

STATE OF TEXAS }
COUNTY OF WILLACY }

THE BOARD OF NAVIGATION AND CANAL COMMISSIONERS OF THE WILLACY COUNTY NAVIGATION DISTRICT met in Regular Session Wednesday, August 09, 2023 at 9:00 A.M., 400 W. Hidalgo, Ste 200, Raymondville, TX with the following members present:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:	CHAD KINNEY	CHAIRMAN
	STACY REYES	SECRETARY
	STEVEN KENDRICK	MEMBER
	ERNESTO CAVAZOS	MEMBER
ALSO PRESENT:	RON MILLS	PORT DIRECTOR
	ALLISON RODRIGUEZ	ATTORNEY
	FRANK VASQUEZ	PORT SUPERINTENDENT
	DAVID MAYES	PORT CHIEF
	LETTY MARTINEZ	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ABSENT:	ALBERTO TREVINO	MEMBER

Chad Kinney, Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.; upon conclusion of roll call, it was ascertained that a quorum was present. Kinney called for affidavits of conflict of interest, and there was none.

Item No. 1: REVIEW & CONSIDERATION OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Upon review of the July 19, 2023 board meeting minutes, Commissioner Kendrick made the motion to approve the previous board meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cavazos and the vote unanimously carried.

Item No. 2: PUBLIC COMMENT: Kristie Graham – noise ordinance: Kristie Graham advised the board that Port Mansfield needs to have a noise ordinance, she stated that noise is like pollution, it's unwanted sound, which affects sleeping and it's a stress related illness. Ms. Graham also stated that she is an ICU Nurse, works long hours and clocks in early mornings. Ms. Graham also addressed to the board that she has brought the noise issue and loud radius of passing boats by Blues Bar & Grill to the Police, the owner of Blues Bar & Grill and to the Port Director.

Item No. 3: DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON 2023 TAX RATES AS PRESCRIBED BY WILLACY COUNTY TAX OFFICE: After discussing the 2023 tax rate as prescribed by the Willacy County Tax Office, Commissioner Cavazos made the motion for the current rate of .0881 to remain the same. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and the vote unanimously carried.

Item No. 4: PORT POLICE CHIEF MONTHLY SUMMARY REGARDING LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS, INVESTIGATIONS, CRIME REPORTS AND STATISTICS, ARRESTS, CRIMINAL OR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY, MIGRANT ACTIVITY, LAND AND WATER RESCUES, PUBLIC SAFETY RELATED INFORMATION, PERSONNEL MATTERS AND EQUIPMENT OR TECHNOLOGY MATTERS: Chief Mayes, reported that they have received calls regarding disorderly conduct, noise/deal with State Law surrounded by the Harbor. Also reported that the last 10 days, 2 illegal smugglers were identified and confirmed. The airport was utilized to transport migrants. Mayes also stated he hired an employee with 20 year experience.

Item No. 5: PORT DIRECTORS' REPORT: Port Director Ron Mills reported on the following:

- Received request for additional information from MARAD PIDF Grant Program for \$11.4M for seawall and port infrastructure improvements.
Reminder there is no cost share as submitted: Attended meeting last Wednesday in Beaumont with the Texas Department of Transportation Maritime and we were awarded \$11.4M dollars. Twenty-one (21) Ports with 47 projects
- We were awarded \$11.3M from TXDOT Maritime for bulkhead work which after legislative signature will probably be made available by years end.
Does have a cost share.
- Reminder that there is a statewide shortage on manholes and their production.
Have advised them to continue with the approved bid and we will install manholes when they arrive.
- Excess property auction is postponed for at least a couple of months: dump trucks and old police vehicles, probably in the fall.

Item No. 6: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF BUILDING AUTHORIZATIONS ISSUED FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2023: The building authorizations issued for the month of July, 2023 were reviewed or discussed.

Item No. 7: REVIEW & CONSIDERATION OF RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, CANCELLED LEASES AND COLLATERAL TRANSFER OF LEASE: Upon review and discussion of each described and itemized leases, Secretary Reyes made the motion to accept and approve the leases as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cavazos and the vote unanimously carried.

Item No. 8: REVIEW & CONSIDERATION OF CHECKS AND VOUCHERS: After review of the checks and vouchers, Commissioner Cavazos made the motion to accept the issued checks and approve the transactions for payment of the Willacy County Navigation District and to accept the transactions July 20, 2023 through August 09, 2023. The motion was then seconded by Secretary Reyes the vote unanimously carried.

Item No. 9: EXECUTIVE SESSION – CLOSED SESSION AT 9:25 A.M.

ATTORNEY CONSULTATION PURSUANT TO SEC. 551.071, TEX. GOV'T CODE, TO RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE AND COUNSELING REGARDING WCND BOARD RIGHTS, DUTIES, OBLIGATIONS, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND OPTIONS RELATING TO SUBDIVISION PLATTING AND FILING OF THE NEW PORT SUBDIVISION.

DELIBERATIONS PURSUANT TO SEC. 551.087 (FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO BUSINESS PROSPECT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT) AND 551.072 (LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY), TEX. GOV'T CODE, REGARDING PROJECT ROLLOFF.

PERSONNEL MATTER CONSIDERATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.074, TEXAS GOV'T CODE, TO CONDUCT A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF THE EXECUTIVE PORT DIRECTOR.

Item No. 10: RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – 11:19 A.M.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, REGARDING WCND OPTIONS IN THE PLATTING AND SUBDIVISIONS OF THE NEW PORT SUBDIVISION.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, REGARDING THE PROVISION OF FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND LEASE GRANTS TO PROJECT ROLLOFF.

PORT DIRECTOR TO COORDINATE LEASE TERMS WITH THE ATTORNEY

CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, RELATING TO THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF THE EXECUTIVE PORT DIRECTOR.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SALARY INCREASED BY 12%.

Item No. 11: ADJOURN: meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m..