

**LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
LEGAL COMMITTEE MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025 – 2:30 P.M**

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

PRESENT: Commissioner Robert Drouant – Chair
Commissioner Stanley Cohn
Commissioner Adonis Exposé

ABSENT: Commissioner Jennifer Herbert
Commissioner Carlos Williams

STAFF: Louis Capo – Executive Director
Vanessa McKee – Assistant to the Executive Director
Laith Alshamaileh – Director of Operations and Engineering
Kristin Clinard – Finance Manager
Kel Brownfield – HR Director

**ALSO
PRESENT:** Gerry Metzger – LMA Counsel
Jeff Dye – LMA Counsel
Ethan Zubic – Attorney @ Gordon, Arata

The regular monthly Marina Committee meeting of the Lakefront Management Authority was held on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 2:32 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 2:32 pm.**
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance by Chair Drouant**
- III. **Roll Called by Mr. Capo. (3) members present for a quorum.**
- IV. **Opening Comments – Chair Drouant - NONE**

V. Motion to Adopt Agenda

A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn and seconded by Commissioner Exposé.

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

VI. Public Comments – LIMITED TO (2) MINUTES – No Public Comments

VII. Legal Counsel's Update

Jeff Dye reported and discussed an overview of transactional matters and litigation matters that he and his team are currently working on.

Mr. Metzger reported on legal matters that he is currently working on.

Chair Drouant called for the next motion to enter into Executive Session.

Mr. Metzger noted for the record that the motion would stand for all four items of the Executive Session. The Executive Session is necessary to discuss strategy and negotiations to resolve these matters.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

1. Executive Session — Status Report in the case of *Lakefront Management Authority v. J&J Partners, L.L.C.*, No. 2020-8075, Division "I-14", Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn and seconded by Commissioner Exposé to go into Executive Session.

Chair Drouant called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed.

**2. Executive Session --- Status Report in the case of
*Lakefront Management Authority v. AECOM, Inc. and URS
Corporation*, No. 2023-12141, Division "F-14", Civil District
Court for the Parish of Orleans.**

**A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn and seconded by
Commissioner Exposé.**

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

**3. Executive Session — Status Report in the case of Non-
Flood Protection Asset Management Authority v. Lathan
Company, Inc., No. 2014-6983, Division "G-11", Civil
District Court for the Parish of Orleans.**

**A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn and seconded by
Commissioner Exposé.**

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

**4. Status report in the case of *Lakefront Management Authority v.
Errol G. Williams and Norman White*, Division "E", No. 2024-
7548, Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans.**

**A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn and seconded by
Commissioner Exposé.**

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

Committee entered into Executive Session at 2:46 pm

**A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn and seconded by
Commissioner Exposé to exit the Executive Session at 3:41 pm**

IX. New Business

- 1. Motion to recommend the amendment of the Professional Legal Services Contract with David Jefferson Dye, L.L.C. to increase the budget for legal services and for the reimbursement of expenses to a sum not to exceed \$250,000.**

A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn and seconded by Commissioner Exposé.

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

- 2. Motion to recommend the amendment of the Professional Legal Services Contract with Gordon, Arrata, Montgomery, Barnett, McCollam, Duplantis & Egan, L.L.C. to increase the budget for legal services and for the reimbursement of expenses to a sum not to exceed \$110,000.**

A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn and seconded by Commissioner Exposé.

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

- 3. Motion to recommend an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Legal Budget and to increase the Legal Budget from \$300,000 to a sum not to exceed \$480,000.**

A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn and seconded by Commissioner Exposé.

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

4. Motion to recommend the adoption of a fee schedule for the production of records in response to requests for Public Records pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 44:32.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn and seconded by Commissioner Exposé.

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

Chair Drouant announced the next meeting and called for adjournment.

X. Announcement of the next Legal Committee Meeting

- 1) Thursday, February 13, 2025 – 2:30 P.M.

XI. Adjourn

A motion was offered by Commissioner Exposé and seconded by Commissioner Drouant.

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

The meeting adjourned at 3:57 pm.