

**LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2024 AT 5:30 PM**

**6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70126**

PRESENT: Commissioner Anthony Richard – Chair
Commissioner Carlos Williams – Vice Chair
Commissioner Howard Rodgers - Secretary
Commissioner Stan Brien
Commissioner Esmond Carr (Arrived at 5:37 pm)
Commissioner Philip Clinton
Commissioner Brian Egana
Commissioner Monika Gerhart (Arrived at 5:43 PM)
Commissioner Wilma Heaton
Commissioner Jennifer Herbert
Commissioner Terry Scott

ABSENT: Commissioner Stanley Cohn
Commissioner Robert Drouant
Commissioner Adonis Exposé
Commissioner Randy Odinet
Commissioner Sandra Thomas

STAFF: Louis Capo – Executive Director
Vanessa McKee – Assistant to the Executive Director
Bruce Martin – Director of Aviation
Laith Alshamaileh – Director of Operations and Engineering
Cindy Grace – Finance
Mike Sciavicco – Harbor Master
Helaine Milner – Harbor Manager
Kel Brownfield – Human Resource Director

**ALSO
PRESENT:** Gerry Metzger – LMA Counsel
Al Pappalardo – Real Estate Consultant

The regular monthly Full Board meeting of the Lakefront Management Authority was held on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 5:31 pm at the Lakefront Terminal Building, 2nd Floor Conference Center, 6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126 after due notice of the meeting was sent to each board member, the news media, and posted.

- I. **Called to Order at 5:31 PM.**
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance led by Chair Richard.**
- III. **Roll Called by Mr. Capo. (9) members present quorum established.**
- IV. **Opening Comments** – Chair Richard thanked everyone in attendance.
- V. **Motion to Adopt Agenda**

A motion was offered by **Commissioner Clinton** and seconded by **Commissioner Rodgers.**

Hearing no further questions or comments, Chair Richard called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VI. **Presentation**

- 1) **Erickson & Krentel – 2023-2024 Audit Report**

Mr. Capo informed the board that the presenter asked to defer to the December meeting

VII. **New Business**

- 1) **Motion to amend the contract with Del Sol Consulting, Inc. for Disaster Recovery Management Services for FEMA Projects caused by Hurricanes Zita and Ida to extend the term of the contract for one year through November 16, 2025, and increase the annual fee for services by \$100,000.00, which fees are eligible for reimbursement by FEMA.**

A motion was offered by **Commissioner Scott** and seconded by **Commissioner Clinton.**

Hearing no further questions or comments, Chair Richard called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed.

- 2) **Motion to approve a contract with John-Wayne Air Calvary, LLC for professional aviation services at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport during Super Bowl LIX between February 5, 2025, and February 12, 2025, for a price not-to-exceed \$70,000.00.**

A motion was offered by Commissioner Heaton and seconded by Commissioner Herbert.

Commissioner Heaton commented that this was recommended by the Airport committee. We call it the Air Boss. She asked Mr. Martin to give the details.

Mr. Martin informed the board that The Air Boss service has been in business for quite some time. They are comprised of retired air traffic controllers. We have used them for our recent Final Four event and our last Superbowl in 2012.

Mr. Capo asked if the \$70,000 includes hotel accommodation.

Mr. Martin confirmed that the price is inclusive of hotel and car rental accommodation as well.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Chair Richard called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed.

- 3) **Motion to declare the support of the Lakefront Management Authority for the adoption of legislation by the Louisiana Legislature to authorize the payment by the State of Louisiana of supplemental pay and extra compensation for employees of Fire Departments of local governmental entities, including the employees of the Lakefront Airport Fire Department.**

A motion was offered by Commissioner Heaton and seconded by Commissioner Herbert.

Mr. Martin informed the board that there is a state statute for first responders to receive \$600 supplemental pay through the state coffers. This resolution would be in support of us perusing state supplemental pay for the (9) eligible fire fighters through the legislative process.

Commissioner Heaton added that the challenge is that it has a fiscal note but it will be minimal on the state's budget. Because we are under State Civil Service, it will require a bill file through the legislature, it must be advertised which the agency must pay for.

Commissioner Rodgers asked if the filing would be for the 25th regular session.

Commissioner Heaton confirmed that he was correct and added that if approved, it would be awarded July 1, 2025.

Hearing no other questions or comments, the chairman called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Commissioner Carr arrived at 5:37 PM

VIII. Directors' Reports

Mr. Capo reported the following:

- He went to the Flood Authority's board meeting
 - o Briefed FPA on LMA's finances for the year
 - o The Airport's Superbowl Update
 - o The Edgewater Report
- The FPA invited LMA to participate in the Annual Safety Meeting Luncheon on December 12th

Commissioner Heaton reiterated that the FPA has invited all LMA staff and board members to the Annual Safety Meeting Luncheon on December 12th. FPA and LMA will give a safety update for the year.

She encouraged the board to check their calendars and coordinate with Mrs. McKee if they want to attend. Messina's will need a head count from Mrs. McKee next week.

Mr. Capo continued his report.

- Mr. Capo signed the Wi-Fi contract with Beacon and ATT for both Marinas.
- We will start the consolidation at South shore Marina from all slips to just piers 5-8 in order to repair 1-4.
- Signature has an issue of (2) abandoned planes. They approached us to discuss what we could do. They were working with Mr. Martin. Mr. Capo said that he, Mr. Martin and the LMA attorneys will meet with Jones Walker who represents Signature to resolve the issue.

Commissioner Egana asked for clarification on why Signature did not come to LMA with their issue first.

Mr. Capo said they did, and we told them that it was not our issue. They should resolve the issue with their clients. They hired Jones Walker who went to the City Council.

Commissioner Egana commended Mr. Capo for taking swift action on the situation. He also said he felt that the draft document that was circulated purposefully by the City to take action.

Chair Richard echoed Commissioner Egana's statement that Mr. Capo and his staff for taking swift action in this matter.

Mr. Capo continued his report informing the board that all of the derelict boats have been removed from South Shore Harbor.

Commissioner Clinton added that this was round one.

Chair Richard added that he commended Commissioner Clinton for being such an active and involved Chair of the Marina Committee.

Commissioner Gerhart arrived at 5:43 pm

IX. Committee Reports

Airport Committee – Chair Heaton was very thankful for the progress at the Airport and the board's continued support.

Marina Committee – Chair Clinton (*Deferred*) informed the board that in addition to the WIFI there will also be security cameras. We have filed a grant application for pump-out equipment. He has also filed another

grant to remove a second wave of derelict boats removed.

Recreation Committee – Chair Thomas (Deferred)

Legal Committee – Chair Drouant (Deferred)

Commercial Real Estate Committee (Deferred) Mr. Rodgers said his committee was looking forward to receiving an update from Mr. Coaxum on his development of Parcel – L.

Nomination Committee – Stanley Cohn – Commissioner Brien discussed the nomination committee meeting and is looking forward to

Finance Committee – Chair Egana – (No Quorum) We had a very good discussion regarding item one on today’s agenda.

X. Public Comments – Limited to (2) Minutes

Dennis Clutter came to invite everyone to the Annual “Lights on The Lake” event hosted by The Ponchartrain Conservancy. The event will take place on Saturday, November 14th. The fund raiser fee is \$10 per person.

Commissioner Heaton asked to have Mrs. McKee to email the flyer to the board members.

Chair Richard announced the next meeting and called for adjournment.

XI. Announcement of next Regular Board Meeting

1) **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024, at 5:30 PM**

XII. Adjourn at 5:57 pm

A motion was offered by Commissioner Heaton and seconded by Commissioner Williams.

Hearing no further questions or comments, the chairman called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:57 pm.