

MISSISSIPPI PORT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING

November 7, 2025

Minutes of the Mississippi State Port Authority Board of Commissioners Meeting,
Friday, November 7, 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
James Moody, Commissioner

Staff: Jon Nass, CEO
Shawn Meyer, COO
Mary Nelson, Office Coordinator
James Buras, Port Engineer
Errol LaRue, Counsel
Todd Harman, Director of Finance
Michelle Freeman, Receivables/Financial Analyst
Teresa Ehrlich, Project Manager
Melissa Scallan, Director of Communications & Marketing
Ally Jones-Johnson, Port Affairs Coordinator
Kristen Bellatti, Marketing & PR Specialist
Samantha Gundlach, Communication & Marketing Assoc.

Brant Pettis, Legal Counsel

Others: Philip Carter, MDA (via telephone)
Al Curtis, HDR
Mike Letort, Warren Paving
Matthew Hilton, Pilots
Murrell Hilton, Pilots
David Machado, MP Design
Chelsea Paige, Hilton Garden Inn Gulfport
TShona Smith, Residence Inn

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 Michelle Freeman, MSPA.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

Commissioner Moody moved to approve the Minutes from September 25, 2025, Board Meeting. Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve the disbursements listed below except for Equitable Financial Life Insurance Co., Mississippi Power Company and DNP, Inc. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

FINAL CHECKLIST FOR NOVEMBER 7, 2025			
BILLS FOR THE MONTHS OF SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2025 APPROVED AND PAID			
FROM THE GROSS REVENUE FUND OF THE MS STATE PORT AUTHORITY AT GULFPORT			
CHK #	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
62491	IDEMIA	Twic Card - M. Jones	124.00
62556	Kentwood Springs	Water	574.04
62557	Aesir Services, Inc.	Environmental Online Consultants	500.00
62558	AFLAC	Employee Deductions	228.54
62559	AGJ Systems & Networks, Inc.	Computer Maintenance	9,399.44
62560	Alexander, Van Loon, Sloan	Bond Renewal	587.45
62561	All Safe Technologies, LLC	Fire Alarm Monitoring	499.00
62562	Amazon Capital Services, INC.	Overflow Tank, Tail Lights and life Vest Cartridges	836.67
62563	Bay Motor Winding, Inc.	Voltage Phase Monitor, Contactor Relay and Control Board for Lift Station	5,974.00
62564	Boot Outlet, LLC	Work Boots	1,339.55
62565	Sparklight	Internet	264.26
62566	CDW Government	Laptop	1,904.00
62567	Core Logistical Solutions, LLC	Troubleshoot Door Restraint #6	450.00
62568	Coast Concrete Company, Inc.	Concrete Delivery	520.00
62569	C Spire Wireless	Cell Phone Services	1,459.75
62570	Deluxe Cleaners, Inc.	Tablecloths Cleaning	199.68
62571	DFA - Office of Insurance	Insurance	4,628.00
62572	DNA Underground, LLC	Exploratory Work At Roger Wicker Building	26,089.00
62573	DNA Underground, LLC	Exploratory Work At Roger Wicker Building	26,251.75
62574	DNA Underground, LLC	Exploratory Work At Roger Wicker Building	7,910.75
62575	DNA Underground, LLC	Exploratory Work At Roger Wicker Building	750.00
62577	Equitable Financial Life Insurance Co.	Employee Deductions	1,594.10
62578	Express Services, Inc.	Temporary Employment Services	1,841.76
62579	Federal Express Corp.	Express Mail Services	52.27
62580	Fischer's Inc.	Dole M&R Roof Repair	2,450.00
62581	Fuelman	Fuel for MSPA Vehicles	353.35
62582	Great Southern Club	Monthly Dues	104.00
62583	Harbor Square Parking Garage	Employee Parking	3,768.45
62585	Keeling Co. - Gulfport	Herbicide	5,207.08
62586	Kiwanis International of Gulfport	Membership Dues	327.00
62587	Robert J. Knesal	Per Diem	3,363.57
62588	Kecia Laneaux	Reimbursement	32.48
62589	Mark P. Loughman	Per Diem	40.00
62590	Lowe's Home Center, Inc.	Supplies	1,688.81
62592	James Moody	Per Diem	80.00
62593	MS State Agencies S/I Workers Comp Trust	Insurance	15,475.00
62594	MS Power Company	Electricity	190,306.79
62595	MS Power Company	Electricity	217,733.52
62596	Mary Nelson	Reimbursement	106.99
62597	Pass Road Mini Storage, LLC	Storage Unit Rent	198.00
62598	Redd Pest Solutions	Pest Control Services	73.50
62599	Revere Control Systems, Inc.	Troubleshoot Fire Supression System	3,678.00
62600	RJ Young Company, Inc.	Printer Maintenance	650.00
62601	Rotary Club of Gulfport	Membership Dues	265.00
62602	Rotolo Consultants, Inc. dba RCI	Landscape Services	3,254.60
62603	SBL Strategies, LLC	Professional Consulting Services	10,000.00
62604	Seal Electrical, Inc.	Repair North Stadium Light Pole	26,437.44
62605	Stericycle, Inc.	Document Shredding Services	188.41

62606	Sorg Printing, LLC	Business Cards	43.00
62607	South Mississippi Business Machines	Printer Maintenance	1,018.00
62608	Southern Admin. and Benefits	Monthly Service Fee	208.00
62609	Southeastern Overhead Door Inc.	Door Replacement	6,800.00
62610	Sun Herald	Advertisement	271.82
62611	Swetman Security Services, Inc.	Security Guard Services	106,173.00
62612	Cowles Edgar Symmes	Per Diem	120.00
62613	Timeless Designs of Lucedale LLC	Interior Plant Maintenance	279.69
62614	Southern Tire Mart, LLC	Tires	399.00
62615	Union Auto Parts	Auto Parts	1,986.21
62616	Upchurch Services, LLC	HVAC Repairs at OPS Building and Dole Chiller	24,033.95
62617	Vulcan Construction Materials, LLC	Crushed Limestone	3,330.22
62618	Warren Paving, Inc.	Loose Rip Rap	47,853.29
62619	Zoro Tools, Inc.	Maintenance Supplies and Transfer Tank	13,897.31
TRANSFERS			
ACH	Connected Oceans	Business Development and Consulting Services	23,745.66
ACH	Kathryn Dennis Spear	Per Diem	80.00
Total			<u>\$809,999.15</u>

Commissioner Moody left the meeting.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve the disbursements for Equitable Financial Life Insurance Company (\$1,594.10). 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 (\$408,040.31). Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman returned to the meeting.

RENEWAL LICENSES:

No license renewals for October 2025.

The following items were approved:

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve the following progress payments: Balch & Bingham (\$18,862.50); J.E. Borries, Inc. (\$87,010.50); MP Design Group (\$209,950.28) and WSP USA, Inc. (\$21,925.90). Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Spear left the meeting.

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve the disbursement for DNP, Inc. (\$817,280.03). Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Spear returned to the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve Modification No. 3 to Work Order No. 1 under Contract 23-EN-01 with MP Design Group. Work Order No. 1 scope covers on-

call engineering services which will increase the Work Order by \$75,000.00. Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Spear left the meeting.

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve Contract 26-EN-02 with D.N.P., Inc. for the Miscellaneous Painting Project. On October 17, 2025, the lowest and best bid of \$816,000.00 was submitted, reviewed and recommended for approval. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Spear returned to the meeting.

Commissioner Moody moved to approve authorization to pursue Strategic Multimodal Investment Fund grant funding from the Mississippi Department of Transportation to make improvements to the West Pier. The proposed project would improve electrical infrastructure on the West Pier to support a new electric mobile harbor crane. Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve allocating and expending a 20% match for the grant funded project contemplated in Resolution 25-08. The matching funds will be provided by SSA. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$2,093,438.76. MSPA's proposed match, by and through SSA, would be \$418,687.75. Commissioner Moody seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Moody moved to approve HDR's Work Order No. 4 to provide master planning services as outlined in HDR's proposal "East Pier Master Planning Services". The work will be provided for an amount not to exceed \$316,000.00 and will be billed at the hourly rates set forth in the job classifications described in Agreement 24-EN-04. Commissioner Loughman 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 September 2025:

Vessels	16		Vehicles	14,000
Tugs	9		Railcars	814
Tonnage (YTD)	684,135		Barges	36
Tonnage	212,015		TEU (monthly)	16,281
TEU's (short tons)	46,948			

There was an increase in imported fruits and bulk products, as well as in exports and general cargo.

Monthly TEU's decreased by 4%, while year-to-date TEU's increased by 4%.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

Randy Ladner will retire after 35 years of dedicated service to MSPA. A succession plan was initiated following Randy's announcement to retire in order to ensure a smooth transition.

Ally Johnson was recognized for earning a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources.

Director Nass provided an update on the implementation of the new ADP Payroll system and the upcoming ERP system selection. These initiatives are part of MSPA's efforts to modernize processes and improve operational efficiency.

Director Nass attended and presented at the AAPA Annual Convention and HUGE Annual Meeting, with Crowley also being a participant at HUGE.

Additionally, Director Nass delivered a presentation at the Mississippi Aerospace Defense Conference presentation in Biloxi.

A potential customer from Chile will visit next week. MSPA has pursued this opportunity for several years and looks forward to strengthening this relationship during the visit.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S COMMENTS:

Ben Stone had no comments.

MDA'S COMMENTS:

No comments.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Symmes congratulated Ally Johnson on obtaining her bachelor's degree.

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

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

(THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT APPROXIMATELY 9:33 A.M.)

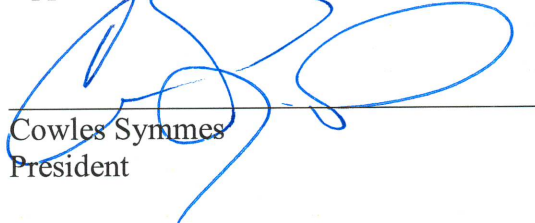
Commissioner Moody moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

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

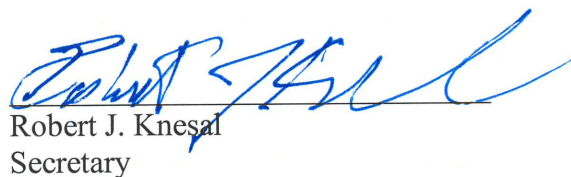
Commissioner Symmes moved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:25 a.m.

Approved and Attested



Cowles Symmes
President



Robert J. Knesal
Secretary