

ILLINOIS INTERNATIONAL PORT DISTRICT
Leases and Agreements Committee Meeting

March 20, 2026

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

Members Present:

Averil Edwards, Chair
Henry Wisniewski
Danielle Cassel
Michelle McClendon
Erika Rodriguez

Others Present:

Ivan Solis, Ex Officio Member
Betty Sanchez, Director
LeKesha Lundy, Treasurer
Brad Smith, Neal & Leroy
Erik Varela, Executive Director
Maria Limonciello, IIPD

Committee Chairwoman Edwards opened the meeting of the Leases and Agreements Committee at approximately 8:00 am. Roll was taken and a quorum was present.

General Public Present: See attached list of members of the public present.

Committee Chairwoman Edwards requested a Motion to take the meeting agenda out of order to allow public comment. The Motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez, seconded by Ms. Cassel, and the Motion passed unanimously. See page 2 for Public Comment summary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Chairwoman Edwards requested a Motion recommending the Board of Directors approve the Leases and Agreements Committee meeting minutes from February 20, 2026. The Motion was made by Ms. Cassel, seconded by Ms. Rodriguez, and the Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee Chairwoman Edwards reported there was no Old Business to be addressed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discussion of litigation matters pursuant to Section 2(c)(11) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.
Discussion of property lease matters pursuant to Section 2(c)(6) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Committee Chairwoman Edwards requested a Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a property lease matter, pursuant to Section 2(c)(6) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. The Motion was made by Ms. Cassel, seconded by Ms. McClendon and the Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, Committee Chairwoman Edwards requested a Motion to exit Executive Session. The Motion was made by Mr. Wisniewski, seconded by Ms. McClendon and the Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

FTZ Operating Agreement – Progressive Components International Corporation

Committee Chairwoman Edwards reported the required documentation for this FTZ Agreement request has not been received. Discussion of the Progressive Components International Corporation's request for an FTZ Operating Agreement was postponed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

U.S. Congressman Jesus "Chuy" Garcia, U.S. representative for Illinois's 4th District

Congressmen Garcia stated that he has had the opportunity to learn about the labor situation at the Port and has met with workers. Congressman Garcia serves as the ranking member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and part of his responsibility is to ensure federal investments are implemented in the best way possible.

Congressmen Garcia stated that the Port is receiving one of the largest federal investments in recent history, allowing the potential for a great comeback for the community, the City and the region. He stated that more than \$55 million in federal funding is coming to the Port to modernize operations, electrify equipment and build the future of the facility. He reported that he has met with Chairman Solis and Executive Director Varela regarding this. That stated that these investments are funds he advocated for and helped to secure. He stated that these funds relate to working toward a bigger vision for the Port and more investment in the future. He stated that the investment shows how important the Port is to Chicago, the region and the nation economy overall. He stated that this investment was meant not only to deliver clean equipment, but better jobs, safe conditions, and opportunities for workers who power the Port.

Congressmen Garcia stated that with this level of investment comes responsibility. He asserted that the Port is not meeting these responsibilities and is failing workers that make the Port run. He stated that the worker's stories are concerning and unacceptable. Workers have told him of injuries, understaffing, lack of training, unsafe conditions, intimidation and being replaced.

Congressmen Garcia stated that this is about safety, dignity and respect, and workers deserve better. He stated that workers should be able to come to work and go home safely. He stated that the Port cannot accept millions of dollars in federal funding and allow a system where workers are unsafe, unheard and unprotected.

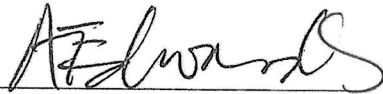
Congressmen Garcia stated unionization efforts occur everywhere. He stated that federal law requires safe working conditions and protection against retaliation, and when these standards are not met, there must be accountability. Congressmen Garcia asserted that the Board has tools to address this. He asked the Board to act with accountability on behalf of the workers and conduct an immediate review of the lease with QSL and determine if it meets legal and operational standards. Congressmen Garcia asked the Board to work with Union 150 and ensure a fair process for workers and allow them to choose representation and commit to labor peace.

Congressmen Garcia stated the Port's future cannot be built on unsafe conditions and silenced workers. If there is investment in the Port, there must be investment in the people who make it run. Congressmen Garcia stated that he stands with workers.

ADJOURNMENT

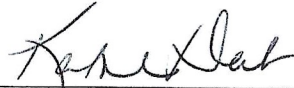
There being no further business to come before the Committee, Committee Chair Edwards requested a Motion to adjourn. The Motion was made by Ms. Cassel, seconded by Mr. Wisniewski, and the Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED:



Averil Edwards
Committee Chair

ATTESTED:



Kathleen Dart
Secretary

March 20, 2026 Leases and Agreements Committee Meeting Public In Attendance	
US Congressman Jesus "Chuy" Garcia	4th Congressional District
Manuel Diaz	4th Congressional District
Wilfred Quinn	Associate General Counsel Local 150
Kristine Kavanagh	Local 150
Freddy Alvarez	Local 150
Ray Sundine	Local 150 Director of Organizing
Acy Wartsbaugh	Local 150
Alejandro Jimenez	Local 150
Alex Munoz	QSL
Arturo Cortes	QSL
Braulio Partida	QSL
Carlos Saldana	Local 150/QSL/NASCO
Clemens Gizynski	Local 150/QSL/NASCO
DaVonne Taylor	QSL
George Kyriakakis	Local 150/QSL
Hector Valadez	Local 150/QSL/NASCO
Heriberto Gutierrez	Local 150
Jesus Zavala	QSL
Jesus Vasquez	QSL
Jonathon Rodriguez	QSL
Leo Lopez	Local 150/QSL/NASCO
Manuel Roa	Local 150/NASCO
Oscar Ornelas	QSL
Ray Rogers	Local 150
Richard Betz	QSL
Richard Hernandez	QSL
Terrill McWilliams	Local 150
Uriel Sanchez	QSL
Ma Cherry Trivedi	
Jack Eskin	HNTB
*Please excuse misspellings or typos	