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CADDO-BOSSIER PARISHES PORT COMMISSION

Regular Board Meeting

Regional Commerce Center, Steering Room

6000 Doug Attaway Blvd., Shreveport, LA 71115

June 14, 2021, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

Commission President Roy Griggs called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 p.m. in the Steering Room of the Regional Commerce Center, 6000 Doug Attaway Blvd., Shreveport, Louisiana and welcomed everyone.

Commission President Griggs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll was called. Commissioners: Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William R. "Bill" Altimus, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, and Rick C. Prescott. Absent: Erica R. Bryant and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy (Ret.). A quorum was present.

Introduction of guests: Wes Chafin; Bill Boles, Boles & Shafto; Ken Antee, Crews & Associates; Kent Schexnayder, Sisung; Jacqueline Scott, Jacqueline Scott and Associates, Lt. Richard Jennings, CPSO and Sarah McKinney, Romph & Pou Agency. Staff: Eric England, Danyne Malone, Gloria Washington, Rick Nance, Zazell Dudley, Kathy French, Tyler Comeaux and Hettie Agee.

Commissioner Griggs asked if there are any public comments on agenda items. Hearing none, he said we will move to Unfinished Business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 10, 2021: Motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Prescott, to accept as printed and approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2021. Hearing no questions or comments, motion approved by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners: Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William R. "Bill" Altimus, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall and Rick C. Prescott. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Erica R. Bryant and Thomas F. Murphy. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

APRIL 2021 FINANCIALS: Motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Bigby to approve the April 2021 Financial Reports. Hearing no questions, motion approved by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners: Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William R. "Bill" Altimus, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall and Rick C. Prescott. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Erica R. Bryant and Thomas F. Murphy. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

MEMBERS: Roy Griggs, President; Walter O. Bigby Jr., Vice President; Bill Altimus, Secretary Treasurer; Erica R. Bryant; Sam N. Gregorio; James D. Hall; Capt. Thomas F. Murphy; Rick C. Prescott

Commissioner Altimus said I would like to make a note, Mr. President, that we had an Audit Meeting a little while ago and I want to again congratulate Gloria, Eric, and the staff for the good work they did last year concerning our financial business. It's no easy task when you consider the amount of money the Port moves and accounts for any given year. It was outstanding work done by all.

Commissioner Griggs said thank you and certainly I want to echo also my thoughts on Mr. England and Gloria and the staff for the outstanding job they have done.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 1 OF 2021: AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY AND IMPOSE AN AD VALOREM TAX OF 2.51 MILLS FOR THE YEAR 2021, ON ALL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION IN THE JURISDICTION OF THE CADDO-BOSSIER PARISHES PORT COMMISSION, CONSISTING OF CADDO AND BOSSIER PARISHES, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO: Mr. England said with regard to Ordinance No. 1 this is our Property Tax Ordinance, and as you can see, we have the millage of 2.51 mills to levy in the Port area, the entire parishes of Caddo and Bossier Parishes. This is in accordance with the Proposition we renewed in 2016 and in accordance with our previous discussions and announcements (to be published in its entirety in *The TIMES*). Hearing no other questions or comments, Commissioner Griggs entertained a motion. **Motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Altimus to approve Ordinance No. 1 of 2021. Hearing no further discussion, the motion was approved by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners: Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William R. "Bill" Altimus, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall and Rick C. Prescott. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Erica R. Bryant and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. ABSTENTIONS: 0.**

2020 AUDIT: Commissioner Gregorio said I would like to make a motion for two things: one is that we accept the audit that was presented to us at the Audit Meeting just recently, and secondly that we ask Heard McElroy to come in and do selected testing for what I'm going to call Internal Controls. Before the State mandated it, we were doing that. When the State mandated that, there was no reason for us to do it because the State was mandating it, but they didn't do it this year in 2020 because of the pandemic. And I think we can do selected testing on a value basis, and we make that one motion with those two parts. Commissioner Gregorio said I'll be happy to separate them. **I make the motion to accept the audit. Commissioner Hall seconded his motion. Commissioner Griggs said it's moved and seconded that we accept the audit by Heard McElroy & Vestal. Anyone oppose or comments. If not, all in favor say "Aye". Anyone oppose? None opposed. The motion was approved by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners: Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William R. "Bill" Altimus, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, and Rick C. Prescott. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Erica R. Bryant and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. ABSTENTIONS: 0.** Commissioner Griggs said thank you.

Now the second part was **Commissioner Gregorio said I move that we have Heard McElroy do selected testing for our Internal Audits based upon what Eric thinks is appropriate. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bigby. Commissioner Griggs called for any other comments or questions. Commissioner Griggs called for any other questions or comments. All**

in favor of the motion to move forward with the internal audit say “Aye” ...that’s for the year of 2020. The motion was approved by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners: Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William R. “Bill” Altimus, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, and Rick C. Prescott. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Erica R. Bryant and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

RS. NO. 13 of 2021: A RESOLUTION AMENDING AND RESTATING RESOLUTION NO. 6 OF 2021 GRANTING PRELIMINARY AUTHORITY FOR THE CADDO-BOSSIER PARISHES PORT COMMISSION, STATE OF LOUISIANA TO PROCEED WITH THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$35,000,000) LOUISIANA LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TAXABLE OR TAX-EXEMPT REVENUE BONDS (CADDO-BOSSIER PARISHES PORT COMMISSION PROJECT) IN ONE OR MORE SERIES; REQUESTING THE LCDA MAKE APPLICATION TO THE LOUISIANA STATE BOND COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL; PROVIDING FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF BOND COUNSEL AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Mr. England said Rs. No. 13 is in regard to the Ronpak project which we’ve briefed you on and the Board has taken action on previously by way of a preliminary resolution for a \$15M dollar LCDA bond issue. You’ll recall that was tied to an approximate \$70,000 sq. ft. expansion of their existing 150,000 sq. ft. facility we currently own. As we’ve interacted with Ronpak over the past several weeks, it’s become clear that that amount of space was not enough for their operations and future plans for the Port and their corporate headquarters. As such, they’ve chosen to more than double the amount of the expansion to 150,000 sq. ft. Working with our Municipal Advisor and our bond team and given that this is an LCDA bond issue and not a Port bond issuance, we’re choosing to go down the administrative route of amending our previous resolution. Commissioner Griggs called for any questions. Hearing none he entertained a motion. **Motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Gregorio to approve Rs. No. 13 of 2021.** Hearing no further discussion, the motion was approved by the following vote: **AYES: Commissioners: Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William R. “Bill” Altimus, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall and Rick C. Prescott. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Erica R. Bryant and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. ABSTENTIONS: 0.**

RS. NO. 14 of 2021: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE, SALE, AND DELIVERY OF EIGHT MILLION NINETY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$8,095,000) LIMITED TAX REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2021 OF THE CADDO-BOSSIER PARISHES PORT COMMISSION, STATE OF LOUISIANA; PRESCRIBING THE FORM, TERMS, AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH BONDS AND PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Mr. England said Rs. No. 14 is the final resolution with regard to the funds that will be necessary for us to purchase the MFE tract of land that we have communicated to the Board. This sets the way for us to close on the bonds and it’s recommended for adoption (to be published in its entirety in *The TIMES*). Calling for questions or comments and hearing none, **Motion by Commissioner Gregorio, seconded by Commissioner Bigby to approve Rs. No. 14 of 2021.** Hearing no further discussion, the motion was approved by the following vote: **AYES: Commissioners: Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William R. “Bill” Altimus, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall and Rick C. Prescott. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Erica R. Bryant and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. ABSTENTIONS: 0.**

RESOLUTIONS OF APPRECIATION:

RESOLUTION NO. 15 OF 2021

Caddo and Bossier Parishes

In The Name and By Authorization of the
CADDO-BOSSIER PARISHES PORT COMMISSION

Presents this Resolution in Recognition and Honor of

LORENZ J. “LO” WALKER

WHEREAS, the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission (the “Commission”) desires to recognize Mayor Lorenz J. “Lo” Walker’s distinguished service and extend its sincere and heartfelt thanks to him on behalf of all citizens of Caddo and Bossier Parishes; and

WHEREAS, during his eight and one-half year tenure as a member of the Commission representing the City of Bossier City, Lorenz J. “Lo” Walker served the Commission as Secretary-Treasurer and President, making valuable and significant contributions to the Commission; and

WHEREAS, during his service on the Commission, Mayor Walker’s dedication, vision and forward-looking actions led to the expansion and development of the 3,500-acre Port Complex, a facility currently employing over 1,800 area residents; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Walker has worked tirelessly for over three decades on sound and innovative civic policy and growth leading to the economic prosperity, significant dollar investment and job creation of the port area; and

WHEREAS, among his many noteworthy achievements, Mayor Walker led the I-69 Mid Continental Highway Coalition as President and solidified the Section of Independent Utility 15, which provides a strategic and advantageous interstate highway interchange within the Caddo-Bossier Port’s industrial complex.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission, assembled in regular meeting this 14th day of June 2021, in Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, that all members of the Commission hereby express their sincere and heartfelt appreciation to Lorenz J. “Lo” Walker as a valued and highly respected Mayor, United States Air Force Colonel, Port Board member and citizen.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, unanimously adopted at a regular meeting this 14th day of June 2021, be placed in the permanent records of this Commission and that copies thereof be transmitted to Lorenz J. “Lo” Walker.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Shreveport, Louisiana on this 14th day of June, 2021.

/s/ William R. “Bill” Altimus
WILLIAM R. “BILL” ALTIMUS
Secretary-Treasurer

/s/ Roy Griggs
ROY GRIGGS
President

Mr. England said Mayor “Lo” Walker, having served in the position of CAO and Mayor of Bossier City, will be retiring from civic public service at the end of the month. We have prepared a resolution and it’s come to my attention that there will be an event on June 22nd. It’s our desire to seek approval of this resolution from the Board today and we will have this resolution prepared in such a way that we can present it to him on the 22nd. So, it’s recommended for adoption at this time.

Motion by Commissioner Prescott, seconded by Commissioner Bigby to approve Rs. No. 15 of 2021. Hearing no further discussion, the motion was approved by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners: Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William R. “Bill” Altimus, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall and Rick C. Prescott. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Erica R. Bryant and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

Commissioner Griggs called for the **Port Director’s Report**. Mr. England said we do have one other resolution that I would like to submit to the Commission for their consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. 16 OF 2021

Caddo and Bossier Parishes

In The Name and By Authorization of the

CADDO-BOSSIER PARISHES PORT COMMISSION

Presents this Resolution in Recognition and Honor of

COMMISSIONER JAMES D. “JIMMY” HALL

WHEREAS, the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission (the “Commission”) recognizes Commissioner James D. “Jimmy” Hall’s distinguished career and extends its sincere and heartfelt thanks to him on behalf of all citizens of Caddo and Bossier Parishes upon his retirement as the City Attorney for the City of Bossier City; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hall, having spent the majority of his life and entire forty-two-year professional career in Bossier Parish, has clearly and extraordinarily committed himself to the betterment of the port area by way of his leadership as City Attorney for the City of Bossier City and his civic, volunteer and professional contributions; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hall, originally appointed to the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission by the City of Bossier City in 2005 and later by the Bossier Parish Policy Jury, has committed untold hours to Commission meetings, work sessions and events; and

WHEREAS, his devotion to the Commission’s mission of job creation and dollar investment has led to the employment of over 1,800 area citizens and investment in excess of One Billion (\$1,000,000,000) and No/100 Dollars at the Port Commission’s Industrial Complex; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recognizes the numerous and substantial career contributions and accomplishments of Commissioner Hall and wishes him all the best in his retirement from the City of Bossier City; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hall’s continued leadership and collaboration will greatly enhance the Commission’s goals and objectives for many future years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission, assembled in regular meeting this 14th day of June 2021, in Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, that all members of the Commission hereby express their sincere appreciation to James D. “Jimmy” Hall as a valued and highly respected Commission Member, City of Bossier City Attorney and citizen.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution, unanimously adopted at a regular meeting this 14th day of June 2021, be placed in the permanent records of this Commission and that copies thereof be transmitted to James D. “Jimmy” Hall.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Shreveport, Louisiana on this 14th day of June, 2021.

/s/ William R. “Bill” Altimus
WILLIAM R. “BILL” ALTIMUS
Secretary-Treasurer

/S/ Roy Griggs
ROY GRIGGS
President

Mr. England said I submit this resolution for your consideration, Commissioners. Applause followed. Commissioner Griggs called for a motion. **Motion by Commissioner Prescott, seconded by Commissioner Bigby to approve Rs. No. 16 of 2021. Hearing no further discussion, the motion was approved by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners: Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William R. “Bill” Altimus, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall and Rick C. Prescott. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Erica R. Bryant and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. ABSTENTIONS: 0.**

PORT DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Mr. England provided an update on Port activity and legislative matters.

Mr. Malone addressed HB 105 and said “Commissioners as you may recall, in 2016 I authored an opinion pertaining to the rights and powers of the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission relative to land use and zoning regulations imposed by the Metropolitan Planning Commission, delegated either by the City of Shreveport or the Parish of Caddo. I ultimately concluded the delegation of land use regulations to the Metropolitan Planning Commission would have to yield to the general law of the State of Louisiana, which governs the powers and duties of the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission. HB 105 codifies the substance of that opinion. In particular, it states in our enabling legislation that “the Commission shall regulate the commerce and traffic within the Port area in any manner, as may, in its judgment, be for the best interests of the state. But more importantly it states “it shall not be subject in any respect to the authority, control or supervision of any local regulatory body or any political subdivision. Further HB Bill 105, as Eric indicated earlier, imposes an additional requirement on the Commission to hold an annual meeting to discuss future plans concerning adjacent landowners. It also enlarges the Port Commission’s authority pertaining to economic development and industrial development purposes. We think it’s a good bill and it enhances our ability to attract businesses and industries in this area without the threat of any regulatory requirements which may be imposed on the Port”.

Congratulations to Commissioner Griggs on the Minority Business Opportunity Awards as he’s being presented the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Hearing no other comments or business to come before the Board, Commissioner Griggs adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William “Bill” Altimus
Secretary-Treasurer

Regular Board Meeting, Monday, July 12, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

Regional Commerce Center, 6000 Doug Attaway Blvd, Shreveport, LA 71115