

POHA February 20, 2025

The Commissioners of the Port of Harlingen Authority (POH) met in a regularly scheduled session on Thursday February 20, 2025 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 (remote)
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 (remote)
Jason Folton – TransSystems
Patrick Reilly – S.M.A.S.H.
Roxanne Rey – S.M.A.S.H.
June Long – S.M.A.S.H.
Guy Long - S.M.A.S.H.

A. Meeting called to order at 12:07 pm.

Declaration of conflicts of interest: None.

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

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

3. **Discussion:** Public comments were made by Mr. Reilly and Mrs. Ray on behalf of S.M.A.S.H. who has a license agreement with the Port for use of its land. They presented the Commission with a token of appreciation on the 50th anniversary of SMASH and its agreement with the Port.

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 Mr. Villarreal, the Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the vouchers.

- D. 1. **Item:** APPROVAL OF MINUTES & CERTIFIED AGENDA FOR THE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 6, 2025
2. **Issue:** To review the corresponding minutes.
 3. **Discussion:** There was no discussion regarding the minutes.
 4. **Action Taken:** On a motion by Mr. Villarreal and seconded by Mr. Newman, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes & certified agenda for the meeting on February 6, 2025.
- E. 1. **Item:** CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE JANUARY FINANCIAL, OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORTS
2. **Issue:** To review and approve the reports.
 3. **Discussion:** Mr. McDonald reviewed the January reports with the Commission. Regarding the tonnage report, he noted that there were 205,000 total tons brought in last month. Regarding the A/R Aging Summary, Mr. McDonald noted that the Viterra invoice has been paid. Regarding the Balance Sheet, he said the bank balance is over \$2 million. Regarding the Profit & Loss Budget Performance, he said the revenue is \$66,000 over budget. Mr. McDonald also noted that he removed the Circle X seawall from capital projects in the Balance Sheet which caused the expenses to be over budget by about \$250,000. However, Mr. McDonald said the Port is on track to meet its budget. Mr. Smith reviewed the Master Plan Progress report by giving a status update on each project.
 4. **Action Taken:** On a motion by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mrs. Snell, the Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the January reports: Tonnage, A/R Aging Summary, Balance Sheet, Profit Loss Budget Performance, and the Master Plan Progress Report.
- F. 1. **Item:** PORT DIRECTOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION
2. **Issue:** To hear updates regarding various projects.
 3. **Discussion:** Mr. Smith reported that the Port's overweight bill had been filed. It was filed both in the Senate and in the House. Mr. Smith also reported that he and Mrs. Lynch will go to the state capitol next week for Texas Ports Day and then Harlingen Day the following week. Mr. Smith said that he is still waiting for the Asset Management/Master Plan grant funding.
 4. **Action Taken:** This was for discussion only.

- G. 1. **Item:** PR & MARKETING DIRECTOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION
2. **Issue:** To hear updates regarding various projects.
3. **Discussion:** Mrs. Lynch reported that she is currently working on new social media campaigns for the Port. She also stated that she is preparing for the upcoming Texas Ports Association Day and Harlingen day at the Capitol.
4. **Action Taken:** This was for discussion only.
- H. 1. **Item:** CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TO AMEND THE JONES POWER LEASE AGREEMENT
2. **Issue:** To review the agreement for approval.
3. **Discussion:** Mr. Smith explained that Jones Power needs to amend the leased space due to a natural drainage in the current leased area that is unable to be used. They want to add 13 acres from the adjoining land into the lease and take out the acres where the drainage is.
4. **Action Taken:** On a motion by Mr. Villarreal and seconded by Mrs. Snell the Commissioners voted unanimously to approve amendment to the Jones Power lease agreement.

The Commission entered the executive session authorized by Chapters 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074 at 1:13 PM. They came out of the executive session at 1:56 PM. A Certified Agenda for the executive session is on file.

- I. 1. **Item:** CONSIDERATION OF EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE AS IT RELATES TO POSSIBLE BONUS PURSUANT TO TEX GOV'T CODE 551.074
2. **Issue:** To review employee performance.
3. **Discussion:** Discussion took place during the executive session.
4. **Action Taken:** On a motion by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Villarreal, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the employee bonuses as discussed in executive session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:58 PM.

ATTEST:



Alan Johnson, Chairman



Chris Villarreal, Secretary