



OCEAN HIGHWAY & PORT AUTHORITY

Robert Sturgess – Commissioner, District 1
Danny Fullwood – Chairman, District 2
Scott Hanna – Secretary/Treasurer, District 3
Carrol Franklin – Commissioner, District 4
Mike Cole – Vice Chairman, District 5

Special Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 24, 2020

The Ocean Highway and Port Authority of Nassau County held a Special Meeting on Thursday, September 24, 2020 at the County Commissioners Chambers at the James S. Page Government Complex, 96153 Nassau Place, Yulee, Florida 32097.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Fullwood

The invocation was given by Chairman Fullwood and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Cole. Roll call was conducted by Mrs. Barbara Amergian. All Commissioners were present with Commissioner Sturgess attending via video conference. Also in attendance were Jeb Branham, Port Attorney; Pierre LaPorte, Port Accountant both attending via video conference; and Chris Ragucci, Port Director/Operator.

Chairman Fullwood called this meeting in order to make certain that everyone who will be involved with the MARAD grant all understand what the provisions are. Port Attorney Jeb Branham presented a list of provisions in the exhibits.

Port Operator Chris Ragucci gave his overview of the provisions outlined and felt confident that Worldwide Terminals staff would be able to administer the grant as they have done with all the FDOT grants.

Chairman Fullwood questioned if the barge program is unsuccessful, how will matching funds be covered and where the matching grant funds would come from and? Worldwide Terminals is responsible for the matching funds on behalf of OHPA. Mr. Ragucci also pointed out that this is a reimbursable grant – meaning that all the funds needs to be paid out before the match is reimbursed.

Chairman Fullwood asked Port Accountant Pierre LaPorte if he was comfortable with what his role may be with the grant. He stated that he was comfortable with Worldwide Terminals administering the grant and the day-to-day administration necessary.

In other business, Chairman Fullwood asked for an update from Port Attorney Jeb Branham about OHPA obligations to obtain building permits from the City of Fernandina Beach. Mr. Branham indicated he would put a packet of information together for the Commissioners to review.

Chairman Fullwood asked Mr. Ragucci if there were pre-building and post-building inspectors for the Big Top Warehouse. Mr. Ragucci has connected with a building inspector out of Callahan and will follow up with him. Mr. Branham confirmed that the Ocean Highway & Port Authority has the authority given by the Florida legislature to be a local enforcing agency under the Florida building codes. The payment of impact fees is a separate issue with the City of Fernandina Beach.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 AM.



Danny Fullwood, Chairman