AGENDA



Port Freeport
Port Commission
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
In Person & Videoconference - Administration Building - 1100 Cherry Street - Freeport

This meeting agenda with the agenda packet is posted online at www.portfreeport.com

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to Section 551.127 of the Texas Government Code titled "Videoconference Call." A quorum of the Port Commission, including the presiding officer, will be present at the Commissioner Meeting Room located at 1100 Cherry Street, Freeport, Texas. The public will be permitted to attend the meeting in person or by videoconference.

The videoconference is available online as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87923576255?pwd=aWlzUkZkQUIKd0FqMHRoZnRtekMUT09

Meeting ID: 879 2357 6255

Passcode: 035316

Dial by your location 1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) Meeting ID: 879 2357 6255

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kiBU5GvH7

- CONVENE OPEN SESSION in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.001, et. seq., to review and consider the following:
- 2. Invocation.
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance: U.S. Flag & Texas Flag
- 4. Roll Call.
- Safety Briefing.
- 6. Call to identify and discuss any conflicts of interest that may lead to a Commissioner abstaining from voting on any posted agenda item.
- 7. Public Comment. (Public comment on any matter not on this Agenda will be limited to 5 minutes per participant and can be completed in person or by videoconference)
- 8. Public Testimony. (Public testimony on any item on this Agenda will be limited to 5 minutes per agenda item to be addressed per participant and can be completed in person or by videoconference. The participant shall identify in advance the specific agenda item or items to be addressed.
- 9. Approval of minutes from the Regular Meetings held April 27, 2023.
- Receive report from Executive Director/CEO and/or Port staff on activities and matters related to COMD-19 health safety
 matters, administrative affairs, financial results, facility engineering matters, operations and vessel activity, port safety
 matters, port security matters, Port tenant updates, USCOE, and other related port affairs.
- 11. Adoption of a Resolution Canvassing the Election for Port Commissioners Position No. 1 and Position No. 2 held Saturday, May 6, 2023.
- 12. Discussion regarding Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- 13. EXECUTIVE SESSION in accordance with Subchapter D of the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.001, et. seg., to review and consider the following:
 - A Under authority of Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney):

- 1. Consultation with attorney under Government Code Section 551.071(1) (to seek or receive attorney's advice on pending or contemplated litigation).
- 2. Consultation with attorney under Government Code Section 551.071(2) (to seek or receive attorney's advice on legal matters that are not related to litigation).
- B. Under authority of Section 551.072 (Deliberation of Real Property Matters) for discussion regarding:
 - 1. Discussion regarding the potential exchange, lease, or value of real property located in Freeport, Texas, including but not limited to the area known as the East End of Freeport and bordered by or adjacent to the following streets: FM 1495; East 2nd Street; Terminal Street and East 8th Street in Freeport, Texas.
 - 2. The potential purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property located at Port Freeport, including but not limited to the real property located at and contiguous to Berths 1, 2, 5, 7 and 8.
 - 3. The potential exchange, lease, or value of real property located at Port Freeport, including but not limited to Parcels 14, 19, 27, 34 and property on Quintana Island.
- C. Under authority of Section 551.076 (Deliberation of Security Matters) for discussion regarding:
 - Discussion regarding issues related to the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation of security personnel or devices or security audit and services.
- 14. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION:
- 15. Adjourn.

The Port Commission does not anticipate going into a closed session under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code at this meeting for any other items on the agenda, however, if necessary, the Port Commission may go into a closed session as permitted by law regarding any item on the agenda.

With this posted notice, Port Commissioners have been provided certain background information on the above listed agenda items. Copies of this information can be obtained by the public at the Port Administrative offices at 1100 Cherry Street, Freeport, TX.

Phyllis Saathoff, Executive Director/CEO
PORT FREEPORT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the District will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending its functions. Requests should be received at least 24 hours in advance.

Minutes of Port Commission Regular Meeting April 27, 2023 In Person & Videoconference

A Regular Meeting of the Port Commission of Port Freeport was held April 27, 2023, beginning at 1:08 PM at the Administration Building, 1100 Cherry Street, Freeport, Texas.

This meeting agenda with the agenda packet is posted online at www.portfreeport.com

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to Section 551.127 of the Texas Government Code titled "Videoconference Call." A quorum of the Port Commission, including the presiding officer, will be present at the Commissioner Meeting Room located at 1100 Cherry Street, Freeport, Texas. The public will be permitted to attend the meeting in person or by videoconference.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85748082164?pwd=cFRhekd6Y2tGMGkxWVFtSDJHK01aZz09

Meeting ID: 857 4808 2164

Passcode: 566278

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) Meeting ID: 857 4808 2164

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kRmRVFFR

Commissioners present in person:

Mr. John Hoss, Chairman

Mr. Rudy Santos, Vice Chairman

Mr. Dan Croft, Secretary

Mr. Rob Giesecke, Asst. Secretary

Mr. Ravi Singhania, Commissioner

Mr. Shane Pirtle, Commissioner

Staff Members Present:

Ms. Grady Randle, Legal Counsel

Ms. Phyllis Saathoff, Executive Director/CEO

Mr. Rob Lowe, Director of Administration/CFO

Mr. Mike Wilson, Director of Economic Development & Freight Mobility

Mr. Jason Hull, Director of Engineering

Mr. Chris Hogan, Director of Protective Services

Mr. Jason Miura, Director of Business & Economic Development

Mr. Brandon Robertson, Director of Information Technology

Ms. Missy Bevers, Executive Assistant

Ms. Mary Campus, Controller

Ms. Tricia Vela, Public Affairs Assistant

Mr. Jesse Hibbetts, Operations Manager

Mr. Nick Malambri, Engineering Specialist

Ms. Christine Lewis, Safety Coordinator

Also, present:

Mr. Chris Moore, Texas Port Ministry

- Ms. Megan Mikutis, RLO
- Ms. Barbara Fratila
- Ms. Karla Clark
- Mr. Sammy Chambless
- 1. CONVENE OPEN SESSION in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.001, et. seq., to review and consider the following:
- 2. Invocation Mr. Chris Moore, Texas Port Ministry
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance U.S. Flag and Texas Flag
- 4. Roll Call Commissioner Hoss noted that all Commissioners were present in the Board Room.
- 5. Safety Briefing Ms. Christine Lewis provided a safety moment with driving tips during rainy weather.
- 6. Call to identify and discuss any conflicts of interest that may lead to a Commissioner abstaining from voting on any posted agenda item.
 - There were no conflicts noted by Commissioners.
- 7. Public Comment There were no public comments.
- 8. Public Testimony There was no public testimony.
- 9. Approval of minutes from the Regular Meeting held April 13, 2023 and the Special Meeting April 18, 2023.
 - A motion was made by Commissioner Croft to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pirtle with all Commissioners present voting in favor of the motion.
- 10. Receive reports from Executive Staff on activities and matters related to COVID-19 health safety matters, administrative affairs, financial results, facility engineering matters, operations and vessel activity, port safety matters, port security matters, Port tenant updates, USCOE, and other related port affairs.

A. Executive Director/CEO

Ms. Saathoff reported on the visit with representatives from APS Stevedoring (who will work with Volkswagen) as well as members of the purchasing team at Volkswagen to see the VW site and tour the Port. Staff received a request from Margaret Kidd with the University of Houston for a support letter in their effort to submit a proposal for a grant from the National Science Foundation. The title of the proposal is Climate smart GlobAl porT researcH centER (GATHER) which has three research thrusts including clean port energy, green port supply chain, and port resilience. Ms. Saathoff will be sending a letter supporting their proposal. Additionally, staff received a note from County Commissioner Dude Payne with a request from TxDOT for a support letter to be sent to the Houston-Galveston Area Council for the call

of projects for regional goods movement. Commissioner Payne is supporting the effort and Ms. Saathoff suggested the Port also send a letter of support as there are several projects important to Brazoria County and improvements to roadways that support the Port. Ms. Saathoff received an invitation from TxDOT to participate in a working group for the US 90 Corridor Project which would span from Interstate 10 Junction in Van Horn to the Louisiana border. There will be three working groups (West, Center & East) with the Port participating in the East working group. The Commission then discussed the May meeting dates with Ms. Saathoff stating that May 11 is the scheduled first meeting in May; however, the Commission must also canvass the election May 15, 16 or 17. Additionally, the second meeting of the month is May 25 however, staff is planning the Berth 8 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for May 30 and suggested moving the second meeting to that date to accommodate the ribbon cutting event and have a farewell reception for Commissioner Hoss. A suggestion was also made to move the May 11 first meeting to May 16 at 1 p.m. to accommodate the canvassing. The second meeting on May 30 will also be held at 1:00 p.m. With regard to TxDOT potholes, Ms. Saathoff noted the team will collect information on locations and relay it to TxDOT as they have been very responsive. Finally, the Port's 23rd Annual Take-a-Child Fishing Tournament is slated for May 6 with the port team working to get everything ready for the event. Captain's Dinner will be held May 4.

B. Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Lowe gave a presentation regarding the financial results for the month of March.

C. Director of Engineering

Mr. Hull shared current photos of the progress at Berth 8 and rail project on Parcel 14. He also reported the Dock 5 repair has been completed as well as the inspection with an assessment of fair condition. Life expectancy is approximately 100 years with another 30 years expected.

D. Director of Operations

Mr. Durel provided an update on March statistics for the Port stating there were 14 vessels for Freeport LNG with 16 or 17 projected for April. 9 RoRo vessels for March with the same amount projected for April. Steel saw 91,000 tons in March with April expecting 3 vessels. Mr. Durel noted that last fiscal year (2022), the Port averaged 38 vessels per month with this month handling 40 vessels. Total vessels port-wide year to date is 510 vs. 633 last year. Vehicles handled year to date is 50,686 vs. 46,700 last year. Containers' year to date is 23,359 vs. 22,000. Chris Hogan has been preparing for hurricane season by reviewing the Port's Hurricane Plan as well as reviewing Hazard Mitigation Plan topics with staff. Christine Lewis conducted a Safety Walkabout with G&H Towing who hosted a tour of their harbor tug. Additionally, fire extinguisher safety training was recently provided to all port staff. Austin Seth and Katie Tudor attended the Texas A&M Career Fair. Hannah Fitzsimmons hosted a group of exchange students from Denmark that included a Port presentation and tour. Additionally, Austin and Hannah also attended the WGMA Membership Meeting which included a presentation by Ms. Saathoff.

E. Director of Business & Economic Development

Mr. Miura reported on conferences recently attended including the Port of the Future Conference, JOC Breakbulk & Project Cargo Conference, Wood Mackenzie Hydrogen/Ammonia briefing as well as the Industry Advisory Board with University of Houston and their Supply Chain Logistics and Technology Program for College of Engineering. Staff will be attending the Finished Vehicle Logistics Conference in May and finally, staff will

release an RFP for a Port Rail Terminal Switching Operator May 1. Commissioner Singhania commented on the briefing with Wood Mackenzie stating there are a lot of tax incentives with carbon dioxide, green ammonia and gray. He also suggested staff and Commission look further into this and decide what role the Port will play. Wood Mackenzie may also be able to assist with the development of the Port's ESG position.

- 11. Receive report from Commissioners on matters related to Port Commission related to meetings or conferences, Port presentations and other Port related matters.
 - A. April 13 OSS Advisory Committee Commissioner Pirtle reported the committee reviewed the RFP for a Port Rail Terminal Switching Operator which will be released May 1 as previously reported by Mr. Miura.
 - B. Port Commission related meetings or conferences, Port presentations and other Port related matters.

Commissioner Pirtle reported attending the BCCA Dinner, BCPC, Texas Port Ministry Banquet, San Jacinto Day Festival, ABC Membership Luncheon and the West Columbia and Brazosport Rotary Shrimp Boils.

Commissioner Croft reported attending the Texas Port Ministry Banquet.

Commissioner Santos reported attending the committee hearing in Austin.

Commissioner Singhania reported attending several of the events previously mentioned as well as the U.S. Panama Business Council and the Lake Jackson Airport Fly-In.

Commissioner Giesecke also reported attending the Brazosport Rotary Club, Texas Port Ministry Banquet and 100 Club Banquet.

Commissioner Hoss reported attending committee hearings in Austin as well as attending several of the events mentioned above.

12. Approval of financial reports presented for the period ending March 31, 2023.

A motion was made by Commissioner Singhania to approve the reports as presented and the bills over 90 days resolved. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Giesecke with all Commissioners present voting in favor of the motion.

13. Approval of the purchase of NRVs for camera storage, for an amount not to exceed \$40,736.94.

Mr. Robertson stated it's time to refresh the hardware for camera storage with the last hardware purchase taking place in 2016. As mentioned before, once hardware begins to reach this age, warranty renewals become difficult. Staff obtained two Texas DIR quotes with Waypoint submitting the lowest at \$40,736,94. Staff sized it in such a way that it will meet 6 years of life again. Mr. Robertson explained that currently the hardware stores approximately 60 terabytes of camera footage and the new hardware will be moving to 220 terabytes. The

hardware can be delivered in two weeks so there will be no delay and the installation will be done in-house by staff. Staff reviewed these quotes with the OSS Advisory Committee April 13.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pirtle to approve the purchase from Waypoint as recommended by staff. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Croft with all Commissioners present voting in favor of the motion.

14. Approval of the purchase of a transformer for the ZPMC Gantry Cranes, in the amount of \$44,421.00 plus freight.

Mr. Durel stated there was a recent failure with an auxiliary transformer in crane #2. Because staff had a spare on hand, the repair was made with minimal time lost. Staff would now like to make a purchase from Hitran to replace the spare auxiliary transformer. The transformer is an exact match, sole proprietor however, delivery isn't until January 2024. Mr. Durel noted this is not a budgeted item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Santos to approve the purchase of the transformer in the amount of \$44,421.00 plus freight which is estimated at \$4,000.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Singhania with all Commissioners present voting in favor of the motion.

15. Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Leaf Engineers for the Fiber Optic Extension Project, for an amount not to exceed \$22,000.00.

Mr. Hull reminded the Commission when the Gate 12 design was approved, he noted that it would not include the fiber optic extension. This PSA with Leaf Engineers is for the extension of the fiber optic from the EOC to the new Gate 12 location. Staff recommends approval in the amount of \$22,000.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Singhania to approve the agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Santos with all Commissioners present voting in favor of the motion.

16. Receive update and discuss legislation under consideration in the Texas 88th Legislature.

Ms. Saathoff stated that things are moving quickly through the legislature noting that the House and Senate have appointed their conferees on the budget (appropriations packages) with the initial meeting held this week. Items currently in the House bill include the \$400M funding the Ship Channel Improvement Revolving Loan Fund as well as \$150M in the House/Senate budgets for the Port Capital Improvement Program. Additionally, there is a House substitute for SB30 for an additional \$200M for port capital improvements.

She then gave an update on the bills that are of interest to the Port as well as Commission supported TPA sponsored bills which include the following...

SB5 / HB5 – School tax abatement program; passed Senate and recorded favorably in the House; referred to House Ways and Means.

SB541 – Prevents state government entities from doing business with a vendor who are prohibited from participating in federal contracts under the John S. McCain National Defense Act of 2019; passed Senate and received in the House; referred to House State Affairs.

HB71 – Establishes a program for the oceans of digital identification in Texas; placed on the state calendar for approval April 28.

SB1104 – Disasters and emergencies. Re-establishes the rules governing state declared emergencies; passed Senate and received in the House; referred to House State Affairs.

TPA Sponsored Bills:

SB1499 (Nichols) - Port Improvement Fund; passed Senate and received in House Transportation; reported favorably as substituted.

SB1500 (Nichols) – Port Omnibus Bill; previously passed Senate and referred to House Transportation; reported favorably as substituted.

SB818 (Alvarado) – Land Bill (Disposition of real property); previously passed Senate and referred to House Transportation; reported favorably.

HB2190 – Accidents. Changes terminology from accidents to crashes. Picks up everything in the transportation code including the sections applicable to the Brazos Pilots. They had communication with the bill author about narrowing it down to vehicle/roadway crashes; reported favorably out of Transportation as substituted.

Gulf Coast Protection Trust Fund – Passed House and received in Senate; referred to Natural Resources and Economic Development.

SB1569 Sunset Review of Gulf Coast Protection District – Passed Senate and received in House and State Affairs; reported favorably out of State Affairs.

HB3295 (Vasut) – City Park Lands; reported favorably from Urban Affairs Committee and recommended for local consent.

Substitute bill by Lazano - Would task Texas Transportation Institute with performing an economic impact analysis and growth protection for all Texas ports and would include county wide impacts. Approved and referred to the calendars.

HB5336 (Vasut) – Powers and duties of Port Freeport and relationship within the City of Freeport; staff testified, reported favorably and recommended for local and consent calendar.

Commissioner Singhania inquired about the possible \$350M port capital improvements asking if it's allocated to certain projects. Ms. Saathoff explained that it's handled like the RIDER programs, it would be administered through the Texas Department of Transportation Maritime Division and the Port Authority Advisory Committee using a similar process. PAAC is working on criteria and guidelines for application as well as how it will be reviewed which will include a separate panel of the Texas Transportation Institute and other bodies representative of the entire coastline who will independently score and present back to PAAC for final approval before submitting to Texas Transportation Commission for final approval.

Commissioner Singhania also inquired if the \$400M was for the Port of Houston ship channel. Ms. Saathoff explained that a number of sessions ago the legislature created the Ship Channel Improvement Revolving Loan Program but never funded it. It will now be funded and provide another financing mechanism for meeting the local sponsor obligation on federal contracts for ship channel projects. All federally authorized projects are eligible to apply for a loan.

Commissioner Croft inquired if there was any funding by the state in association with the trust fund. Ms. Saathoff stated it's not in this bill but if the funding is there, it will come out of surplus and the appropriations package, but she has not seen the funds at this time.

- 17. EXECUTIVE SESSION in accordance with Subchapter D of the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.001, et. seq., to review and consider the following:
 - A. Under authority of Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) for discussion regarding:
 - 1. Consultation with attorney under Government Code Section 551.071(1) (to seek or receive attorney's advice on pending or contemplated litigation).
 - 2. Consultation with attorney under Government Code Section 551.071(2) (to seek or receive attorney's advice on legal matters that are not related to litigation).
 - B. Under authority of Section 551.087 (Economic Development Negotiations or Incentives):
 - 1. To discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the governmental body has received from a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiations.
 - 2. To deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect described by Subdivision (1).
 - C. Under authority of Section 551.072 (Deliberation Concerning Real Property Matters) for discussion regarding:
 - 1. Discussion regarding the potential exchange, lease, or value of real property located in Freeport, Texas, including but not limited to the are known as the East End of Freeport and bordered by or adjacent to the following streets: FM1495; East 2nd Street; Terminal Street and East 8th Street in Freeport, Texas.
 - 2. The potential purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property located at Port Freeport, including but not limited to the real property located at and contiguous to Berths 1, 2, 5, 7 and 8.
 - 3. The potential exchange, lease, or value of real property located at Port Freeport, including but not limited to Parcels 12, 13, 14, 19, 27, 34 and property on Quintana Island.

18. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION:

19. Adjourn.

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 3:26 PM

John Hoss, Chairman	Rudy Santos, Vice Chairman
Dan Croft, Secretary	Rob Giesecke, Asst. Secretary
Ravi K. Singhania, Commissioner	Shane Pirtle, Commissioner

RESOLUTION CANVASSING THE ELECTION FOR PORT COMMISSIONERS POSITION NO. 1 AND POSITION NO. 2, HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023

At a regular meeting of the Port Commission of Port Freeport held at the Administration Building of Port Freeport at 1100 Cherry Street, Freeport, Texas, on May 16, 2023, among other business, on motion duly made and seconded, the following resolution was passed and adopted:

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2023, an election was held to elect Port Commissioners for Position No. 1 and Position No. 2; and

WHEREAS the returns of the election have been made to the Port Commission and show that the votes for Port Commissioners for Position No. 1 and Position No. 2 were cast as follows:

Port Commissioner, Position No. 1

Name	Votes
1. Kim Kincannon	0000
2. Manning Rollerson III	0000
3. Shane W. Pirtle	0000

Port Commissioner, Position No. 2

Name		Votes
1.	Barbara Fratila	0000

WHEREAS Kim Kincannon received a majority of all votes cast for Port Commissioner, Position No. 1; and

WHEREAS Barbara Fratila received a majority of all votes cast for Port Commissioner, Position No. 2; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PORT COMMISSION OF PORT FREEPORT:

That all of the recitals contained in this resolution are found to be true and are adopted as findings of fact by this governing body; and

That the results of the election as tabulated and canvassed reflect the votes cast at the election; and

That the Port Commission accepts and approves the returns for the election, as received and canvassed, and declares that the following persons are declared elected and may qualify for the office indicated for a six (6) year term beginning June 1, 2023:

Port Commissioner, Position No. 1 – Kim Kincannon

Port Commissioner, Position No. 2 – Barbara Fratila

PASSED AND APPROVED ON this the 16th day of May 2023.

John Hoss, Chairman	Rudy Santos, Vice Chairman
Dan Croft, Secretary	Rob Giesecke, Assistant Secretary
Ravi K Singhania Commissioner	Shane Pirtle Commissioner









Hazard Mitigation Grant

Board Meeting May 16, 2023



FEMA Hazard Mitigation Program







- Allows funding for hazards mitigation projects following a Presidential Disaster Declaration for a specific area.
- Projects must result in the protection to public or private property during a natural disaster.
 - Project also includes recovery
- An applicant must have a FEMA approved hazard mitigation plan
- Projects must be defined in the approved mitigation plan
 - Adding projects to the plan does NOT commit an agency to executing the project



FEMA Hazard Mitigation Program







- The project must address at least one of the following hazards:
 - Drought, Extreme Heat, Flood, Hail, Tornado, Wildfire, Lightning, Levee Failure, Severe Weather, Winter Storm, Coastal Erosion, Expansive Soils, or Tropical Cyclone





Hazard Mitigation Plan



- Along with other local agencies, Port Freeport is part of the Brazoria County Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Plans must be reviewed every 5 years.
 - Our plan is up for review this year
- Adoption process:
 - OSS/Board Support
 - FEMA Approval
 - County Commission Adoption
 - Port Commission Adoption





Hazard Mitigation Projects



- 1) H: Port wide warning system
- 2) L: Expand the current weather station
- 3) M: Paperless record system
- 4) M: Drainage improvements
- 5) L: Storm shutters
- 6) L: Channel user communication
- 7) H: Back-up generator for Admin
- 8) L: Erosion barrier along fence lines







Hazard Mitigation Projects





10) L: Emergency response training simulator

11) H: Network failover location

12) L: Weather cameras along channel

13) M: IT power backup and electrical grounding

14) M: Internet service backup

15) M: Pavement and surface repairs







Questions







