

MISSISSIPPI PORT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING

February 27, 2025

Minutes of the Mississippi State Port Authority Board of Commissioners Meeting,
Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 2510 14th Street, Suite 1450, Gulfport, Mississippi at
which the following Commissioners and staff were present:

Commissioners:	Cowles Symmes, Vice-President Mark Loughman, Secretary Robert J. Knesal, Treasurer Kathryn Dennis Spear, Commissioner
Staff:	Jon Nass, CEO Shawn Meyer, COO Jennifer Smith, Chief of Staff Todd Harman, Director of Finance Kecia Laneaux, Executive Affairs Coordinator James Buras, Port Engineer Matt Gabbett, Director of Operations Gary Pitcovich, Assistant Director of Operations John D’Antico, General Counsel Teresa Ehrlich, Project Manager Michelle Freeman, Accounts Receivable Lisa Mussa, Accounts Payable Ben Stone, Legal Counsel
Others:	John Rester Philip Carter, MDA David Machado, MP Design Group E.J. Roberts, State Farm Insurance Virginia Shateau Newton Chris Kirby, USM 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 Michelle Freeman, MSPA.

Commissioner Knesal moved to amend the agenda to add Resolution 25-05. Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Knesal moved to adopt Resolution 25-05 honoring John Rester for 30 years of service to the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport. Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

Commissioner Spear moved to approve the Minutes from January 23, 2025, Board Meeting. Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve travel (February 5-7) – Nass to Washington, DC; (February 18-19) – LaRue to Jackson, MS; (March 18-20) - Nass to Washington, DC; (March 18-20) – LaRue to Washington, DC; (March 24-25) – Moody to New Orleans, LA; (April 7-11) – Nass to Sao Paulo, Brazil. Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve the disbursements listed below. Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

DISBURSEMENTS THROUGH FEBRUARY 05, 2025			
BILLS FOR THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2025 APPROVED AND PAID			
FROM THE GROSS REVENUE FUND OF THE MS STATE PORT AUTHORITY AT GULFPORT			
CHK #	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
61721	Kentwood Springs	Drinking Water	435.17
61722	AGJ Systems & Networks, Inc.	Computer Maintenance	4,682.00
61723	All Safe Technologies, LLC	Fire Alarm Monitoring	199.75
61724	Amazon Capital Services, INC.	Office Supplies	223.42
61725	Boot Outlet, LLC	Employee Safety Boots	370.90
61726	Business Furniture Services, LLC	Office Chairs	3,660.48
61727	Sparklight	Internet Services	93.18
61728	CenterPoint Energy	Natural Gas Services	44.38
61729	City of Gulfport	Water	7,131.28
61730	Fuelman	Fuel for MSPA Vehicles	112.28
61731	G & W Fabricating, Inc.	Knives for Slitter Machine	536.00
61732	Todd Harman	Travel Expenses	227.47
61733	Imperial Bag & Paper Co., LLC	Office Supplies	1,194.00
61734	MS State Treasurer Fund 3360900000	Telephone/Internet Services	110.71
61735	Jerry's Lawn Mower Sales	Parts for Scag Mower	261.96
61736	Lowe's Home Center, Inc.	Parts for Water Repairs at Customs and Crowley	95.50
61737	Maritime Defense Strategy, LLC	Consulting Services	3,650.00
61738	Mark Dunning Industries, Inc.	Waste Removal Services	1,335.00
61739	MS DHS - State Disbursement Unit	Employee Deductions	263.56
61740	MS Pub. Employees Credit Union	Employee Deductions	325.00
61741	Pass Road Mini Storage, LLC	Storage Unit Rent	198.00
61742	The Port Employees Assoc.	Employee Deductions	56.00
61743	RJ Young Company, Inc.	Copier Maintenance	600.00
61744	Rotary Club of Gulfport	Membership Dues and Meals	271.00
61745	Sage Software, Inc.	Software Renewal	8,948.83
61746	SoftResources LLC	Consulting Services	2,700.00
61747	Southern Admin. and Benefits	Monthly Service Fee	208.00
61748	TGG Management Company, Inc.	Professional Services	18,971.10
61749	Timeless Designs of Lucedale LLC	Interior Plant Maintenance	279.69
61750	TX Child Support SDU	Employee Deductions	219.23
61751	U.S. Bank	Travel Expenses	516.79
61752	U.S. Bank	Employee Uniforms, Reg.Fees, Man Lift Parts	1,821.80
61753	Zoro Tools, Inc.	Cable Puller Sheave and Plumbing Rebuild Kits	3,189.07
TRANSFERS			
01/24/25	Deferred Compensation	Employee Deductions	2,027.00
01/24/25	Federal Tax Deposit	Payroll Tax Deposit	30,344.63
01/28/25	Public Employment Retirement	Retirement Match and Withheld	62,064.40

02/05/25	Regus	Rent for Public Affairs Office in Jackson MS	627.60
		Total	\$157,995.18

FINAL CHECKLIST FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2025
 BILLS FOR THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2025 APPROVED AND PAID
 FROM THE GROSS REVENUE FUND OF THE MS STATE PORT AUTHORITY AT GULFPORT

CHK #	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
61761	American Assoc. of Port Auth.	Registration Fees	745.00
61762	Kentwood Springs	Drinking Water	418.16
61763	AFLAC	Employee Deductions	424.06
61764	AirGas Gulf States	Acetylene, Oxygen and Argon Cylinders	292.90
61765	All Safe Technologies, LLC	Fire Alarm Monitoring and Repair Crowley Fire Alarm	921.30
61766	Amazon Capital Services, Inc.	Office Supplies and Fire Alarm Parts	673.09
61767	Apex Environmental Consultants, Inc.	Professional Services	500.00
61768	CDW Government	Computer Equipment	3,026.34
61769	CenterPoint Energy	Natural Gas Services	44.38
61770	Consolidated Electrical Distributors Inc.	Supplies for West Pier Stadium Lights Repairs	22,862.43
61771	C Spire Business Solutions	Telephone/Internet Services	1,798.11
61772	Deluxe Cleaners, Inc.	Clean Tablecloths	99.84
61775	Eagle Energy, Inc.	Diesel Fuel	1,138.94
61776	Federal Express Corp.	Express Mail Services	29.06
61777	Fuelman	Fuel for MSPA Vehicles	317.31
61778	Great Southern Club	Monthly Dues and Business Expenses	192.82
61779	Gulf Ports Association	Membership Dues	600.00
61781	Whitney Bank Divisional Property	March Lease for Suite 1450	28,494.10
61782	John W. Harmon	Annual Elevator Inspections	771.80
61783	MS State Treasurer Fund 3360900000	Telephone/Internet Services	117.16
61784	Isco Metals & Supply, LLC	Flooring for Guard Shack	4,540.00
61786	Jerry's Lawn Mower Sales	Repair Parts for Scag Mower	66.98
61787	MS-JS, Inc DBA Johnstone Supp. Gpt	Repair Parts for Chiller	458.96
61788	KLDiscovery Ontrack, LLC	Professional Services	1,477.00
61789	Robert J. Knesal	Per Diem	40.00
61790	Errol LaRue	Travel Expenses	128.95
61791	Mark P. Loughman	Per Diem	40.00
61792	Lowe's Home Center, Inc.	Fence Posts, Tools and Maintenance Supplies	1,113.60
61794	McClatchy Company, LLC	Advertising	1,265.00
61795	MS Power Company	Electricity	123,907.21
61796	MS Power Company	Electricity	11,665.35
61797	MS Pub. Employees Credit Union	Employee Deductions	325.00
61798	Jon T. Nass	Travel Expenses	1,248.95
61799	Pass Road Mini Storage, LLC	Storage Unit Rent	385.00
61800	Phillips Building Supply	Skirting for Cotton Compress Office Trailer	821.15
61801	Portable Services, Inc.	Portable Restroom Services	535.00
61802	Redd Pest Solutions	Pest Control Services	163.50
61803	SBL Strategies, LLC	Professional Consulting Services	10,000.00
61804	Seal Electrical, Inc.	Electrical Repair Services	9,025.71
61805	ServiceWear Apparel, Inc.	Employee Uniforms	367.50
61806	South Mississippi Business Machines	Copier Maintenance	509.00
61807	SoftResources LLC	Consulting Services	5,400.00
61808	Southern Printing & Silkscreen	Pier Marker Plates and Employee Uniform Logos	600.00
61809	Munro Products, Inc.	Drill Bits for Metal Work	129.60
61810	Southern Admin. and Benefits	Monthly Service Fee	208.00
61811	Kathryn Dennis Spear	Per Diem	40.00
61812	SSA Gulf Inc.	Office Trailer Rent for Cotton Compress	900.00
61813	Swetman Security Services, Inc.	Security Guard Services	65,177.75

61814	Cowles Edgar Symmes	Pier Diem	80.00
61815	TGG Management Company, Inc.	Professional Services	2,375.00
61816	Southern Tire Mart, LLC	Tires for Unit #10	313.31
61817	Union Auto Parts	Mechanic Tools and Maintenance Supplies	545.76
61818	Upchurch Services, LLC	HVAC/R Maintenance and Repair Services	4,038.75
61820	Zoro Tools, Inc.	Mechanic Tools, Maintenance, Office & Plumbing Supplies	3,011.61

CHECKS DATED 02/18/25 AND RELEASED PRIOR TO SCHEDULED CHECK RUN

61754	James Buras	Business Expenses	286.00
61755	Sparklight	Cable Services	258.07
61756	City of Gulfport	Water	2,660.32
61757	C Spire Wireless	Cell Phone Services	1,133.65
61758	MS DHS - State Disbursement Unit	Employee Deductions	263.56
61759	Quadient Leasing USA Inc	Postage Machine Rent	195.57
61760	TX Child Support SDU	Employee Deductions	219.23

TRANSFERS

02/05/25	State School Insurance Fund/DFA	02/2025 Employee Health & Life Insurance	15,720.20
02/07/25	Federal Tax Deposit	Payroll Tax Deposit	30,679.84
02/11/25	Deferred Compensation	Employee Deductions	2,027.00
02/12/25	MS Department of Revenue	Employee Deductions	6,891.00
02/19/25	MS Department of Revenue	Sales Tax Payment	9,137.55
02/20/25	Deferred Compensation	Employee Deductions	2,027.00
02/21/25	Federal Tax Deposit	Payroll Tax Deposit	32,976.80
02/21/25	Public Employment Retirement	Retirement Match and Withheld	64,625.42
02/24/25	MS Department of Revenue	Employee Deductions	7,300.00
02/27/25	Connected Oceans	Business Development and Consulting Services	23,416.66
Total			<u>\$514,188.31</u>

Commissioner Spear 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:

Vendors (TWIC Escorts): Mike Gartman Transfer Service
U.S. Maritime Services LLC

Steamship Agents: Nord-Sud Shipping
DSV Air & Sea Inc. dba DSV Marine Services

Transfer Company: Mike Gartman Transfer Service

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve the following progress payments: Balch & Bingham (\$10,081.95); Dredging Professor LLC (\$2,700.00); Gulf Regional Planning Commission (\$7,110.78); J.E. Borries, Inc. (\$678,208.61); MP Design Group (\$59,169.21); Warren Paving (\$149,954.58); and WSP USA, Inc. (\$20,888.47). Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commission Spear left the meeting.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve the following progress payments: DNP, Inc. (\$1,518,340.73). Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Spear returned to the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve Amendment No. 1 for a contract extension to 23-EN-06 for Covington Civil and Environmental, LLC for groundwater monitoring of Gulfport Fertilizer site. The contract extension will add (4) years to the service contract at the original rate. Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Spear moved to approve Modification No. 1 to Work Order No. 2 under contract 24-EN-03 with WSP, Inc. for Phase 1 of the Workforce Development Plan to support Channel Deepening and Widening Feasibility Study and to close the work order and deobligate funds in the amount of (\$28.32). Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Spear moved to approve a second amendment to the TGG Financial Consulting Services Contract, extending the not to exceed amount to \$150,000.00, and time for performance from January 31, 2025, to December 31, 2025. Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve WSP's Work Order No. 12 in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00, which will provide consulting services related to the Channel Deepening and Widening. All work to be performed will be billed and paid based on the hourly rates set forth for the job classifications described in Agreement 24-EN-03 and Amendment No. 1 to 24-EN-03. Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Knesal Commissioner moved to approve WSP's Work Order No. 13 in an amount not to exceed \$399,000.00, which provides updates to the Strategic Master Plan. Commissioner Loughman seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve WSP's Work Order No. 14 in an amount not to exceed \$350,000.00, which will provide master planning services for the East Pier Expansion as outlined in WSP's proposal. All work performed will be billed and paid based on the hourly rates set forth for the job classifications described in Agreement 24-EN-03 and Amendment No. 1 to 24-EN-03. Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve MP Design Group Work Order No. 15 in an amount not to exceed \$69,173.00 which will provide engineering services for the modification of USACE Expansion Permit for wharf construction as outlined in MP Design Group's proposal. All work performed will be billed and paid based on the hourly rates set forth for the job classifications described in Agreement 23-EN-01, Work Orders No. 1 and No. 14. Commissioner Knesal seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve authorization to issue a Request for Proposal for an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve Resolution 25-02 which authorizes the Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer, Deputy Director/Chief Operating Officer and the Director of Finance as administrators for the Hancock Whitney Bank treasury services and treasury management services portal. Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Loughman moved to approve Resolution 25-03 for bank signature changes adding new Commissioner James Moody. Commissioner Knesal seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Knesal moved to approve Resolution No. 25-04 authorizing MSPA staff to allocate and expend matching funds in the amount of \$538,182.00 for the Restore Act Grant Award for the planning and designing of the East Pier Expansion Project. Commissioner Loughman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

ENGINEERING UPDATE:

James Buras reported on current engineering projects.

OPERATIONS REPORT:

Shawn Meyer reported on the maritime activity for January 2025:

Vessels	13		Vehicles	14,000
Tugs	5		Railcars	757
Tonnage (YTD)	1,335,785		Barges	15
Tonnage	224,000		TEU (monthly)	14,695
TEU's (short tons)	105,802			

Tonnage (YTD) increased 24% over last fiscal year. Monthly tonnage increased by 30%. Monthly TEU's decreased by 1%. Year-to-date TEU's increased by 2%.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

Director Nass discussed his visit to Washington, DC, where he aimed to establish connections with newly elected lawmakers.

During this trip to Washington, DC, a meeting took place with Senator Wicker and Ports America to discuss maximizing the use of the Port of Gulfport for military moves.

Director Nass currently is on the Founders Committee of HUGE in Washington, DC in which the organization focuses on nearshoring/onshoring.

The Poultry Show in Atlanta was a great success, including productive discussions held with cargo owners about the advantages of shipping to the Port.

MSPA hosted the International Association of Maritime Port Executives (IAMPE) Port Summit which was held at Great Southern Club and attended by port executives from across the country. This event provided an excellent opportunity to showcase the Port. Director Nass presented on implementing a Strategic Plan which was well received.

A Board Retreat has been proposed for May 5-7, 2025, to discuss the future strategy of MSPA.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S COMMENTS:

Ben Stone had no comments.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Symmes noted that Philip Carter with MDA attended Commissioner Rester's last board meeting.

MDA'S COMMENTS:

Philip Carter had no comments.

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

Commissioner Loughman 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 9:58 A.M.)

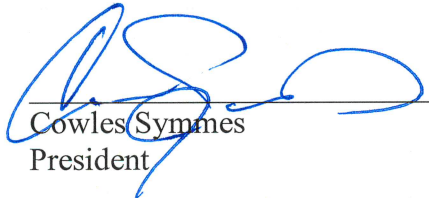
Commissioner Loughman moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Spear seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

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


Commissioner Symmes moved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Approved and Attested



Cowles Symmes
President



Robert J. Knesal
Secretary

RESOLUTION # 25-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AUTHORITY PORT COMMISSION APPROVING AUTHORIZED AGENTS FOR HANCOCK WHITNEY TREASURY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The Mississippi State Port Authority Board of Port Commissioners does hereby resolve, determine and order that:

WHEREAS, Hancock Whitney Bank, Gulfport, Mississippi, is a depository of the Mississippi State Port Authority and it is necessary as the depository that such bank is furnished with a certified copy of a resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the agency authorizing the bank to honor orders for the administration of current and future Treasury Management services.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the following employees have full authority as authorized agents of the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport to sign for and fully administer current and future treasury services and treasury management services.

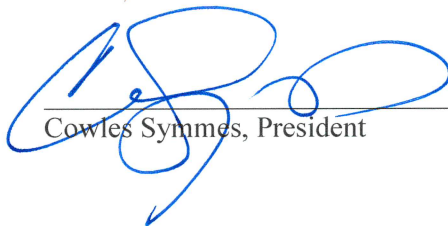
Jon Nass
Shawn Meyer
Todd Harman

Executive Director / CEO
Deputy Director / COO
Director of Finance

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution will constitute continuing authority until the same has been revoked or amended by the actions of the Board of Commissioners of the agency and Hancock Whitney Bank is and will be entitled to rely upon the authority herein granted until the Hancock Bank has received express notice of the revocation or amendment of the authority herein granted.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND SIGNED this the 27th day of February 2025.


Robert Knesal, Secretary


Cowles Symmes, President

RESOLUTION # 25-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AUTHORITY PORT COMMISSION APPROVING AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES ON THE PORT AUTHORITY'S BANK ACCOUNTS

The Mississippi State Port Authority Board of Port Commissioners does hereby resolve, determine and order that:

WHEREAS, Hancock Whitney Bank, Gulfport, Mississippi, is a depository of the Mississippi State Port Authority and it is necessary as the depository that such bank is furnished with a certified copy of a resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the agency authorizing the bank to honor orders for the payment of money executed by duly authorized officers or employees of the agency.

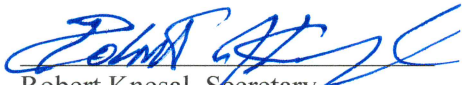
NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that all checks, drafts and other orders for payment of money will be signed in the name of the Mississippi State Port Authority by any two of the following officers/employees. The Mississippi State Port Authority Payroll Account and the Savings Account will be signed in the name of the Mississippi State Port Authority by any one of the following officers/employees. Any of these below individuals have the authority to act as an administrator on the bank's Treasury Management software system.

Cowles Symmes
Robert Knesal
Mark Loughman
Kate Dennis Spear
James Moody
Jon Nass
Shawn Meyer
Todd Harman

Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Executive Director / CEO
Deputy Director / COO
Director of Finance

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution will constitute continuing authority until the same has been revoked or amended by the actions of the Board of Commissioners of the agency and Hancock Whitney Bank is and will be entitled to rely upon the authority herein granted until the Hancock Bank has received express notice of the revocation or amendment of the authority herein granted.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND SIGNED this the 27th day of February 2025.


Robert Knesal, Secretary


Cowles Symmes, President

RESOLUTION NO. 25-04

After proper notice, a quorum of the Board of Commissioners (“Board”) of the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport (“MSPA”) took up for consideration the matter of authorizing the MSPA to allocate and expend matching funds for the exclusive use of eligible projects funded by the RESTORE Act for the purpose of making certain improvements to facilities at the State Port. Commissioner Knesal moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Section 59-5-37(1) of the Mississippi Code authorizes, among other things, the MSPA to make all contracts and purchases incidental to or necessary for the advancement, promotion and development of the State Port;

WHEREAS, in a manner consistent with the authority granted under Section 59-5-37(1) of the Mississippi Code, the MSPA is eligible to pursue and apply for certain grant funds that will be used for the advancement, development and improvement of facilities at the State Port;

WHEREAS, the University of Southern Mississippi (“USM”) issued the MSPA Ocean Enterprise Subaward Agreement No. 8007262-01.01 (the “Subaward”) on or about March 1, 2024, awarding Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) to the MSPA for planning and design related to expansion of the East Pier at the Port of Gulfport;

WHEREAS, the MSPA pursued RESTORE Act grant funds for certain improvements at the State Port, including, without limitation, planning and design related to expansion of the East Pier at the Port of Gulfport (the “Project”);

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Mississippi announced on November 13, 2024, that the State of Mississippi would provide \$1,210,000.00 in RESTORE Act funding in furtherance of the Project, and, as part of the award, allocated \$400,000.00 of Subaward funding and \$138,182.00 of MSPA administrative costs, totaling \$538,182.00 as matching funds for the Project;

WHEREAS, the Project will design additional pier space on the East Pier, which will improve resiliency, house a tug boat pier, and has the potential to increase cargo throughput, improve the efficiency of freight movement and increase economic activity at the State Port and throughout the State of Mississippi;

WHEREAS, the MSPA hereby accepts the budget prepared for the Project, prepared by WSP, showing an estimated cost of \$1,615,773.00 to complete the Project, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and fully incorporated herein by this reference;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 59-5-37(1) of the Mississippi Code, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that the allocation and expenditure of matching funds for the exclusive use of the Project is incidental to or necessary for the advancement, promotion and development of the State Port and increases the capacity for operations designed to stimulate economic growth and development at the State Port and throughout the State of Mississippi;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes and directs the MSPA, by and through its Executive Director and/or his designee, to allocate and expend matching funds

currently estimated to be in the amount of \$538,182.00, which amount may be increased based upon the MSPA's receipt of final design plans and total project costs, for the exclusive use of the Project, and to execute, complete and deliver all necessary documentation, applications and other instruments to the appropriate authority administering such grants, as may be required at any time and from time-to-time, based upon the grant requirements and to do and perform such other acts and deeds on behalf of the MSPA as may be deemed necessary or desirable at any time or from time-to-time in connection with the matters contemplated in this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, that, any and all actions heretofore or hereafter taken by the Executive Director and/or his designee in the name and on behalf of the MSPA in connection with or related to the matters set forth herein as contemplated by the foregoing Resolution be, and are hereby adopted, affirmed, approved and ratified in all respects as the act of the MSPA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AUTHORITY AT GULFPORT, AS FOLLOWS:

The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes and directs the MSPA, by and through its Executive Director and/or his designee, to allocate and expend from the MSPA's operating account matching funds currently estimated to be in the amount of \$538,182.00 which amount may be increased based upon the MSPA's receipt of final design plans and total project costs, for the exclusive use of the Project, and to execute, complete and deliver all necessary documentation, applications and other instruments to the appropriate authority administering such grants, as may be required at any time and from time-to-time, based upon the RESTORE Act grant requirements and to do and perform such other acts and deeds on behalf of the MSPA as may be deemed necessary or desirable at any time or from time-to-time in connection with the matters contemplated in this Resolution.

Commissioner Loughman seconded the motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution, and the vote thereupon was as follows:

	<u>Voted:</u>
Commissioner Symmes	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Loughman	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Knesal	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Spear	<u>Aye</u>

The motion having received the foregoing vote of the Board of Commissioners, the President declared the motion carried and the Resolution adopted, on this the 27th day of February, 2025.

ATTEST:

John D'Antico
- GENERAL COUNSEL

EXHIBIT A

Mississippi State Port Authority
Port of Gulfport Expansion
Containment Structure Funding Options

Scope: East Pier Design

Description	Unit	Qty	Unit Cost	Cost	Subtotal
Administrative Costs	LS	1	1077182		1,077,182.00
Port Admin	LS	1	138182	138,182.00	
Engineering Studies	LS	1	704000	704,000.00	
Permitting	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Engineering Design	LS	1	235,000	235,000.00	
Contingency	LS	50%	1,077,182.00		538,591.00
				Grand Total	1,615,773.00

Summary

MSPA Matching Funds	538,182	33%
Grant Amount	1,077,591.00	67%

MSPA Match

Source	Amount
USM GORF Sub-award for East Pier Planning	400,000
MSPA Internal Salaries/benefits for Port Admin	138,182.00

Total Matching Funds

538,182

Milestones and Schedule		Total Matching Funds	
Activity	Start (months)	Duration (months)	End (months)
Engineering Design		0	12
			12

Year 1			Year 2			Year 3		
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1

Deliverables

This project includes engineering design and studies related to a future containment structure on the 14.5 Acre East Pier Expansion area to relieve beneficial re-use dredge material from the Port of Gulfport federal navigation channel deepening and widening.

MSPA received environmental clearance for this work in 2017. This is part of a larger port expansion effort to support deepening and widening the federal navigation channel to the Port of Gulfport. The permit includes filling 197 acres of waterbottom to expand the East and West Pier footprint further south. If completely developed the expansion will almost double the Port of Gulfport footprint and bring increased revenue and economic development to the area.

RESOLUTION #25-05

**A RESOLUTION HONORING THE SERVICE OF JOHN RESTER TO THE
MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AUTHORITY AT GULFPORT**

WHEREAS, John Rester has completed 30 years of exemplary voluntary service as a Commissioner to the Mississippi State Port Authority, first appointed by Governor Kirk Fordice in 1994, and serving as President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Interim Executive Director multiple times over three decades; and

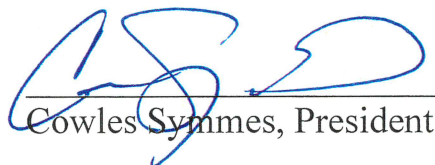
WHEREAS, in realization of his consistent commitment of time, energy, and expertise to the betterment of the services and facilities of the Port; and

WHEREAS, under his exceptional leadership during his time as Commissioner, guiding fellow commissioners, staff, and the community through challenging periods, particularly following the devastation to the Port, City, State, and Region following Hurricane Katrina, and other exceptional events resulted in economic development, and other value to the City, State, and Region; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mississippi State Port Authority Board of Port Commissioners hereby publicly commends Mr. John Rester for his dedication and distinguished performance and expresses its gratitude on behalf of the Port Authority and the State of Mississippi.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the Official Minutes of the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport.

This the 27th day of February, 2025.



Cowles Symmes, President



Robert J. Knesal, Secretary