

JUNE 4, 2013

The Board of County Commissioners, Manatee County, Florida, convened as the MANATEE COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY at the Administrative Center, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, at 11:09 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
Vicki Tessmer, Board Records Supervisor,
representing R. B. Shore, Clerk of Circuit Court

AGENDA

Agenda of June 4, 2013.

[PA20130604DOC001](#)

INTERNATIONAL SISTER SEAPORTS

Carlos Buqueras, Executive Director, presented an International Sister Seaports Agreement formalized with the Port Authority of Rio de Janeiro. The Agreement establishes regular shipping lines between Port Manatee and the Port Authority of Rio de Janeiro, and allows for uninhibited exchange of information related to the two ports' cargo industries, statistics, planned seaport infrastructure developments, marketing, and research. Goodwill ambassadors will exchange educational visits creating new opportunities for foreign trade with Brazil. Port Manatee and Port of Rio de Janeiro will link the United States and Brazil as the first coastal sister seaport partnership.

Jorge Luiz de Mello, President and Director of Port of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil was introduced and a signing ceremony was conducted to execute the Sister Seaports Agreements.

Sharon Hillstrom, President/CEO, Economic Development Council, and **Kenneth DeBoe**, Brazil-Florida Chamber of Commerce, congratulated the Port Authority and Port Manatee officials.

Marcelo Baptista, Gateway Global Trading, questioned how the Agreement would potentially effectuate trade with Brazil and other Florida ports.

Motion was made by Mr. Gallen, seconded by Mr. Chappie, and carried 7 to 0, to ratify and confirm the action taken by Mr. Buqueras on behalf of the Manatee County Port Authority as it relates to the successful negotiation of an International Sister Seaports Agreement between the Manatee County Port Authority and the Port Authority of Rio de Janeiro, and to authorize the Chairman to execute and sign the Agreement.

[PA20130604DOC002](#)

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Adj: 11:32 a.m./rll

Minutes Approved: August 15, 2013