

MINUTES

CLEVELAND-CUYAHOGA COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Thursday, May 13, 2021

The Special Meeting of the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority Board of Directors was held via teleconference on Thursday, May 13, 2021 with notice of the call in number having been given to the public in advance. The meeting was called to order by Chair Ramsey at 8:33 a.m. Attendance by roll call showed the following:

PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE

Pat Ramsey, Chair
Dave Wondolowski
J. Stefan Holmes, Secretary
Margot Copeland
Paul Hoogenboom
Andrew Jackson
Darrel McNair
Jan Roller
Peggy Zone Fisher

ABSENT & EXCUSED

ALSO PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE

W. Friedman, President & CEO
D. Gutheil, Chief Commercial Officer
C. Naso, Chief Financial Officer
M. Rivalsky, Controller
R. Snipes, Staff Accountant
G. Woodson, Director, Development Finance & Inclusion
R. Winslow, Finance Director
M. Freilino, Manager
L. Sternheimer,
J. Davis, Vice President, External Affairs
N. LaPointe, Director, Planning & Capital Development
C. Beck,
H. Applegate, Former Port Board Vice President
D. Wilcox, Climaco, Wilcox, Peca, & Garofoli Co., L.P.A.
P. Ritzert, Climaco, Wilcox, Peca & Garofoli Co., L.P.A.
A. Knight, Shark & Minnow
D. Bemer, Shark & Minnow
E. Hu, Shark & Minnow

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of March 11, 2021 were presented for approval by the Board, copies having been delivered in advance to all Directors. Director Zone Fisher noted she would abstain from the vote since she was not an appointed Board Member for the March 11 meeting. On motion by Director Wondolowski, seconded by Director Roller and unanimously carried by roll call vote (8-0), the Board minutes of March 11, 2021 were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Ramsey then opened the floor for public comment related to agenda items. There being no public comment Chair Ramsey moved to the Chair's Comments.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Ramsey addressed the Board and noted that the March meeting was Director Harriet Applegate's last meeting on the Board of Directors. Ms. Applegate thanked the Board and Staff and stated she very much appreciated her time as a member of the team. Director Roller thanked Ms. Applegate for her insight and her heartfelt work for the Port.

Chair Ramsey then officially welcomed new Board Members Director Andrew Jackson and Director Peggy Zone Fisher. Directors Jackson and Zone Fisher thanked Chair Ramsey for the welcome. Director Jackson stated that economic development is extremely important and he looks forward to serving and contributing to the work of the Port. Director Zone Fisher stated that she's honored to replace Ms. Applegate and hopes to contribute to moving the Port forward.

Chair Ramsey congratulated Director McNair for being honored as Black Professional of the Year for 2021. Director McNair thanked Chair Ramsey and stated he's extremely humbled and honored to be recognized. Chair Ramsey then moved to the President's Comments.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Friedman addressed the Board and welcomed Directors Jackson and Zone Fisher. He also expressed his appreciation for Ms. Applegate's service and support. Mr. Friedman noted that the Port will begin looking to refresh the Strategic Plan for the next five years.

Mr. Friedman referenced an opinion piece in the Columbus Dispatch attached hereto as "**Exhibit A.**" He used the opportunity of the Suez Canal blockage to make a larger point for those who may not think the Great Lakes Ports are relevant to the discussion. The system in the U.S. and Canada is fairly one dimensional and was built for importing containers. It doesn't necessarily work well for exporting containers or agricultural product. Hopefully this incident can be used to raise awareness among policy makers that there are other options available, particularly through the Seaway which has ample capacity.

MARITIME COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 4(C)(1)(a) – General Cargo Terminal Docks 22, 24W, & 24N Maintenance Dredging Contract Authorization

Mr. Nick LaPointe addressed the Board of Directors and referred to a presentation attached hereto as “**Exhibit B**”. Director Holmes asked whether the issues surrounding sediment disposal have been addressed. Mr. LaPointe stated that the Port continues to take positive steps forward with the City of Cleveland, the FAA and the USACE to ensure the site remains ready to receive sediment. Permits expire later this year and the Port is working every day to ensure there are no issues in the future.

On motion by Director Wondolowski, seconded by Director Copeland, and unanimously carried by roll call vote,

RESOLUTION 2021-06

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE PORT AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO A MAINTENANCE DREDGING CONTRACT WITH THE RYBA MARINE CONSTRUCTION CO. FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$240,944.00, INCLUDING \$112,420.00 OF PORT AUTHORITY CONTROLLED CONTINGENCY, FOR THE PURPOSES OF DREDGING THE BERTHS AT THE GENERAL CARGO TERMINAL, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FROM MONIES THAT HAVE BEEN APPROPRIATED IN THE FY 2021 CAPITAL BUDGET

was approved. The resolution in its full text is incorporated into the Resolution Journal of the Port Authority.

MARITIME COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 4(C)(1)(b) – Maritime Update

Mr. David Gutheil addressed the Board of Directors and referred to a presentation attached hereto as “**Exhibit B**”. Director Copeland asked whether there is a plan in place to increase and upgrade technology at the port. Mr. Gutheil said it’s not uncommon for small ports to be behind because there isn’t as much cargo. The Port is working with Logistec and cargo owners to upgrade the system. As part of the main gate project, fiber infrastructure was installed on the port. It may take a year or two before full connectivity across the terminal(s) is implemented. Director Jackson asked what the process is to become a vessel provider. Mr. Gutheil stated in 2014 the Port initially chartered a vessel to start the Cleveland Europe Express and eventually the investment drew down to where the Port wasn’t funding it. There is difficulty getting international vessel lines to buy into the idea, because they prefer to operate large vessels between two locations. The service requires smaller vessels and tight scheduling which deviates from their current model. It will likely take a group of large cargo owners to be the drivers of change. Mr. Friedman noted that there have been interested parties, but the ocean carriers will not agree to make the extra stop in Cleveland. The Port will continue to pursue the market and look for opportunities.

PUBLIC COMMENT/EXECUTIVE SESSION

There being no public comment, at 9:40 a.m. on motion by Director Wondolowski, seconded by Director Copeland and unanimously carried by roll-call vote, the Board entered into Executive Session at 9:41 a.m. to discuss acquisition of property. Executive Session was adjourned at 10:08 a.m. by unanimous roll-call vote.

Officer Election – Vice President

Agenda Item (7)

On motion by Director Holmes, seconded by Director Roller, and unanimously carried by roll call vote, Director David Wondolowski was elected as Vice President of the Board of Directors.

There being no further business, on motion by Director Holmes, seconded by Director Roller, and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m.



CHAIR



SECRETARY