

STATE OF TEXAS           }  
COUNTY OF WILLACY       }

THE BOARD OF NAVIGATION AND CANAL COMMISSIONERS OF THE WILLACY COUNTY NAVIGATION DISTRICT met in Regular Session Wednesday, April 10, 2024 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 POLICE 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 March 13, 2024 board meeting minutes, Commissioner Cavazos made the motion to approve the previous board meeting minutes after amending Item 3. The motion was seconded by Secretary Reyes and vote unanimously carried.

Item No. 2: PUBLIC COMMENT(S):

*Miller Bassler* - Barge/Container Project: Mr. Bassler addressed the board that he is a long time resident and tax payer. Mr. Bassler would like to remind everyone of the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Cut and Beach clean-up, which will be held June 08, 2024. Mr. Bassler also stated his concern about North American Standards (containers), to reconsider plans to allow them to begin operating a container port, which will bring tugboats and recreation for many years.

*Kathy Bassler* – Barge/Container Project: Ms. Bassler would like for an environmental study to be considered, she is very concerned there will be a down fall. Ms. Bassler stated that the Corps of Engineers has continued to dredge and does not think they will stop. Would like the board to be transparent to tax payers.

*Patrick Tyler – Port:* Mr. Patrick addressed the board he has several items, on January the contract with North American Standards became public and Bassler was told he could have a copy. Secondly, there are actions of talk that the Mansfield Marina at the Appraisal District is under Willacy County Navigation District and asked whose property are they paying under the Navigation District.

*Melissa Murphy – Public Records:* Ms. Murphy addressed to the board that she submitted a request for a list of lessees addresses to be released. Ms. Murphy stated that they need to know what is going on in their community, they need transparency.

Item No. 3: DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ADJUST ANNUAL FIRE DEPT. BUDGET FROM \$15K TO 31K TO PURCHASE NEW PUMPER FOR LOCAL FIREFIGHTING FOR FY 23/24: After discussion and action to adjust the annual fire department budget, Commissioner Kendrick made the motion to adopt \$31K to the fire department to purchase a new pumper for local firefighting for 23/24. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cavazos and the vote unanimously carried.

Item No. 4: PORT DIRECTORS REPORT:

- New Port Subdivision is signed and filed with the County Clerk
- AEP is reportedly surveying for subdivision
- Sewer and Water nearly completion

Item No. 5: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF BUILDING AUTHORIZATIONS ISSUED FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 2024: The building authorizations issued for the month of March, 2024 were reviewed and discussed.

Item No. 6: 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. 7: REVIEW & CONSIDERATION OF CHECKS AND VOUCHERS: After review of the checks and vouchers, Secretary Reyes 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 March 14, 2024 through April 10, 2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cavazos and the vote unanimously carried.

Item No. 8: *EXECUTIVE SESSION*: Closed Session at approximately 9:27 a.m.

1. Attorney Consultation Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Sec. 551.071 for legal briefing on the WCND rights, duties, obligations, and options in regard to Attorney General Decision No. OR2024-005324A, and relating to a public information request submitted to the WCND, dated October 30 (and clarified November 13).

Closed Session pursuant to Sec. 551.071, Tex. Gov't Code, to obtain legal advice and counsel regarding the WCND legal rights, duties, and obligations arising out of anticipated dredging contracts with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Closed session pursuant to Sec. 551.072, Tex. Gov't Code, to consider general terms and values relating to residential and commercial leases within Port Mansfield.

2. Return to Open Session at approximately 10:55 a.m.

Consideration and action on WCND response and direction regarding Attorney General Decision No. OR2024-005372A.

No Action Taken..

Item No. 9: Adjourn: at approximately 10:57 a.m.