

Minutes of Port Commission Regular Meeting – Supplemental Agenda
May 23, 2024
In Person & Videoconference

A Regular Meeting of the Port Commission of Port Freeport was held May 23, 2024, beginning at 1:03 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.

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Commissioners present in person:

Mr. Ravi Singhania, Chairman
Mr. Rob Giesecke, Vice Chairman
Ms. Barbara Fratila, Secretary
Mr. Kim Kincannon, Asst. Secretary
Mr. Rudy Santos, Commissioner
Mr. Dan Croft, Commissioner

Staff Members Present:

Ms. Heather Cook, Randle Law Firm
Ms. Phyllis Saathoff, Executive Director/CEO
Mr. Rob Lowe, Director of Administration/CFO
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
Mr. Jesse Hibbetts, Director of Operations
Ms. Missy Bevers, Executive Assistant
Ms. Mary Campus, Controller
Ms. Christine Lewis, Safety Coordinator
Mr. Cecil Booth, Project Engineer
Mr. Chas Gryseels, Engineering Specialist
Ms. Bailee Anderson, Accounting Analyst
Ms. Tricia Vela, Public Affairs Assistant

Also, present:

Mr. Chris Moore, Texas Port Ministry
Mr. Elliott Hughes, Volkswagen
Capt. Ross Coviello, Brazos Pilots
Mr. Manning Rollerson

1. CONVENE OPEN SESSION in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.001, et. seq., to review and consider the following:
2. Discuss and consider possible grant funding for the replacement of certain equipment on the Port security patrol boat and the addition of detection and avoidance systems.

Mr. Hogan gave a presentation to discuss the Port security patrol boat which is a project within the Port Security Grant. The presentation covered marine patrol enhancements to the current boat which includes replacing aging motors, boat collar, generator and AC/heater; upgrade to seats, addition of obstacle detection and collision avoidance system, replacement of work lights, painting of boat and resurfacing the deck. The cost for this is \$195,000 with a Port match of \$49,000. He also covered future considerations which includes boat replacement. He explained the current boat is 15 years old with the U.S. Coast Guard saying suggested boat life is 10 to 15 years. Replacement boat lead time is 2 to 3 years. Staff recommends replacing the current patrol style boat with a utility boat. He explained that a utility boat will add versatility allowing it to adapt to many different types of incidents, noting that other response agencies are getting shallow water or patrol style boats. He noted that the DPS tactical marine unit is coming but they will be assigned to the region, not specific to Freeport. Mr. Hogan also shared a slide with pictures of how a utility boat could be used. He stated that a new boat cost would be \$650,000 to \$850,000 with a Port match of \$163,000 to \$213,000 noting the cost can be spanned across three budget years to assist with cash flow. In this instance, the Port match would be \$55,000 to \$71,000 per year.

No action was taken for this item.

3. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION:
4. Adjourn.

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:51 PM.