Minutes of a meeting of the Plaquemines Parish Council, as the Sole Governing Authority of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District, held in the Belle Chasse Council Chambers, 333 F. Edward Hebert Blvd., Bldg. 203, Belle Chasse, Louisiana on Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 4:51 p.m., pursuant to notice to all members with a quorum present as follows:

PRESENT: Commissioner Chris Schulz, Chairman

Commissioner Tyronne Edwards
Commissioner Brian Champagne
Commissioner Stuart J. Guey
Commissioner Patricia McCarty
Commissioner Ronnie Newsom

Commissioner Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr.

Commissioner Mitch Jurisich Commissioner Mark Cognevich

Kim Toups, Council Secretary

ABSENT: None

Charles Tillotson and Port Staff were present representing the Port.

There were no matters to address under Item 2, "Executive Session".

Commissioner Schulz moved to Agenda Item 3, "Status Report by Executive Port Director". Without objection, so ordered.

**Foreign Trade Zone Benefits:** The benefits of U.S. Foreign Trade Zones (FTZs) are numerous and can significantly enhance the competitiveness of companies operating within them. Here are some key benefits:

- 1. **Duty Deferral and Elimination**: Companies can import goods into an FTZ without immediate customs duties or excise taxes. Duties and taxes are only applied when goods are moved into U.S. commerce for consumption. If the goods are re-exported, no duties or taxes are paid.
- 2. **Improved Cash Flow**: By deferring duties, companies can improve their cash flow and reduce the cost of holding inventory.
- 3. **Increased Competitiveness**: FTZs are designed to promote American competitiveness by encouraging companies to maintain and expand operations in the U.S., particularly those involving foreign components.
- 4. **Storage and Exhibition**: Companies can store and exhibit goods within an FTZ without incurring duties and taxes until the goods are transferred for domestic consumption.
- 5. **Enhanced Security and Compliance**: Better inventory control and security lead to better compliance with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requirements. Customs supervision may result in lower security and insurance costs.
- In addition to the benefits mentioned above:
- 1. **Encouraging U.S. Activity and Investment**: FTZs encourage activity and investment in the U.S. by allowing delayed or reduced duty payments on foreign merchandise, thus offsetting customs advantages available to overseas producers.
- 2. **Flexibility in Operations**: FTZs provide flexibility in operations, allowing manufacturing, processing, and other activities that result in a change of the tariff classification to occur within the zone.
- 3. **Economic Impact**: FTZs continue to be a vital resource for trade in the United States, employing approximately 550,000 people at around 1,300 active operations and exporting \$149 billion in merchandise.
- These benefits make FTZs an attractive option for companies looking to optimize their operations and reduce costs while maintaining a competitive edge in the global market.

#### **Revenue Bond Allocation**

This Ordinance amends the 2025 Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District 5-Year Capital Improvements Budget by allocating \$25 million from the Series 2025 Revenue Bonds for land acquisitions, and \$5.4 million from the Series 2025 Revenue Bonds for renovations to the Port Administration Building. The Port is authorized to spend these funds as outlined in Ordinance 25-23, with all transactions requiring Port Commission approval.

# **Projects:**

## **Peters Road Bridge Project:**

The LA Port Investment Commission introduce Legislation Resolution proposing \$250 million for the Peters Road Bridge Project to be approved during the 2026 LA Legislative Session.

The Peters Road Vehicle Bridge project is progressing smoothly, with strong collaboration between the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) and engineering firm BKI. Project directors from both the Port and government agencies are maintaining consistent communication with DOTD and BKI to ensure alignment. The RAISE Grant Transfer Agreement has been signed, officially transferring funds to LADOTD. The preliminary design phase is expected to take 18 months, after which the detailed design phase will begin. Recognized as a critical infrastructure initiative, the bridge will provide a vital connection between Plaquemines Parish and Jefferson Parish, making it a top priority for all agencies involved.

At the WBIA luncheon, Senator Cassidy stated his support for completing this project in response to a commitment question asked by Senator Connick.

#### **Peters Road Rail Bypass:**

The Peters Road Rail Bypass project has reached 30% design completion and is progressing through active coordination among Union Pacific (UP), CSRS, the City of Gretna, and Jefferson Parish. An \$8 million federal earmark has been awarded to fund the project through 60% design, though an additional \$10 million will be needed to complete the full detailed design. A project meeting, including UP and NOGC, is planned for next week to further align efforts. The project aims to reroute rail traffic away from downtown Gretna to a more industrial corridor, improving safety in densely populated areas. Plans include maintaining above-grade crossings at Highway 23 and 4th Street and developing the Hero Rail Yard near the Navy Base for intermodal use, enhancing regional freight movement and infrastructure efficiency.

Senator Cassidy referenced this project at this week's WBIA meeting, noting Mayor Constant's ongoing involvement. The project has been designated for an \$8 million earmark in 2026 to advance engineering efforts.

## 11 Mile Rail Extension Project:

The 11-Mile Rail Extension Project is nearing completion of its 30% design phase and is transitioning toward 60% design. Director of Projects is working closely with engineers to ensure the rail alignment avoids impacts to the Ironton Community. The Director of Projects and Executive Director are maintaining ongoing communication with stakeholders to prevent disruptions to existing facilities and operations, while also enhancing rail service offerings. Environmental review efforts under NEPA are currently underway, with recent meetings held with the Surface Transportation Board (STB) and Venable. Completion of the NEPA review is anticipated by July 2026.

# **Land Purchase & Rezoning Efforts:**

Land purchase and rezoning efforts are actively progressing, with over 50% of the targeted land acquisitions already committed. The Port seeks approval to purchase two properties during the Board Meeting. A recent meeting with Port Ship explored a potential land swap related to the Consolidated Dock Project and the Pointe à la Hache Ferry Landing Replacement Project. Dwyer Cambre is assisting with both land rezoning and acquisition processes to support these developments.

The Port held a meeting with APM Terminals and Maersk last week to begin discussions regarding lease and concession agreements.

#### **LGP Admin Building Renovation Project:**

Renovations to the Admin Building continue, with roof work underway and weather conditions monitored. The generator bypass switch will be installed by month's end. HVAC system design is in progress, with the bidding set for early September and a full replacement planned. Design work for both interior and exterior has started. Full completion is scheduled for Q2 2026.

# **PALH Access Road Project:**

The Pointe à la Hache (PALH) Access Road Project aims to improve safety and functionality by enhancing lighting and adding parking spaces along the route from LA Highway 23 to the ferry landing. Inspectors and surveyors were on site this week to assess the current conditions of the road. The Director of Projects is working closely with the engineering team to ensure steady progress on the project and has been given the Notice to Proceed on Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **PALH Ferry Landing Emergency Repair Project:**

The Pointe à la Hache (PALH) Ferry Landing Emergency Repair Project is nearing completion, with the final punch list from contractor Deep South expected within two weeks. Once final completion is confirmed, the Port will move forward with two additional projects: barge electrical upgrades and full replacement aprons for both barges. The task orders have been assigned for these two additional projects. These enhancements will improve safety and extend the operational life

of the landing, which will serve as a redundant facility once the new PALH Ferry Landing Replacement becomes operational.

# PALH Ferry Landing Replacement Project:

The Pointe à la Hache (PALH) Ferry Landing Replacement Project has officially begun and is progressing steadily. Monthly coordination meetings are being held with engineers and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD). This initiative involves constructing an entirely new ferry landing adjacent to the existing one, which has recently undergone emergency repairs. The exact location for the new landing is expected to be finalized within the next 60 days. The Director of Projects and the Executive Director will be meeting with the engineers on Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss the progress of this project.

## **New Diesel / Electrical Ferry Build Project:**

The New Diesel/Electric Ferry Boat Build Project is progressing, with various vehicle layout options already shared with commissioners for review. A meeting between DOTD and Pelican Marine is scheduled for later this month. MiNO Marine will collaborate with the Port's Director of Projects and Ferry Manager to evaluate the preliminary design. The goal is to ensure the new ferry meets the operational needs of the Port and its community. This hybrid ferry will use less fuel and provide a more environmentally friendly transportation option through its diesel-electric system

#### **Communications:**

We are making strong progress across several strategic communications initiatives. Our Search Engine Optimization (SEO) efforts are trending upward, with the goal of significantly increasing the Port's visibility and reach online. Our current domain authority is at 28, up from 25 at the beginning of quarter 2. Eight new backlinks have been published for our domain and four more are under development.

A direct mail campaign is currently in its second design revision, with final edits planned for the next two weeks. We've rescheduled our annual Port Night to September 2 at Woodland Plantation, sponsored by IEC and ES2, as there was a conflict with the naming of the Orange King and Queen. Planning is also underway for the State of the Port event, now set for the evening of October 16, with English Turn and Café Hope being considered as potential venues. In collaboration with the CAO, we are finalizing our Annual Strategic Communications and Marketing Strategy, entering Phase II of the Port's rebrand, which includes expanded digital and print advertising. Additionally, the Port will be a sponsor at the AAPA Annual Conference, reinforcing our commitment to national visibility and industry leadership.

The Port congratulates President Keith Hinkley for being named the next Orange King for Plaquemines Parish.

#### **Human Resources Update:**

The upcoming Civil Service meeting in September 2025 will address several key staffing updates and initiatives. Notably, the position of General Counsel has been successfully filled, with Jacob Lee set to begin his tenure on August 18, 2025. Final interviews are underway for the Special Assistant to the Executive Director role, with two finalists currently being considered.

In response to the temporary vacancy left by Jalen Brown's military assignment, a Chief Operating Officer position originally slated for introduction in FY 2026 is being presently under Civil Service review. In the interim, Charles and Celeste have stepped in to manage projects previously overseen by Jalen.

Additionally, the IT Manager role is under review, with Civil Service approval anticipated during the September meeting.

**Financial and Single Audit for FY 2024** The audit continues to progress. At this time, we are working to resolve the remaining open items and finalize the report.

Description	7-24-25 Board Mtg	8-14-25 Board Mtg	Difference
Net position	\$113,639,745	\$113,518,700	(\$121,045)
Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$5,072,852	\$4,951,807	(\$121,045)
Land Fund Restricted Fund Balance	\$2,115,433	\$2,115,433	\$0
Budget Revenue	\$39,040,454	\$39,040,454	\$0
Actual Revenue	\$13,673,892	\$15,922,633	\$2,248,741
Budget Expenses	\$40,162,193	\$40,283,238	\$121,045

Actual Expenses	\$20,877,866	\$22,745,294	\$1,867,428
Budgeted Expense Differences:			
ORD-Amend Manpower to add Ferry Captain  State    \$121,045  \$121,045			

There were no matters to address under Agenda Item 4, "Bids and Advertisements"; therefore, Commissioner Schulz moved to Agenda Item 5, "Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions". Without objection, so ordered. The following legislation was introduced:

- 1. An Ordinance to amend the 2025 Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District Capital Improvements Budget, Renovations Port Administration by allocating the funding from the Revenue Bonds, Series 2025; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER SCHULZ
- 2. An Ordinance to amend the 2025 Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District 5-Year Capital Improvements Budget, Land Acquisitions by allocating the funding from the Revenue Bonds, Series 2025; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER SCHULZ
- 3. An Ordinance to amend the Louisiana Gateway Port 2025 Manpower Structure and Operating Expenditure Budget to defund 2 positions: a Ferry Maintenance Person position and a Ferry Secretary positions and to fund an additional Ferry Deckhand position; and otherwise provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER SCHULZ

Commissioner Schulz moved to Agenda Item 6a, "Ordinances and Public Hearings pursuant to Article 6, Section 6.01 E of the Plaquemines Parish Charter". Without objection, so ordered.

Commissioner Schulz offered 6a(1) with Changes.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 25-153

The following Ordinance was offered by Commissioner Schulz who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance authorizing Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District to purchase land and property, more fully described in Exhibit A, owned by Point Celeste Farms; and otherwise, to provide with respect thereto.

*DIGEST:* The Port is working to finish the acquisition of the "Piano Keys II" properties for Port development. The Port is seeking approval to move forward with the purchase of Lot 48 currently owned by Venice Blue Crab Partnership. *The digest is for informational purposes only and is superseded by the language of the actual ordinance or resolution.* 

WHEREAS, through negotiations with Venice Blue Crab Partnership, a recommendation is being made to approve the acquisition of property owned by Venice Blue Crab Partnership, known as one of the "Piano Keys II"; and

WHEREAS, the negotiations between Venice Blue Crab Partnership recognize a total recommended purchase price of \$1,142,400 for Lot 48, Point Celeste Farms S/D currently owned by Venice Blue Crab Partnership;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT:

## SECTION 1

It hereby authorizes and directs Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District, to acquire the land, more fully described as Lot 48, Point Celeste Farms S/D owned by Venice Blue Crab Partnership.

#### SECTION 2

The acquisition shall be for a purchase price of \$1,142,400, plus the closing cost for the transfer of ownership of the land at Lot 48, Point Celeste Farms S/D currently owned by Venice Blue Crab

Partnership, to the Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District. These funds were budgeted in the 2025 Port, Harbor and Terminal District, Land Fund. The payments will be made from the balance:

Fund: 445 Port I	Harbor Fund		
Dept/Div/ Object	Description – Funding Source	Inc/Dec	Amount
910-	Land Fund		1,142,400

#### **SECTION 3**

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council

Commissioner Newsom seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Commissioners Tyronne Edwards, Brian Champagne, Chris Schulz, Stuart J. Guey, Patricia L. McCarty, Ronnie Newsom, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., Mitch Jurisich and Mark Cognevich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 14th day of August, 2025.

Commissioner Schulz offered 6a(2) with Changes.

## ORDINANCE NO. 25-154

The following Ordinance was offered by Commissioner Schulz who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance authorizing Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District to purchase land and property, more fully described in Exhibit A, owned by Plaquemines Parish Government with respect to Parcel 8400500, 22197 Highway 23 Agricultural Research Equipment Water Siphon Pipe Greenhouse.

DIGEST: The Port is working to finish the acquisition of the "LSU AG Property" properties for Port development. The Port is seeking approval to move forward with the purchase of Parcel 8400500, 22197 Highway 23 Agricultural Research Equipment Water Siphon Pipe Greenhouse, owned Plaquemines Parish Government. The digest is for informational purposes only and is superseded by the language of the actual ordinance or resolution.

WHEREAS, through negotiations with Plaquemines Parish Government, a recommendation is being made to approve the acquisition of properties owned by Plaquemines Parish Government, each of which is known as one of the "LSU AG Property"; and

WHEREAS, the negotiations between Plaquemines Parish Government and the Port recognize a total recommended purchase price of \$3,850,000 for a portion of Woodland Plantation, comprising a part of Sections 13 and 14, Township 17 South, Range 26 East, Plaquemines, Louisiana which are currently owned by Plaquemines Parish Government;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT:

#### SECTION 1

It hereby authorizes and directs Charles Tillotson, Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District, to acquire the land, more fully described as, A portion of Woodland Plantation, comprising a part of Sections 13 and 14, Township 17 South, Range 26 East, Plaquemines, Louisiana which is currently owned by Plaquemines Parish Government.

## **SECTION 2**

The acquisition shall be for a purchase price of \$3,850,000, plus the closing cost for the transfer of ownership of the land at Parcel 8400500 located a t22197 Highway 23 Agricultural Research Equipment Water Siphon Pipe Greenhouse, which are currently owned by Plaquemines Parish Government, to the Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District. These funds were budgeted in the 2025 Port, Harbor and Terminal District, Operating Budget Land Acquisition account and Land Fund. The payments will be made from the balance:

Fund: 445 Port	Harbor Fund		
Dept/Div/ Object	Description – Funding Source	Inc/Dec	Amount
490-2468- 568.110	Land Acquisitions - operating		2,882,539.04
910-	Land Fund		967,460.96
	Total		3,850,000.00

# **SECTION 3**

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

Commissioner Champagne seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Commissioners Tyronne Edwards, Brian Champagne, Chris Schulz, Stuart J. Guey, Patricia L. McCarty, Ronnie Newsom, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., Mitch Jurisich and Mark Cognevich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 14th day of August, 2025.

# RESOLUTION NO. 25-231

On motion of Commissioner Schulz, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, and on roll call all members present and voting "YES", the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution authorizing Charles D. Tillotson, Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District, to enter into discussions with various Port tenants to activate Federal Trade Zone (FTZ) sites within the boundaries of FTZ 300; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

DIGEST: The Port will engage in discussions with various Port tenants. The goal is to activate Federal Trade Zone (FTZ) sites within the boundaries of FTZ 300. *The digest is for informational purposes only and is superseded by the language of the actual ordinance or resolution.* 

WHEREAS, a Federal Trade Zone (FTZ), also known as a Foreign Trade Zone, is a secure area within the United States, considered outside of U.S. Customs territory. These zones, located at or near U.S. ports of entry, allow companies to import goods without immediate customs duties or excise taxes. Duties and taxes are only applied when goods are moved into U.S. commerce for consumption; and

WHEREAS, FTZs are designed to promote American competitiveness by encouraging companies to maintain and expand operations in the US, particularly those involving foreign components; and

WHEREAS, Companies can store and exhibit goods within an FTZ without incurring duties and taxes until the goods are transferred for domestic consumption;

#### NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT it hereby authorizes Charles D. Tillotson, Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District, to enter into and execute a Master Services Agreement (MSA) with IEM International, Inc. (IEM) on a task-order basis to enhance maritime procedures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Port employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 25-155

The following Ordinance was offered by Commissioner Schulz who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the 2025 Operating Budget of the Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District to appropriate funds to the Ferry Department for the emergency repair to the M/V Pointe a la Hache ferryboat and to authorize the expenditures by Charles D. Tillotson, Executive Director; and otherwise provide with respect thereto.

DIGEST: In June the Port brought the M/V Pointe a la Hache to the shipyard for emergency repairs to the shafts and propellers. The digest is for informational purposes only and is superseded by the language of the actual ordinance or resolution.

WHEREAS, in June 2025, the M/V Pointe à la Hache ferryboat sustained damage requiring immediate emergency repairs to the vessel's shafts and propellers to ensure continued ferry operations and public safety; and

WHEREAS, these repairs were essential to maintain ferry service continuity and could not be deferred; and

WHEREAS, the Port desires to amend the 2025 Operating Budget to appropriate the necessary funds for these unanticipated emergency expenses;

## NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT:

## SECTION 1

It hereby authorizes Charles D. Tillotson, Executive Director of Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District to amend the 2025 Operating Budget to appropriate funds to the Ferry Department for the emergency repair to the M/V Pointe a la Hache ferryboat.

#### **SECTION 2**

The 2025 Port, Harbor and Terminal District, Operating Budget is amended by appropriating \$199,250.00 as follows:

Fund: 445 Port Harbor Fund			
Dept/Div: 490-2463 Ferries			
Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
528.130	Maint-Boats	Inc	\$199,250.00

## **SECTION 3**

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release

this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

Commissioner LaFrance seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Commissioners Tyronne Edwards, Brian Champagne, Chris Schulz, Stuart J. Guey, Patricia L. McCarty, Ronnie Newsom, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., Mitch Jurisich and Mark Cognevich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 14th day of August, 2025.

## ORDINANCE NO. 25-156

The following Ordinance was offered by Commissioner Schulz who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the 2025 Operating Budget of the Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District to appropriate Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) funding; and otherwise provide with respect thereto.

DIGEST: The USACE has funding available for the Port to accept WRRDA Section 102-Expanded Use for dredging along berths, in-water wharf improvements, and repair of berthing structures. The digest is for informational purposes only and is superseded by the language of the actual ordinance or resolution.

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), through the WRRDA Section 102-Expanded Use, has allocated federal funding to support dredging, sediment placement, structural repairs, and slope stabilization at berths that support commercial navigation and are connected to federal navigation projects; and

WHEREAS, WRRDA funding for Fiscal Years 2024 has been authorized and designated for projects essential to navigation, safety, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the funding available for FY 24 is \$3,204,884;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT:

## SECTION 1

It hereby authorizes Charles D. Tillotson, Executive Director of Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District to amend the 2025 Operating Budget to appropriate Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) funding.

## **SECTION 2**

The 2025 Port, Harbor and Terminal District, Operating Budget is amended by appropriating \$3,204,884 as follows:

Fund: 445 Port Harbor Fund			
Dept/Div: 497-2490 Port Energy /Dredging			
Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
Sojece	Description	IIIC/DCC	1 timenament

# **SECTION 3**

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

Commissioner Jurisich seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Commissioners Tyronne Edwards, Brian Champagne, Chris Schulz, Stuart J. Guey, Patricia L. McCarty, Ronnie Newsom, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., Mitch Jurisich and Mark Cognevich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 14th day of August, 2025.

## RESOLUTION NO. 25-232

On motion of Commissioner Schulz, seconded by Commissioner Newsom, and on roll call all members present and voting "YES", the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution authorizing the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District to enter into an replacement agreement with the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development under the Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program for assistance in the implementation of a port improvement project; providing for the necessary documentation of the need for the port improvement; and providing for other matters in connection therewith; and otherwise provide with respect thereto.

DIGEST: The Port is seeking approval to enter into a replacement agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development through the Port Priority Program. This agreement would allow the Port to receive funding to complete the remainder of the Alliance Water Booster Station project. The resolution authorizes the submission of required documentation and supports efforts to advance the Port's infrastructure. The digest is for informational purposes only and is superseded by the language of the actual ordinance or resolution.

WHEREAS, the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District has a need for port improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District has reviewed the application for Alliance Water Booster Station Feed Lines Phase II and agrees with said agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District has applied for State matching funds pursuant to Chapter 47 of Title 34 of the Louisiana Revised Statues of 1950, as amended, to implement a project to improve its port operation and Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District is fully aware of its obligations under said Statute; and

WHEREAS, the Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District is a political body duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Louisiana and is eligible to apply for funds under said Statute;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT:

# SECTION 1

That Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District acknowledges that an application was submitted to the Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program.

## **SECTION 2**

That at the appropriate time and prior to commencement of work on the project, Plaquemines Port

Harbor & Terminal District agrees to execute a Project Agreement and a Statement of Sponsorship pursuant to the Statute and hereby authorizes and empowers Charles D. Tillotson, Executive Director, to enter into and execute said agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

#### SECTION 3

That Charles D. Tillotson, Executive Director, is hereby Authorized Representative for Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District to represent the port with regards to the receipt of funds from the Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program for a port improvement project.

#### **SECTION 4**

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REPLACEMENT AGREEMENT AND DESIGNATION OF PERSON AUTHORIZED TO SIGN

STATE PRO	DJECT NO_	H.015656	
PARISH OF	Plaquemine	S	

#### **RESOLUTION 25-233**

On motion of Commissioner Schulz, seconded by Commissioner McCarty, and on roll call all members present and voting "YES", the following Resolution was adopted:

#### Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District

A Resolution authorizing the <u>Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District</u> to enter into an replacement agreement with the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development under the Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program for assistance in the implementation of a port improvement project; providing for the necessary documentation of the need for the port improvement; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, the <u>Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District</u> has a need for port improvements; and

WHEREAS, the <u>Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District</u> has reviewed the application for <u>Alliance Water Booster Station Feed Lines Phase II</u> and agrees with said agreement; and

WHEREAS, the <u>Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District</u> has applied for State matching funds pursuant to Chapter 47 of Title 34 of the Louisiana Revised Statues of 1950, as amended, to implement a project to improve its port operation and <u>Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District</u> is fully aware of its obligations under said Statute; and

WHEREAS, the <u>Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District</u> is a political body duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Louisiana and is eligible to apply for funds under said Statute; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the <u>Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District</u> as follows:

- Section 1. That <u>Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District</u> acknowledges that an application was submitted to the Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program.
- Section 2. That at the appropriate time and prior to commencement of work on the project, <u>Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District</u> agrees to execute a Project Agreement and a Statement of Sponsorship pursuant to the Statute and hereby authorizes and empowers <u>Charles D. Tillotson, Executive Director,</u> to enter into and execute said agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.
- Section 3. That <u>Charles D. Tillotson, Executive Director,</u> is hereby Authorized Representative for <u>Plaquemines Port Harbor & Terminal District</u> to represent the port with regards to the receipt of funds from the Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program for a port improvement project.
- Section 4. That said Authorized Representative shall have the authority to sign and approve all documents that are necessary under the circumstances to accomplish the above project.

The following Ordinance was offered by Commissioner Schulz who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the 2025 Operating Budget of the Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District to appropriate Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program funding; and otherwise provide with respect thereto.

DIGEST: The Port is seeking approval to amend its 2025 Operating Budget to appropriate \$4,000,000 allocated by the Louisiana Department of Development and Transportation's (LADOTD) Port Priority Program. The funding is allocated to the last phase of the Alliance Water Booster Station and Feedlines project. The digest is for informational purposes only and is superseded by the language of the actual ordinance or resolution.

WHEREAS, the Port has been awarded \$4,000,000 by the LADOTD under the Port Construction and Development Priority Program; and

WHEREAS, these funds are designated for the final phase of the Alliance Water Booster Station and Feedlines Project; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the 2025 Operating Budget of the Port to recognize and appropriate these funds to ensure timely execution and completion of the project;

#### NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT:

#### **SECTION 1**

It hereby authorizes Charles D. Tillotson, Executive Director of Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District to amend the 2025 Operating Budget to appropriate Louisiana Port Construction and Development Priority Program funding.

#### **SECTION 2**

The 2025 Port, Harbor and Terminal District, Operating Budget is amended by appropriating \$4,000,000 as follows:

Fund: 445 Port Harbor Fund Dept/Div: 910-9012 Water Booster Station			
Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
427.317	Reimbursements- Port Priority Funds	Inc	\$4,000,000

# **SECTION 3**

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

Commissioner Jurisich seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Commissioners Tyronne Edwards, Brian Champagne, Chris Schulz, Stuart J. Guey, Patricia L. McCarty, Ronnie Newsom, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., Mitch Jurisich and Mark Cognevich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

#### RESOLUTION NO. 25-234

On motion of Commissioner Schulz, with a unanimous second, and on roll call all members present and voting "YES", the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution creating a one-time holiday on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in remembrance of 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landfall of Hurricane Katrina for the Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District; and otherwise, to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, Hurricane Katrina first hit Louisiana on August 29, 2005, near Buras-Triumph Louisiana with 125 mph winds as a strong Category 3 hurricane; and

WHEREAS, the Port was amongst the first to be hit by the category 3 winds which produced widespread flooding due to the overwhelmed levee system; and

WHEREAS, the Port suffered great loss; and

WHEREAS, on August 29, 2025, many Port employees will look back on the devastation and the hardships they endured during the recovery from Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Commission to create a one-time holiday in remembrance of the 20th anniversary of the landfall of Hurricane Katrina on August 29, 2005, to provide an opportunity for Port employees to look back on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the day that forever changed our Port;

# NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT there will be a one-time holiday on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in remembrance of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landfall of Hurricane Katrina by the Port.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Port employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District Commission.

Commissioner Schulz moved to Agenda Item 8, "Approval of the minutes from the July 24, 2025, regular meeting."

# RESOLUTION NO. 25-235

On motion of Commissioner Newsom, seconded by Commissioner LaFrance, and on roll call all members present and voting "YES", the following Resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT it hereby approves the minutes from July 24, 2025, regular meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL AS THE SOLE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE PLAQUEMINES PORT, HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution.

There being no further business to come before this Council, on motion Commissioner LaFrance, seconded by Commissioner Cognevich, and on roll call all members present voting "YES, except Commissioner Edwards who "ABSTAINED", the meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Chairman	Asst. Secretary

For a full transcript of discussions and presentations a video of this meeting is available for viewing on the Parish website <a href="https://www.plaqueminesparish.com">www.plaqueminesparish.com</a> or on YouTube.