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Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission  
Regular Board Meeting  
Regional Commerce Center, Board Room  
6000 Doug Attaway Blvd., Shreveport, LA 71115  
March 15, 2018, 4:30 p.m.

President Commissioner Prescott called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Regional Commerce Center, 6000 Doug Attaway Blvd., Shreveport, LA.

Commissioner Bigby led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll was called. Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy and James L. Pannell. We have a quorum. Absent: Roy Griggs and Steve Watkins.

Introduction of guests: Jeff Brown, Transportation Technology Associates; Joe and Zachary Johnson; George Carroll, Sarah McKinney, Romph & Pou Agency; Tyler Comeaux, Burk-Kleinpeter; Ty Scroggins, Scroggins Consulting. Staff: Eric England, Danye Malone, Brenda Levinson, Gloria Washington, Rick Nance, Kathy French and Hettie Agee.

Commissioner Prescott asked if there are any public comments on any agenda items. Hearing none, they moved to the first item of Unfinished Business.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Prescott congratulated Commissioner Bigby on his reappointment by the Bossier City Council.

**Motion by Commissioner Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Gregorio, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2018: Motion approved by the following vote:**

AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy and James L. Pannell. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Roy Griggs and Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

Commissioner Bigby called on Gloria to give her report which included an update on the total for M/WBE. After going through each item that qualified for M/WBE expenses, we singled out

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

*MEMBERS: Rick C. Prescott, President; Roy Griggs, Vice President; Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer; Erica R. Bryant; Sam N. Gregorio; James D. Hall; Capt. Thomas F. Murphy; James L. Pannell; Steve Watkins*

\$462,344 as the annual number. The to-date number is the \$15,117 and that's what we spent in the month of January. Commissioner Gregorio said so the denominator is \$462? Gloria said it stays constant. It won't change; only your numerator will change.

**Motion by Commissioner Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Gregorio to approve the January 2018 Financial Reports: Motion approved by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy and James L. Pannell. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Roy Griggs and Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.**

**Port Expansion Committee Meeting of February 15, 2018:** The Port Expansion Committee meeting was called to order by Commissioner Steve Watkins at approximately 3:30 p.m. on February 15, 2018 in the Board Room of the Regional Commerce Center. Introduction of guests was called for.

Committee members in attendance included Steve Watkins, Walter O. Bigby, Jr. and James L. Pannell. A quorum was present. Commissioner Jimmy Hall was also in attendance. Guests: Ian Byram, Tyler Comeaux, Burk-Kleinpeter; Joe and Zachary Johnson, George Carroll, Ed Walsh, Romph & Pou Agency and Mike McSwain, Mike McSwain Architect. Staff: Eric England, Dannye Malone, Rick Nance, Kathy French, Nelda French and Hettie Agee.

Commissioner Watkins called for any public comment on any agenda items. Hearing none, he moved to Commercial Development – The Lambert Advisory Report. He said I believe all of you have that report and have seen it. We'll certainly discuss it today, but one thing that we do need to do is adopt it and send it to the full Board for adoption. Commissioner Pannell said do we do that before we discuss it. Commissioner Watkins said we can discuss it first and make sure by the end of this meeting that we send it on to the full Board.

Commissioner Pannell there are some things that they need. Find the right place to put it and put it in a place where if rather this idea can also use that, that's fine too. I looked at this and it looks massive to me. That wasn't my idea and I just wanted to put that out there. We can pass it and let it move on, but I'm saying at some point I just think that we need to have a serious discussion about. But I just don't want to be saddled with something that we have to go out and try to find people for or sitting up here with empty space.

Commissioner Watkins said in the Advisory Report it very strongly suggests that we have to keep it on the River side of Youree Drive. In your packet you'll see sites for possible commercial development. We can talk about those. The I-69 corridor site and agreement were discussed.

Commissioner Watkins said James, also when this was done too, we wanted and still do want the I-69 corridor to be near the Port facility. Certainly we would love it to hit through that 25.5 acres especially if it gave us on and off ramps at the Port. Would that be correct? Eric said the cloverleaf would be on our side of the highway.

Commissioner Griggs said based upon what you just said in agreement, and looking at your chart, there's only one possible site. That's 4.3. Am I correct? Eric said that's correct. What do we know

about that site? Eric said we have preliminary layout drawings. Commissioner Watkins said the first ones Mike did were for that piece. I was talking to Eric yesterday about this Lambert Report and kind of telling on what James said earlier, maybe at this point we put a nice big sign up on the 4.3 that says "Build to Suit" and see if we can't hook that major tenant before we start spending a bunch of money. If a bank comes by or anything and says hey, we'd like to be there....let's talk and I think that would start the ball rolling again. Commissioner Bigby said I like that idea. Commissioner Pannell said I think that's a good idea. There's nothing left for Mike to do if that is the choice of the committee. We're at an ideal crossroads for that decision. Commissioner Pannell said I would much rather see the motion be tabling this thing here and taking up your idea as opposed to going any further with this. Commissioner Pannell said my motion's that we table the McSwain study at this point...how complicated would it be for me to put the motion in that we put the sign up? Should I do two motions, or just one motion tabling McSwain? Danye said I just think you need one motion to table the study at this point. Commissioner Pannell said and do what Steve's talking about—putting..Danye said that could be in one motion. Commissioner Pannell said tabling the McSwain design and study how we move forward with some property. I don't want a motion that locks us in. I need a motion that can move, so that's my motion. Commissioner Bigby said does that include putting a "Build to Suit" sign? Commissioner Pannell said I'm saying that the motion is to—I can put that in a motion. I would add that to the motion that we put the "Build to Suite" sign and then that would just move us forward. Commissioner Watkins said maybe we say we allow staff to start marketing that 4.3 acre site. Commissioner Pannell said and then they could do the build to suit based on the marketing process. Commissioner Bigby seconded the motion. **Motion made by Commissioner Pannell, seconded by Commissioner Bigby to table the McSwain study and put a "Build to Suit" sign on the 4.3 acre site. Motion approved by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners: Steve Watkins, Walter O. Bigby, Jr and James L. Pannell. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. ABSTENTIONS: 0. That passes.**

Commissioner Watkins said just to kind of clarify, we are kind of setting the pause button with Mike because hopefully this thing will start rolling again. I would entertain a motion that we refer the Lambert Report and James's motion to the full Board for adoption. **Motion made by Commissioner Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Pannell to refer the Lambert Report and James motion to the full Board for adoption. Motion approved by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners: Steve Watkins, Walter O. Bigby, Jr and James L. Pannell. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. ABSTENTIONS: 0. That passes.**

Danye provided an overview of the recent Louisiana Supreme Court ruling regarding St. Bernard Port.

Commissioner Pannell said suppose that Violet had a plan for the land? It operated a lay berthing and cargo facility at the Port. It was Violet's contention that the port was attempting to limit its ability to proceed with its cargo operations and therefore violated the Constitution. Was it a public purpose from the port's standpoint or did the port's actions violate the business enterprise clause of the Constitution? Those were the competing Constitutional arguments. Commissioner Pannell said so technically what happened is the same thing we are going through today. St. Bernard was able to because they was a port based on the fact that they could do what they were doing. Danye said basically what the court ruled was that it was a public purpose because their operation was utilized for the transport of goods and commodities in domestic and international commerce. Commissioner

Gregorio asked did they have a plan to immediately use that property. Dannye said the port? Yes. Commissioner Gregorio said they had a plan? Commissioner Pannell said they did not have a plan but once the filing was taking place they came up with a plan. Dannye, said based on the record, it appeared the port did have a plan. Of course, Violet took the opposite position. Commissioner Gregorio said on the question about the land owner and highest and best use. Was that a specific holding by the court or was that a conclusion from some of their language. Dannye said that was a conclusion from some of the language. In fact, in the remand the Court determined that Violet had not met its burden of proof by demonstrating the compensation offered by the port should have been at a higher amount than what the port actually offered. And therefore, that aspect of the case was remanded to the Court of Appeals.

Commissioner Watkins said under that judgment, obviously we just can't land bank. We can't just expropriate and just bank land. Dannye said no. Commissioner Watkins said also it's clear we can't use the use value. Dannye said, if you utilize the use value, the burden of proof is on the land owner to demonstrate the highest and best use will be different than the current use of the property. So that's a determination to be made by the landowner, not the Port.

Eric began the Robson Farms Tract Update. We have a couple of prospects that we visited with the Port about one of which has been in the solar project, which we're in contract negotiations with them. Secondly we have a new prospect, the one that we discussed last week, the Anode project that needs a portion of that tract. We have not communicated with Robson Farms. We knew this meeting would be held. We knew we were having these discussions. We wanted to get some guidance from the committee before approaching the owners of Robson Farms which are represented here today.

Commissioner Watkins said certainly we are in a sticky situation. For those who don't know the appraisal that's done on the Robson Farm, the last appraisal done was \$6500. And David Volentine's telling us that's kind of where he's gonna stand. Commissioner Watkins said he's going to stand by that as that's the value of that piece of land. So we can't go out and do a use value appraisal, so we're really—our offer letter to the Robson Farms is basically dead in the water if I'm reading that or thinking that correct. We could move forward at the appraised value—I have the appraisal. It's that approximately \$6500. There's nothing stopping us from moving forward with that other than the owner saying they want more. But I think the options ahead of us at this point are to continue our interactions with the two prospects I discussed, and attempt to time those conversations so that we could be in the most ideal position that if we do need to buy a portion of the Robson Farms tract we can.

Commissioner Pannell said but if the agreement with the Robson, if we had an agreement that said we could market that property, because right now we don't own it. We can't market it. And if we market it, then we can get the appraisal based on who we--because you're in a catch 22.

Commissioner Pannell said if Dannye, do you see any other way moving forward with that as being a viable way to get an agreement that we can market that from the owner based on the market value being what the use value is at the time we have the agreement? Dannye said I'd have to study that. Commissioner Pannell said because the battery people are not looking at any other locations, are they Eric? Eric said within the Port there are a couple of sites, but the Robson Farms tract is our preferred tract for them. Commissioner Pannell said and they need a portion of it.

Commissioner Watkins said Eric won't you get back with us once you have your discussions with them. Eric said I believe they'll understand that we needed to have this conversation because if the conversation would have been had with them, it would have had to have come back to y'all anyway and it could have been a subject to a different outcome.

Hearing nothing further to come before the committee, Commissioner Watkins adjourned the meeting at 4:13 p.m.

**Motion by Commissioner Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Gregorio to approve the February 15, 2018 Port Expansion Committee Meeting: Motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy and James L. Pannell. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Roy Griggs and Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

**Port Expansion Committee Meeting of March 5, 2018:** The Port Expansion Committee meeting was called to order by Commissioner Steve Watkins at approximately 11:30 p.m. on March 5, 2018 in the Board Room of the Regional Commerce Center. Introduction of guests was called for.

Committee members in attendance included Steve Watkins, Walter O. Bigby, Jr. and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. A quorum was present. Guests: Tyler Comeaux, Burk-Kleinpeter; George Carroll, Resident; Jarred Provenza, John Swanson and Paul John, Syrah Resources and Jerry Huddleston, Robson Farms. Staff: Eric England, Dannye Malone, Rick Nance, Brenda Levinson and Hettie Agee.

Commissioner Watkins called for any public comment on any agenda items. Hearing none, he called Eric for the first agenda item, Robson Farms Tract Update. As Dannye had pointed out, in that expropriation lawsuit, in that manner the use value appraisal being provided by the seller/owner of the property. I was instructed at the last meeting to meet with the Robson Farms folks, so our Port team did just that. We met with Mr. Huddleston and one of his partners in the Robson Farms group and they have indicated to us in writing that they are willing to move forward with a use value appraisal with them, the owner/seller providing that. So we wanted to make sure that we reported that back to the committee. At this point, I wanted to make sure that the committee knew that the seller had reported back to us that they're willing to move forward in that regard. We are prepared to revise our offer letter and that's one of the key things I want to get out of the committee today is that we want to revise our offer letter with that one change that the seller provide the use value appraisal and the Port will keep the same points with regard to the other studies. One of the other key things that we'll put in the offer letter is that the appraiser meet the certifications and requirements we'll be looking for in a professional appraiser, which we've received those credentials today. Wanted to present that to you today as our goal to moving forward is to get a recommendation from the committee to move forward with the seller providing the use value appraisal and our offer will remain the same as it was before at the \$13,500. Will be glad to address any points and answer any questions.

Commissioner Watkins said I think we certainly need to continue to move forward. My only question is and it may be more for Dannye. Obviously we're in possession of an appraisal. The use value's gonna come back significantly different than that appraisal. Does that cause any problems for us, or do we need to put language—let me say long term, say five years down the road it's another piece

of property, how can we make sure in our language that we're protecting our interests that somebody doesn't come with a bloated appraisal? Danye said we would examine the credentials of the Appraiser to ensure the Appraiser's qualifications meet industry standards. Short of that, I'm not certain if we can impose any additional requirements on the Appraiser. From what I understand, this is a legitimate appraiser. Commissioner Bigby asked is this a local appraiser or somebody from out of state.

**Motion made by Commissioner Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Murphy to move forward and motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Steve Watkins, Walter O. Bigby, Jr and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: James L. Pannell. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

Eric said one of the key things I just described and visited with our appraiser and the seller providing their appraiser, one of the conversations that we had with David Volentine was this conversation of a specific user performing a specific use on the property. And I think this might help stabilize and strengthen the Port's position. In terms of a use value appraisal, the appraiser is looking for that specific user performing a specific use. We have identified industrial attributes of the Robson Farms site that were prepared the appraiser. What further strengthens this position is we have an industrial prospect today. They are represented here.

Commissioner Watkins asked would you need to move forward with the motion we made earlier at one of the two committees today? Eric said yes. Eric said that will need to be ratified at the Operations meeting. That's on the agenda already. So we're good in that regard. Commissioner Watkins said I won't be there but I'll ask Mr. Bigby to make sure he handles that.

Hearing nothing further to come before the committee, Commissioner Watkins adjourned the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

**Motion by Commissioner Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve the March 5, 2018 Port Expansion Committee Meeting: Motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy and James L. Pannell. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Roy Griggs and Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

**Marketing Committee Meeting of March 5, 2018:** Commissioner Bigby called the Marketing Committee meeting of March 5, 2018 to order at approximately 12:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Regional Commerce Center.

Commissioner Griggs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners present: Rick C. Prescott, Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, James D. Hall and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. A quorum was present.

Commissioner Bigby called for introduction of guests: Jarred Provenza, John Swanson and Paul John, Syrah Resources; Jerry Huddleston, Robson Farms; George Carroll, Resident; Tyler Comeaux, Burk-Kleinpeter; Ty Scroggins, Scroggins Consultants; Robert Kearny, Balar; Ed Walsh and Sarah McKinney, R&P Agency and John Hubbard, SWEPCO. Staff members: Eric England, Danye Malone, Brenda Levinson, Hugh McConnell, Kathy French, Rick Nance, and Hettie Agee.

Commissioner Bigby called for Public Comments on Agenda Items. Hearing none, he called on Brenda for Potential Customers/Projects. She reported on Project Frio, Nucor in Terrell, Texas, Jackson Iron & Metal.

On Potential Customers, she turned the podium over to Paul John, COO, for Syrah Technologies. He gave a very informative and detailed Power Point presentation of the company and the proposed project. He was joined by John Swanson, Project Manager and Jarred Provenza, Sr. Plant Engineer. Calling for questions, Commissioner Murphy said these super sacks, could you give me an estimate about what the weight per sack might be? Mr. John said one metric ton. Commissioner Murphy asked are they palletized. Mr. John said they have straps on the side and that's how we would move them. Commissioner Bigby asked what size what size building would you be looking at building? Mr. John said the structure that would support the 10 kiloton per year operation would be somewhere in the 50,000 – 70,000 sq. range. Commissioner Griggs asked if he could give us an average wage or income. Mr. John said we have looked at that and the expectation is the majority of the jobs would be ones at \$25/hour and above. It's going to depend when you get up to about 40 kilotons, I would expect it would be somewhere in the \$40,000-\$50,000 a year range on average. We'd have a wide range of management roles but also more traditional entry level roles. Commissioner Griggs asked would you recruit those here or would you bring them in from other parts of the country? Mr. John said we would be looking to recruit them here. Commissioner Bigby asked would you anticipate the waste product going into the River. Mr. John said that's one option; the other option is to go into the municipal treatment system. Mostly what it is is a mixture of calcium chloride and sodium chloride, so it's a byproduct that comes from that neutralization step I alluded to in the flow chart. DEQ I think would not have any problem, given the level of discharge and the nature of it. But if there is a way of using the municipal treatment system, that's certainly an option.

She continued with the customer update on Benteler, Ronpak, Pratt, West LA Aggregate, Calumet, ADS Logistics and Ternium.

Commissioner Bigby called on Kathy to give the Public Affairs report and adjourned the Marketing Committee meeting at approximately 12:30 p.m.

**Motion by Commissioner Bigby to approve the March 5, 2018 Marketing Committee Meeting Minutes: Motion approved by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy and James L. Pannell. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Roy Griggs and Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.**

**Operations Committee Meeting Minutes of March 5, 2018:** The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Griggs, Chairman, at approximately 12:31 p.m., March 5, 2018 at the Regional Commerce Center Board Room.

Commissioners present: Rick C. Prescott, Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy, James L. Pannell and Steve Watkins. A quorum was present.

Commissioner Griggs called for introduction of guests: Jarred Provenza, John Swanson and Paul John, Syrah Resources; Jerry Huddleston, Robson Farms; Tyler Comeaux, Burk- Kleinpeter; Ty Scroggins, Scroggins Consultants; Robert Kearny, Balar; Ed Walsh and Sarah McKinney, R&P Agency and John Hubbard, SWEPCO. Staff members: Eric England, Dannye Malone, Brenda Levinson, Hugh McConnell, Kathy French, Rick Nance, and Hettie Agee.

Hearing no public comments on the agenda items, Commissioner Griggs called on Hugh for the Operations report. The tonnage reports will be sent as soon as they are received. We had 443 new cars enter the Port, 965 switches. Zavian has almost completed all of his conductor training. We also have two more new hires. The River crested Sunday at 31.39'. The Port stevedores discharged 6 barges this past month, 8650 tons. We unloaded a barge of Ternium coils Friday. Red River Terminals reported 1 barge of petroleum, 3,290 tons.

Rick provided an update on the Redundant Water Line, ADS Warehouse Expansion, North Satellite Rail Yard, Phase I and II, and the Fender Rehab. The rain has slowed all the projects down. When the SWEPCO sub-station at John Holt and Ron Bean, when they built that they did not get the drainage right. There is a high spot which is part of why our railyard is not draining the way it should. This change order will be to remove that culvert we don't use and clean up that drain. Eric said we need a motion for a change order with our Rail Project Phase I contractor not to exceed \$7500.

**Motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Bigby to approve the change order. Motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, James D. Hall and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Sam N. Gregorio, James L. Pannell, Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

Eric said he had two items to discuss where we'll need to seek some action from the committee of the whole. At the Port Expansion Committee today, the committee moved that we revise our offer letter to the Robson Farms company for their approximate 300-acre tract. You'll recall we did this several months ago with the Port providing the use value appraisal and all the other studies based on our previous Port Expansion meeting. This morning at the Port Expansion Committee meeting, we discussed revising our offer letter to the Robson Farms group for the Robson Farms tract at \$13,500 per acre, provided such that they, the owner/seller provide the use value appraisal by Mr. David Lakvold. If there's any discussion, but we seek that the committee ratify that action.

**Motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Bryant to ratify the actions of the Port Expansion Committee to revise the offer letter. Motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, James D. Hall and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Sam N. Gregorio, James L. Pannell, Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

Eric said the second part of the Robson Farms update is there will be professional services that we will need. We need Abstract of Title and our recommendation is Sunbelt; we need to obtain a Phase I Environmental and our recommendation is JEI and the third is a topographic and boundary survey, Ark-La-Tex Survey who has a lot of baseline material on the site. If we could receive that in the form of a motion. I would like to respectfully ask the committee to ratify that action of the Executive Committee.

**Motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Prescott to ratify the Executive Committee’s decision with regard to hiring the professionals that were referred to. Motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, James D. Hall and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Sam N. Gregorio, James L. Pannell, Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

Commissioner Griggs said I will ask for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss an employee matter.

**Motion by Commissioner Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Hall to go into Executive Session. Motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, James D. Hall and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Sam N. Gregorio, James L. Pannell and Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

**Motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Bigby to go back into regular session. Motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy, James L. Pannell and Steve Watkins. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

**Motion by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Hall that they extend the FMLA/leave of absence request by 45 days for the employee discussed in Executive Session. Motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Roy Griggs, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, James D. Hall and Capt. Thomas F. Murphy. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Sam N. Gregorio, James L. Pannell and Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

Hearing nothing else to come before the Board, Commissioner Griggs adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:51 p.m.

**Motion by Commissioner Bigby to approve the March 5, 2018 Operations Committee Meeting Minutes: Motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy and James L. Pannell. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Roy Griggs and Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Lambert Advisory Report – Commercial Development:**

**Motion made by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Pannell to accept the Lambert Advisory Report. Motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy and James L. Pannell. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Roy Griggs and Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

**Commercial Development:**

**Motion made by Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Commissioner Bigby to 1) table the design for the commercial development and 2) take the approximate 4.3 acre site located**

**near Gate D and market it as “build to suit”. Motion approved by the following vote:** AYES: Commissioners: Rick C. Prescott, Walter O. Bigby, Jr., Erica R. Bryant, Sam N. Gregorio, James D. Hall, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy and James L. Pannell. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Roy Griggs and Steve Watkins. ABSTENTIONS: 0.

**2018 Ad Valorem Tax Announcement:** As part of our process to adopting our 2.5 mill property tax, the first step for us is in this meeting is to announce our intention to hold a Public Meeting at our April 19, 2018 Board meeting. There’s no action that needs to be taken by the Board today. Just allow me to announce our intention of holding a Public Meeting at our April 19, 2018 Board meeting and will be followed by other notifications and actions. Will be glad to answer any questions.

**Port Director’s Report: Port Director’s Report:** Mr. England said this year’s Port Night was a great event. We had a record turnout and want to thank the Port Commissioners, Port staff, Romph & Pou for all that they did in helping us put on another incredible event. Commissioner Gregorio said Rick did a wonderful job at that Port Night. Commissioner Prescott said I’d like to personally thank everyone for Port Night. It was a great event. Some people had a chance to come out and see what the Port is all about. They take it back to the community to let others know what we have going on out here. We’re looking forward to a great year.

**ADJOURNMENT:** That concludes our meeting; we stand adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter O. Bigby, Jr.  
Secretary-Treasurer

**May Meetings**  
**Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, May 17, 2018 4:30 p.m.**

Executive Committee: May 7, 2018 10:00 a.m.  
April Marketing and Operations Committee Meetings, Monday, May 7, 2018, 12 Noon  
Regional Commerce Center, 6000 Doug Attaway Blvd, Shreveport, LA 71115