

MISSISSIPPI PORT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING

June 26, 2025

Minutes of the Mississippi State Port Authority Board of Commissioners Meeting,
Thursday, June 25, 2025, at 2510 14th Street, Suite 1450, Gulfport, Mississippi at which
the following Commissioners and staff were present:

Commissioners:	Cowles Symmes, President Mark Loughman, Vice-President Robert J. Knesal, Secretary Kathryn Dennis Spear, Treasurer (via telephone) James Moody, Commissioner
Staff:	Jon Nass, CEO Shawn Meyer, COO Jennifer Smith, Chief of Staff Kecia Laneaux, Executive Affairs Manager James Buras, Port Engineer John D'Antico, General Counsel Teresa Ehrlich, Project Manager Cindy Ford, Contract/Administrative Assistant Lisa Mussa, Accounting Specialist KeCheira Shelby, Senior Accountant Melissa Scallan, Director of Communications & Marketing Krisen Bellatti, Marketing & Public Relations Specialist Samantha Gundlach, Communications & Marketing Assoc. Ally Jones-Johnson, Safety and Stewardship Coordinator M. Brant Pettis, Legal Counsel
Others:	Philip Carter, MDA Kelby Cuevas, Dole Lena Beth Chancey, Dole Robert Wren, MS State Pilots Darius Johnson, ILA Local 1303 Chris Kirby, USM Colin MacPherson, EN Bisso/Gulfport Towing Nick Moody, MP Design Group Joey Beattie, SSH/Gallagher Chelsea Paige, Hilton Garden Inn Gulfport

Commissioner Symmes 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 Symmes.

The invocation was given by Ally Jones-Johnson, MSPA.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

Commissioner Moody moved to approve the Minutes from May 22, 2025, Board Meeting. Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve travel (April 29-May 2) – Nass to Washington, DC and (July 9-12) – Nass to Miami, FL. Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve the disbursements listed below with the exception of Equitable Financial Life Insurance Co., Wright National Flood Insurance, Mississippi Power Company and DNP, Inc. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

DISBURSEMENTS THROUGH JUNE 10, 2025

BILLS FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE 2025 APPROVED AND PAID

FROM THE GROSS REVENUE FUND OF THE MS STATE PORT AUTHORITY AT GULFPORT

CHK #	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
62118	AirGas Gulf States	Oxygen Cylinder	153.91
62119	Alexander, Van Loon, Sloan	Audit Services	5,627.95
62120	Amazon Capital Services, INC.	Computer Equipment, TV's for Marketing & Office Supplies	1,217.76
62121	City of Gulfport	Water	12,460.26
62122	Core Logistical Solutions, LLC	Crowley Overhead Door Repair	450.00
62123	Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc	Led High Bay Lights and Electrical Supplies	12,425.09
62124	Continental Battery Company	Equipment Batteries	275.42
62125	Cornett Bolt & Screw	Supplies for Water Line Repair	271.76
62126	ECO Commercial Roofing, LLC	Crowley Roof Repair and Shed 50 Repairs	6,700.00
62127	Federal Express Corp.	Express Mail Services	9.13
62128	Fuelman	Fuel for MSPA Vehicles	182.49
62129	Grainger, Inc.	Welding Rods	945.92
62130	Gulf Coast Business Supply, Inc.	Office Supplies	1,228.90
62131	MS State Treasurer Fund 3360900000	Telephone/Internet Services	118.99
62132	MS-JS, Inc DBA Johnstone Supply of Gpt	Compressors for Chillers	16,891.56
62133	Lowe's Home Center, Inc.	Ladder and Maintenance Supplies	1,193.20
62134	Mark Dunning Industries, Inc.	Waste Removal Services	930.00
62135	McClatchy Company, LLC	Advertising	445.03
62136	Meltwater News US Inc.	Subscription	5,000.00
62137	IDEMIA	TWIC Card	124.00
62138	Peopletail, LLC	Employee Testing	183.20
62139	Portable Services, Inc	Portable Restroom Services	480.00
62140	It's Promo Time	Name Plate Badges	220.98
62141	Redd Pest Solutions	Pest Control Services	73.50
62142	RJ Young Company, Inc.	Printer Maintenance	600.00
62143	Rotolo Consultants, Inc. dba RCI	Pine Straw Application	3,999.76
62144	SalesSource International	Check Scanner	518.00
62145	Southern Admin. and Benefits	Monthly Service Fee	208.00
62146	SSA Gulf Inc.	Office Trailer Rent for Cotton Compress	900.00
62147	Swetman Security Services, Inc.	Security Guard Services	32,520.50
62148	Timeless Designs of Lucedale LLC	Interior Plant Maintenance	279.69
62149	U.S. Bank	Travel Expenses	1,210.43
62150	U.S. Bank	Website Hosting, Adobe Subscription & Motor Starter for Crowley Fan	254.52
62151	United States Postal Service	Post Office Box Rental	382.00
62152	Zoro Tools, Inc.	Dock Bumpers, Striping Machine, Tools, Electrical & Maintenance Supplies	9,063.82
62153	James Buras	Travel Expenses	1,365.43

CHECK DATED 05/22/25 AND RELEASED PRIOR TO SCHEDULED CHECK RUN

62112	Errol LaRue	Travel Expenses	1,110.23
CHECK DATED 05/30/25 AND RELEASED PRIOR TO SCHEDULED CHECK RUN			
62113	Great Southern Club	Monthly Dues and Business Expenses	277.36
62114	Sparklight	Internet Services	98.18
62115	Delta Utilities	Natural Gas Services	45.52
62116	Pass Road Mini Storage LLC	Storage Unit Rent	198.00
62117	Wright National Flood Ins.	Insurance	1,916.00
TRANSFERS			
05/29/25	Federal Tax Deposit	Payroll Tax Deposit	31,967.91
06/01/25	State School Insurance Fund/DFA	05/2025 Employee Health & Life Insurance	15,444.20
06/09/25	Regus	June and July Rent for Public Affairs Office in Jackson MS	1,255.20
06/10/25	Public Employment Retirement	Retirement Match & Withheld	88,388.10
06/11/25	MS Department of Revenue	Employee Deductions	10,829.00
Total			<u>\$270,440.90</u>

FINAL CHECKLIST FOR JUNE 26, 2025

BILLS FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE 2025 APPROVED AND PAID
FROM THE GROSS REVENUE FUND OF THE MS STATE PORT AUTHORITY AT GULFPORT

CHK #	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
62155	Kentwood Springs	Drinking Water	522.08
62156	AFLAC	Employee Deductions	424.06
62157	AGJ Systems & Networks, Inc.	Computer Maintenance	4,842.50
62158	All Safe Technologies, LLC	Fire Alarm Monitoring	263.70
62159	Amazon Capital Services, INC.	Marketing Miscellaneous Supplies, Office Supplies & Recessed Lights	1,130.31
62160	Apex Environmental Consultants, Inc.	Environmental Online Consultants	500.00
62161	Sparklight	Cable Services	258.07
62162	Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc.	LED Lighting for Operations Building and West Pier Electrical Supplies	25,822.74
62163	C Spire Wireless	Cell Phone Services	1,394.68
62164	C Spire Business Solutions	Telephone/Internet Services	1,796.33
62166	Equitable Financial Life Insurance Co.	Employee Deductions	1,523.78
62167	Federal Express Corp.	Express Mail Services	8.95
62168	Ferguson Enterprises, LLC	Supplies for Water Line Repair Under Dock	556.00
62169	Fuelman	Fuel for MSPA Vehicles	449.27
62170	Gleem Paint Center	Traffic Paint and Sprayer Hose	1,457.45
62171	Great Southern Club	Monthly Dues and Business Expenses	155.12
62172	Gulf Coast Business Supply, Inc.	Office Supplies	36.42
62173	Gulf Coast Community Foundation	Sponsorship	700.00
62175	Harbor Square Parking Garage	Parking Garage Quarterly Rent	3,768.45
62176	HRdirect	Right to Work and Poster Guard Renewal	127.90
62177	MS State Treasurer Fund 3360900000	Telephone/Internet Services	120.97
62178	Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals, Inc.	Membership Dues	825.00
62180	Jerry's Lawn Mower Sales	Mower Parts	219.21
62181	KLDDiscovery Ontrack, LLC	Professional Services	1,477.00
62182	Robert J. Knesal	Per Diem	40.00
62183	Errol LaRue	Continuing Legal Education	99.99
62184	FinQuery LLC	Subscription Renewal	3,935.00
62185	Mark P. Loughman	Per Diem	40.00
62186	Lowe's Home Center, Inc.	Ceiling Tiles and Ladder	366.67
62188	Miner, Ltd	Dock Bumpers	22,240.00
62189	James Moody	Per Diem	80.00
62190	MS Gulf Coast Chamber of Comm.	Sponsorship	750.00
62191	MS Power Company	Electricity	154,689.89
62192	Jon T. Nass	Travel Expenses	1,837.58
62193	David Palmer	TWIC Renewal	124.00
62194	Pass Road Mini Storage, LLC	Storage Unit Rent	187.00

62195	Redd Pest Solutions	Pest Control Services	90.00
62196	RJ Young Company, Inc.	Printer Maintenance	600.00
62197	Rotolo Consultants, Inc. dba RCI	Landscape Service	5,287.65
62198	SBL Strategies, LLC	Professional Consulting Services	10,000.00
62199	Seal Electrical, Inc.	Electrical Repair Services	10,470.34
62200	Stericycle, Inc.	Document Shredding Services	173.43
62201	Sorg Printing, LLC	Business Cards	86.00
62202	South Mississippi Business Machines	Copier Maintenance	509.00
62203	Norma Jean Ladner Soro	Transcription Services	394.48
62204	Southern Admin. and Benefits	Monthly Service Fee	208.00
62205	Kathryn Dennis Spear	Per Diem	40.00
62206	Stribling Equipment, LLC	Hydraulic Cylinder for Backhoe	1,956.06
62207	Swetman Security Services, Inc.	Security Guard Services	65,586.00
62208	Cowles Edgar Symmes	Per Diem	80.00
62209	TGG Management Company, Inc.	Consulting Services	550.00
62210	Timeless Designs of Lucedale LLC	Interior Plant Maintenance	279.69
62211	Zoro Tools, Inc.	Tools, Safety Supplies and Life Jackets	2,478.32
CHECK DATED 06/23/25 AND RELEASED PRIOR TO SCHEDULED CHECK RUN			
62154	NEWK'S	Tenant and Partner Advisory Committee Meeting	246.00
TRANSFERS			
06/13/25	Federal Tax Deposit	Payroll Tax Deposit	30,101.64
06/13/25	Deferred Compensation	Employee Deductions	1,927.00
06/20/25	MS Department of Revenue	Sales Tax Payment	10,025.07
Total			<u>\$373,858.80</u>

Commissioner Moody left the meeting.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve the disbursements for Equitable Financial Life Insurance Company. (\$1,523.78) and Wright National Flood Insurance (\$1,916.00). Commissioner Knesal 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 (\$154,689.89). Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman returned to the meeting.

The following items were approved:

RENEWAL LICENSES:

There were no licenses for approval this month.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve the following progress payments: Balch & Bingham (\$21,438.75); Gulf Regional Planning Commission (\$1,275.51); J.E. Borries, Inc. (\$694,521.25); MP Design Group (\$111,544.95); Wise Carter (\$503.50); and WSP USA, Inc. (\$8,854.79). Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Spear left the meeting via telephone.

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve the following progress payments: DNP, Inc. (\$411,771.71). Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Spear returned to the meeting via telephone.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve an additional \$413,400.00 to the Feasibility Cost Share Agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve modification No. 1 to Work Order No. 16 under Contract No. 23-EN-01 with MP Design Group. Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve FY 2026 Operating Budget for the upcoming fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approval the awarding of Contract No. 26-FD-03 for Auditor of Financial Statements to Maudlin and Jenkins of Atlanta, GA to perform audit services beginning July 1, 2025. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion. Commissioner Knesal opposed.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve the awarding of Rotolo Consultants, Inc. contract for landscape maintenance beginning July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028, with a renewal option of two years. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve awarding Maritime Defense Strategy, LLC the contract for Security Compliance. Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Moody moved to approve advertising for proposals to provide Asphalt Pavement Maintenance Services. Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve Work Order No. 17 for engineering services for the design and construction phase services for painting. Work will be performed at the rates established in Amendment No. 1 to Contract 23-EN-01 for a not to exceed amount of \$62,510.00. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

ENGINEERING UPDATE:

James Buras reported on current engineering projects.

OPERATIONS REPORT:

Shawn Meyer reported on the maritime activity for May 2025:

Vessels	13		Vehicles	14,000
Tugs	8		Railcars	625
Tonnage (YTD)	2,052,524		Barges	26
Tonnage	166,223		TEU (monthly)	15,453
TEU's (short tons)	171,276			

Hurricane Meeting was held last week and it was well attended. The Operations Department has secured items on the terminal in preparation of any potential storm threats.

Tonnage (YTD) increased by 16% over last fiscal year. Monthly tonnage increased by 1%. Year-to-date TEU's increased by 1% over last fiscal year. Monthly TEU's

decreased by 16% over last fiscal year. This was due in part to more empties being repositioned due to Hurricane season.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS:

TPAC meeting was held this week. This committee provides an opportunity for tenants and partners to talk through issues and receive feedback.

Director Nass discussed the marine tracker application that is currently tracking the new crane that is projected to arrive at the Port on August 28.

A commemorative video celebrating Dole Fresh Fruit’s 60 years at the Port, produced by MSPA Port Affairs department, was viewed. Director Nass thanked Dole for their partnership.

GENERAL COUNSEL’S COMMENTS:

Brant Pettis had no comments.

COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS:

Commissioner Symmes thanked Dole for their continued partnership in the last 60 years. He also thanked the MSPA team for their hard work preparing the 2026 Operating Budget.

MDA’S COMMENTS:

Philip Carter had no comments.

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

Commissioner Moody moved to enter Executive Session to discuss legal, real estate and personnel matters. Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

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

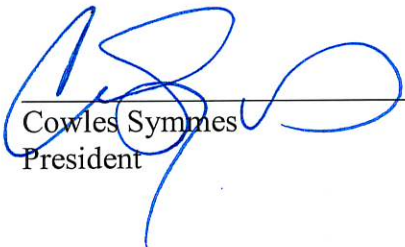
Commissioner Spear moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Symmes stated that no action took place during the Executive Session.

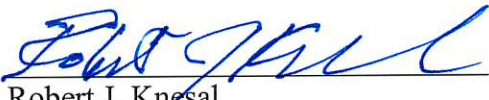
Commissioner Symmes moved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:50 a.m.

Approved and Attested



Cowles Symmes
President



Robert J. Knesal
Secretary