

## POHA November 7, 2024

The Commissioners of the Port of Harlingen Authority (POH) met in a regularly scheduled session on Thursday November 7, 2024 at 12:00 PM at the Port's Administration Office located at 24633 Port Road, Harlingen, Texas, 78550.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Rose Snell – Commissioner, Place 1  
Neil Haman – Commissioner, Place 2  
Alan Johnson – Chairman, Place 3  
Chris Villarreal – Commissioner, Place 4  
Ryan Newman – Commissioner, Place 5

**PORT STAFF PRESENT:** Walker Smith – Port Director  
Robert McDonald – Chief Financial Officer (remote)  
Amy Lynch – Director of Marketing & Public Relations  
Anne Jimenez - Receptionist

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Chris Boswell – Port Attorney

A. Meeting called to order at 12:02 pm.

Declaration of conflicts of interest: None.

B. 1. **Item:** PUBLIC COMMENTS

2. **Issue:** To hear public comments, if any.

3. **Discussion:** There were no public comments.

4. **Action Taken:** None.

C. 1. **Item:** APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

2. **Issue:** To review the vouchers for approval.

3. **Discussion:** There was no discussion regarding the vouchers.

4. **Action Taken:** On a motion by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mrs. Snell, the Commissioners voted unanimously to approved the vouchers.

D. 1. **Item:** APPROVAL OF MINUTES & CERTIFIED AGENDA FOR THE MEETING ON OCTOBER 17, 2024

2. **Issue:** To review the corresponding minutes.

3. **Discussion:** There was no discussion regarding the minutes.

4. **Action Taken:** On a motion by Mrs. Snell and seconded by Mr. Newman, the

Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes & certified agenda for the meeting on October 17, 2024.

The Commission entered the executive session authorized by Chapters 551.071 & 551.072 at 12:03 PM. They came out of the executive session at 12:46 PM. A Certified Agenda for the executive session is on file.

- E. 1. **Item:** CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE QUARTERLY CASHFLOW AND INVESTMENT REPORTS
2. **Issue:** To review and approve the reports.
  3. **Discussion:** Regarding the Cashflow report, Mr. McDonald stated that one of the major changes to the report are the cost of the turning basin expansion has increased. He also noted that in February 2026, the Port's available cash is projected to be in the negative due to a lot of projects starting around that time. Regarding the Investment report, Mr. McDonald noted that this is the first time in two years where the investment income has dropped. He also said that the Port is at 99% of the benchmark. And he said that as the treasury bonds mature every 6 months, the plan is not to repurchase treasuries, after two years the port will not have any treasuries.
  4. **Action Taken:** On a motion by Mrs. Snell and seconded by Mr. Villarreal, the Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Quarterly Cashflow & Investment Reports.
- F. 1. **Item:** PORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND DISCUSSION
2. **Issue:** To hear updates regarding various projects.
  3. **Discussion:** Mr. Smith reported that he spoke to Rep. Janie Lopez to congratulate her on winning her election. He said that he told her the Port intends to resubmit a bill for the extension of the overweight corridor. Regarding the Illumination project, Mr. Smith reported that USACE was requiring a nationwide 43 permit to be submitted. Regarding the turning basin expansion, Mr. Smith said that USACE asked the Port to consider accepting the recommended plan by USACE. Mr. Smith said that it would speed up the permitting process.
  4. **Action Taken:** This was for discussion only.
- G. 1. **Item:** PR & MARKETING DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND DISCUSSION
2. **Issue:** To hear updates regarding various projects.
  3. **Discussion:** Mrs. Lynch reported that
  4. **Action Taken:** This was for discussion only.

H. 1. **Item:** CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ISSUANCE OF OVERWEIGHT PERMITS TO ENTITIES OTHER THAN PORT TENANTS OR USERS OF PORT FACILITIES

2. **Issue:** The issuance of overweight permits.

3. **Discussion:** The Commission spoke to four representatives of Paisano Diesel Repair ("PDR"). The Commission explained that due to requirements imposed by the Texas Water Code related to Navigation Districts that unless PDR becomes a tenant of or does certain business with the Port, the Port cannot issue overweight permits to them. PDR expressed interest in becoming a tenant. Mr. Smith stated that the Port will require financial statements and a business plan to review in order to consider PDR as a tenant.

4. **Action Taken:** No action was taken.

I. 1. **Item:** CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A POLICY REGARDING THE ISSUANCE OF OVERWEIGHT PERMITS

2. **Issue:** A resolution for a policy regarding the issuance of overweight permits.

3. **Discussion:** There was no further discussion on the policy.

4. **Action Taken:** On a motion by Mr. Haman and seconded by Mr. Newman, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the resolution to adopt a policy regarding the issuance of overweight permits only to those applicants for a permit who are (1) A Tenant of the Port with a written ground lease or (2) A customer of the Port who pays fees for the use of docks, rail, or roads for the movement of Cargo pursuant to the POHA's published Tariff.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:46 PM.

ATTEST:

  
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Alan Johnson, Chairman

  
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Chris Villarreal, Secretary