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CADDO-BOSSIER PARISHES PORT COMMISSION
Regular Board Meeting
Regional Commerce Center, 3rd Floor Board Room
6000 Doug Attaway Blvd., Shreveport, LA 71115
March 14, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER / OPENING REMARKS:** Commission President Walter O. Bigby, Jr. called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Board Room of the Regional Commerce Center, 6000 Doug Attaway Blvd., Shreveport, Louisiana and welcomed everyone.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner William "Bill" R. Altimus led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. ROLL CALL:** The roll was called by Executive Port Director Eric England. Commissioners in attendance included: Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William "Bill" R. Altimus, Joshua K. Williams, Erica R. Bryant, Roy Griggs, and James D. Hall. Absent: Sam N. Gregorio, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy (Ret.), and Rick C. Prescott. A quorum was present.
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Commissioner Bigby asked if there are any public comments on agenda items. Hearing no public comments, Commissioner Bigby moved on to the next agenda item.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 5. REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2022:** Commissioner Williams presented the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 14, 2022. Motion by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Griggs, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 14, 2022. Hearing no questions or comments, the motion was approved by the following votes: AYES: Commissioners: Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William "Bill" R. Altimus, Joshua K. Williams, Erica R. Bryant, Roy Griggs, and James D. Hall. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Sam N. Gregorio, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy (Ret.), and Rick C. Prescott. ABSTENTIONS: 0.
- 6. JANUARY 2022 FINANCIALS:** Commissioner Williams presented the financial report for January 2022. Motion by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve the January 2022 Financial Report as submitted. Hearing no questions, the motion was approved by the following votes: AYES: Commissioners: Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William "Bill" R. Altimus, Joshua K. Williams, Erica R. Bryant, Roy Griggs, and James D. Hall. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Sam N. Gregorio, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy (Ret.), and Rick C. Prescott. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

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

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

NEW BUSINESS:

7. RESOLUTION NO. 5 OF 2022: A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPLETED SYSTEMS SURVEY AND COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE REQUIRED BY THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission has completed the Systems Survey and Compliance Questionnaire (“Questionnaire”), as required by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor for the calendar year 2021 Audit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission in due and legal session convened that the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission hereby approves the completed Systems Survey and Compliance Questionnaire, as required by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Port Director is hereby authorized to sign the completed Systems Survey and Compliance Questionnaire on behalf of the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission, and transmit the Questionnaire to Heard, McElroy & Vestal for the calendar year 2021 Audit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if any provision or item of this Resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this Resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this Resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all Resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved as to legal form and content:

/s/ Dannye W. Malone
Dannye W. Malone
3/10/2022
Date

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 5 of 2022, unanimously adopted by the members of the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission at a meeting duly and legally called, convened, and held in Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana on the 14th day of March, 2022 and that the same has not been revoked or rescinded.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE at Shreveport, Louisiana on this 14th day of March, 2022.

<u>/s/ Joshua K. Williams</u>	<u>3/14/2022</u>
Joshua K. Williams	Date
Secretary-Treasurer	

<u>/s/ Walter O. Bigby, Jr.</u>	<u>3/14/2022</u>
Walter O. Bigby, Jr.	Date
President	

Mr. England noted that the annual audit process includes a questionnaire to be completed as well as an accompanying resolution. Our auditors, Heard, McElroy, & Vestal, will transmit the questionnaire and the adopted resolution to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor as required. It is recommended for approval. Motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Altimus to approve Resolution No. 5 as presented. The motion was approved by the following votes: AYES: Commissioners: Walter O. Bigby, Jr., William “Bill” R. Altimus, Joshua K. Williams, Erica R. Bryant, Roy Griggs, and James D. Hall. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Sam N. Gregorio, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy (Ret.), and Rick C. Prescott. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

8. MAJOR ROADWAY PROJECTS UPDATE: Jimmie Davis Bridge Project: Mr. England discussed several aspects of the Jimmie Davis Project, including the creation of an economic development corporation to assume the operation and maintenance responsibilities of the existing bridge, transforming the current Jimmie Davis Bridge into a linear park for pedestrian and bicycle traffic, improving the existing Jimmie Davis Bridge into a new two-lane highway; constructing a two lane bridge adjacent to the existing Jimmie Davis Bridge; or alternatively constructing a single four-lane bridge. DOTD has commenced the RFP process to select the design-build contractor for the Jimmie Davis Bridge Project. It has not been determined whether the four-lane or two-lane bridge will be built with the existing bridge being repurposed for pedestrians.

3132 Extension Project: Mr. England discussed the preferred route, B2, for LA Hwy 3132 under consideration by the MPO; the request for a no build option submitted to the MPO by counsel for Larkin Development Company; the introduction of a new toll bridge in the port area and related project options.

I-69 Service Road Project: Mr. England noted Desoto Parish, Bossier Parish, Caddo Parish, NLCOG, and the Port have entered into an agreement and pooled their collective funds for the construction of the I-69 Service Road Project. As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, construction costs have increased by 80%. An application for a raise grant will be submitted to subsidize the increased cost of the project. This local share will increase from \$17 million to approximately \$30 million. This project has moved into stage one and an environmental assessment has been initiated. A categorical exclusion offers a faster turnaround than an environmental impact study. This accelerated process is authorized since a large part of the environmental assessment was already completed for the I-69 Record of Decision for the SIU-15.

I-69 Project: Mr. England stated officials from Desoto Parish, Webster Parish, Caddo Parish, Bossier Parish, and the City of Shreveport recently met to discuss the potential of submitting a funding application under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) which has \$1.2 trillion available for funding projects. It was determined that of all the major transportation projects for this area, the I-69 project, with its Record of Decision in place and all the preliminary work completed, is ready to move forward with the right-of-way acquisition, engineering, and construction. The I-69 project is the most ideal project for the region to seek funding from the IIJA Act. We will be looking to complete an application using a specialty engineering firm familiar with this process. There was also discussion of the I-49 inner-city corridor project which is also another local major project. But the key difference between these two projects is the I-69 project has a Record of Decision for SIU-15 and has gone through the FHWA process. In comparison, the I-49 project is still in the environmental impact study phase and the route through the inner-city corridor has not been determined. Completing the application will require a small amount of funds from each governmental entity. It is estimated this application will be for a portion of the roadway of I-69, from I-49 to I-20.

9. PORT DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Mr. England provided an update on various activities and projects.

10. ADJOURN: Hearing no other comments or questions to come from the Board, Commissioner Bigby adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joshua K. Williams

Joshua K. Williams
Secretary-Treasurer