

JANUARY 17, 2013

The Board of County Commissioners, Manatee County, Florida, convened as the MANATEE COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY at Port Manatee in the Third Floor Meeting Room of the Port Manatee Intermodal Center, 1905 Intermodal Circle, Palmetto, Florida, at 9:00 a.m.

Present were members:

Carol Whitmore, Chairman
John Chappie, First Vice-Chairman
Michael Gallen, Second Vice-Chairman
Vanessa Baugh, Third Vice-Chairman
Betsy Benac
Lawrence E. Bustle, Jr.
Robin DiSabatino

Also present were:

Carlos Buqueras, Executive Director
Jennifer R. Cowan, Port Authority Attorney
Dan Wolfson, Finance Director,
representing R. B. Shore, Clerk of Circuit Court

Invocation by Tim Huppert, Anchor House

AGENDA

Agenda of January 17, 2013.

Carlos Buqueras, Executive Director, noted the **Cargo Volume Agreement** (Agenda Item 5) was deferred. [PA20130117DOC001](#)

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Mrs. Benac, seconded by Mr. Gallen, and carried 7 to 0, to approve the Consent Agenda incorporating the language as stated in the recommended motions on the cover sheets for the Consent Agenda. Items APPROVED: [PA20130117DOC002](#)

WARRANT LIST

December 13, 2012 to January 9, 2013 [PA20130117DOC003](#)

MINUTES

December 20, 2012 [PA20130117DOC004](#)

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Various PA-13-04

Supporting Description and Detail Attached [PA20130117DOC005](#)

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

1. Accept Affirmative Action Annual Report, and
2. PA-13-05 RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING COMMITMENT TO THE MANATEE COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY AFFIRMATIVE ACTION POLICY. [PA20130117DOC006](#)

STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK LOAN

Execute First Amendment to State-Funded SIB Loan Agreement with the **State of Florida, Department of Transportation (FDOT)**.

(End Consent Agenda) [PA20130117DOC007](#)

FEDERAL MARINE TERMINALS/FEDNAV INTERNATIONAL

Michel Tosini, Fednav Group, gave a presentation reviewing the company which is Canada's largest dry-cargo shipping group. He reviewed fleet composition, logistics, philosophy and core values, tonnage handled, cargo profile, recent growth, labor force, customers, commodities, and Port Manatee Gearbulk operations.

Discussion: Port employees 30-75; business has changed around the world; rebound is needed in dry bulk concentrates; downturn in container market; demand for semi or finished products will increase business for all industries; Panama Canal potential; Port Manatee is ideally located; Manatee County economic development incentive; etc.

Carl Blodgett, Federal Marine Terminals, Inc., continued the slide presentation and reviewed the Port's Gearbulk operations. He welcomed Commissioners to tour their operation. [PA20130117DOC008](#)

SEABULK TOWING

Steve Tyndal, Senior Director of Trade Development and Special Projects, stated the Port tugboat operations, which consist of non-exclusive franchise agreements with two tug companies (Seabulk being one), earned the Port \$103,000 last year.

Bartley Wilkins, Seabulk Towing, Inc., used a slide presentation to review Seabulk history as an assist tug company with 55 years experience. Seabulk is a subsidiary of SEACOR Holdings. He reviewed their various ocean transports and areas of operation, and discussed what they offer Port Manatee. Tugs protect ships and piers from damage. As sea-going vessels slow down, many lose the capability to quickly react and steer themselves. Seabulk has the financial strength to survive recent downturns in several areas of the shipping market.

Discussion: Cruise lines have private islands throughout the Caribbean which require food, supplies, and furniture for their needs; great partner at the Port; etc. [PA20130117DOC009](#)

PORT LEGAL COUNSEL

Carlos Buqueras, Port Executive Director, announced that Maggie Mooney-Portale is no longer with Lewis, Longman, and Walker, P.A.

Steve Lewis, of Lewis, Longman, and Walker, P.A., introduced **Jennifer Cowan**, who will be Counsel to the Port Authority.

ENERGY EFFICIENT SWITCH LOCOMOTIVES

Bob Armstrong, Chief Financial Officer and Director of Business, reviewed the history of the Tiger II Grant. The bid process has been completed and he recommended the purchase of two new American-made locomotives in the amount of \$3,309,370. The locomotives meet Tier 3 emission standards by decreasing emissions 35-45 percent, as well as enhance switching needs and provide a 40-70 percent increase in fuel efficiency.

Discussion: Current locomotive will be sold; dynamic brakes; switching up to 80 cars; etc.

Motion was made by Mrs. DiSabatino, seconded by Mrs. Baugh, and carried 7 to 0, to award the contract for the purchase of two new energy-efficient switch locomotives to National Railway Equipment in the amount of \$3,309,370, subject to the review and approval of FDOT and Maritime Administration (MARAD). [PA20130117DOC010](#)

FEDERAL DREDGING LOBBYIST

Mr. Buqueras reviewed the agreement with Twenty-First Century Group to provide representation in Washington, D.C., to pursue Port projects and initiatives with Federal opportunities and support for Port expansion.

Discussion: One-year agreement with renewal options; 30-day termination clause; current contract will be voided; letter drafted with 60-day notice as of this date to the lobbyist regarding disengagement and their work continued with staff until the transition; avoid mixing lobbying efforts; recognize their significant contributions; etc.

Motion was made by Mr. Bustle and seconded by Mr. Chappie, to approve and authorize execution on behalf of the Contract for Professional Services with Twenty-First Century Group.

Mr. Buqueras corrected a statement indicating this is a two-year contract with a 30-day termination clause.

Following discussion, the motion carried 7 to 0.

[PA20130117DOC011](#)

FEDERAL MARINE TERMINALS

Mr. Buqueras announced that the Pathy family, owners of FMT, contributed \$1,000 toward the Manatee Players construction project.

NAVIERA MASTER LINE

Matty Appice, Director of International Sales/Port Manatee, announced the expansion of Master Line to Naviera Master Line de Venezuela, who selected Port Manatee for their new container and breakbulk cargo service to Caribbean, Central and South American destinations. The first ship will be sailing March 8, 2013, and customers have been notified of the new location which will be less expensive than the current Port Everglades location.

Discussion: Press release prepared; cargo from Central Florida will now have access to Port Manatee as a central port rather than the southeastern Port; events planned for March 8th; export cargo will arrive on specialized trucks; etc.

[PA20130117DOC012](#)

AUTHORITY MEMBER COMMENTS

Commerce Park Tour

Mrs. Baugh and Mrs. Benac thanked Stanley Riggs and Kevin Button for the tour of Commerce Park.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Adj: 10:34 a.m.
/njh

Minutes Approved: February 21, 2013