,435.47); Moran Hauling (\$4,750.00); and Moran Hauling (\$98,433.55). Commissioner Rester seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Simpson moved to approve Cash Request #286 to Eley Guild Hardy (\$60,445.00); MSPA (\$13,268.50) and Wharton Smith (\$1,631,518.98) for a total of \$1,705,232.48. Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Rester moved to approve Cash Request #287 to CH2MHill for a total of \$6,470.84. Commissioner Norris seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Rester moved to award the electrical services contract to Seal Electric. The annual amount of the contract is \$79,000 with a term of 3 years and a renewal option of 2 years. Commissioner Norris seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Simpson moved to ratify Amendment No. 2 for concession advisory services with ARUP Advisory, Inc. that was signed by the Commission on June 14, 2021. Amendment No. 2 renews the contract for one year. Commissioner Rester seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Simpson moved to approve Change Order No. 4 with Wharton Smith, Inc. under Contract No. 020-HUD-049. Change Order No. 4 adds \$34,962.38 with no change in time. Commissioner Rester seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Rester moved to commit funds in the amount of \$7,000,000.00 for the purpose of deepening and widening the Federal Navigation Channel per Resolution No. 19-09. Commissioner Simpson seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Rester moved to approve the FY22 Operating Budget in the amount of \$16,094,360.00. Commissioner Knesal seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

PORT RESTORATION/ENGINEERING UPDATE:

Nick Foto gave an update on the OEF construction and John Webb gave updates on the current engineering projects. Michael Sheely, Jacobs Engineering, gave an update on the channel widening and deepening project.

OPERATIONS REPORT:

Shawn Meyer, Director of Operations reported on the maritime activity for the month of May 2021:

Vessels	15		Vehicles	11,198
TEU's	16,139,000		Railcar Count	683
Tonnage (short tons)	197,293			

The TEU count is up 38% from May of 2020 and the Tonnage count is up 73% from May of 2020.

Matthew Wypyski reported that the dredge barge will be back near the end of July as funding has been located.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

The U.S. Secretary of Commerce will be visiting the Port tomorrow to see more about USM's Blue Economy program. We will be participating on site as well.

Invitations for a July 13th event should have been received by Commissioners regarding Dole's christening of their new vessel, The Dole Maya.

Director Nass recently traveled to Miami for the FCCA Return to Cruise Summit. The cruise industry has been hit with hard times and we will be looking at what role we may or may not play in the future regarding the cruise industry.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S COMMENTS:

Ben Stone had no comments.

MDA'S COMMENTS:

Philip Carter had no comments.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Roberts thanked Director Nass for his recap and comments from the recent FCCA Summit in Miami.

Commissioner Norris commented on the timing of the KCS train that crosses Hwy 90 most days.

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

Commissioner Rester moved to enter Executive Session to discuss real estate matters (lease negotiations) and personnel matters. Commissioner Simpson seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

(THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT APPROXIMATELY 1:45 P.M.)


Commissioner Rester moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Norris seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Roberts stated that no action took place during Executive Session.

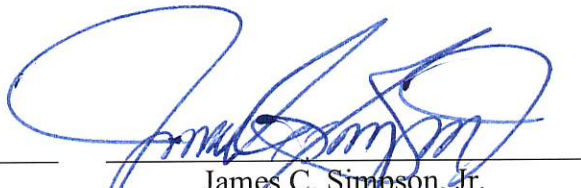
Commissioner Rester moved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Approved and Attested



E.J. Roberts
President



James C. Simpson, Jr.
Secretary