

**LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
FULL BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025 – 5:30 P.M.**

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

PRESENT: Commissioner Anthony Richard (Chair)
Commissioner Carlos Williams (Vice-Chair)
Commissioner Howard Rodgers (Secretary) (Left at 6:21pm)
Commissioner Stan Brien
Commissioner Philip Clinton
Commissioner Stanley Cohn
Commissioner Robert Drouant
Commissioner Adonis Exposé
Commissioner Monika Gerhart
Commissioner Wilma Heaton
Commissioner Jennifer Herbert
Commissioner Terry Scott

ABSENT: Commissioner Esmond Carr
Commissioner Brian Egana
Commissioner Randolph 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
Richard Huddle - Harbormaster
Kel Brownfield – HR Director
Kristin Clinard – Finance
Sandie McCarthy-Brown – Grants

**ALSO
PRESENT:** Gerry Metzger – LMA Counsel
Laurence Cohen - LPOA
Danielle Retif – Lake Shore Resident
John Barbara - Lake Shore Resident
Ancar Hukmani – Skyborne
Sonya Duhe – LPOA
Norma Cannizzaro – LPOA
Carolyn Nichols - LPOA
Blake Nichols - LPOA
Jacque Touzet - Lake Shore Resident
Mary Touzet - Lake Shore Resident

Rob Amos – Flightline
Mollye Palmer - Lake Shore Resident

The regular monthly Full Board meeting of the Lakefront Management Authority was held on Thursday, December 18, 2025, at 5:30 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 5:30pm**
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance by Chair Richard**
- III. **Roll Called by Mr. Capo. (12) members present for a quorum.**
- IV. **Opening Comments – Chair Richard thanked everyone in attendance.**
- V. **Motion to Adopt Agenda**
A motion to adjourn was offered by Commissioner Rodgers and seconded by Commissioner Herbert.

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

VI. Public Comments - Limited to (2) Minutes

Danielle Ratif commented that he was against sports at Tourmaline Park.

John Barbara was against organized sports in the park.

Mary Touzet commented that she was against organized sports at Tourmaline Park.

John Touzet commented that he was against organized sports at the park. He mentioned that the guy with the sports equipment in the park packed up and moved to Jefferson Parish. He concluded with suggesting signage be put up at the park.

Norma Cannizzaro commented that she was for sports in the park. She said that there are no organized sports at the park only practice.

Carolyn Nichols commented that she was for sports at the park.

Laurence Cohen commented that he was against sports at the park.

Blake Nichols commented that he was for sports at the park.

Mollye Palmer commented that she was for sports at the park. Her son has 50 minutes of t-ball practice.

Sonya Duhe, President of the Lake Shore Property Owners Association, commented that the park was a public park for all.

Johnathon B. expressed concerns that there is a baseball field and coaches are making money at the park.

Frank Barrett suggested that maybe in spring and summer months OLDPD could periodically pass by the park to determine whether there are organized sport activities.

Chair Richard asked for clarity on who owns Tourmaline Park and what is the park used for.

Mr. Capo said that the park is owned by Orleans Levee District. Years past, a few area schools advertised organized sports activities in the park. Organized sports have always been prohibited. Recently, maintenance spread sand at the park to fill in holes.

Mr. Al Shamaileh added that he drives around the park often and grass has filled the sand areas.

Commissioner Heaton commented that while she respects the public's time to come and air out their issues. However, out of respect for LMA's own process, she recommends that this issue be taken up at a Recreation Committee meeting. She feared that the board might lose its quorum to address the items on tonight's agenda.

Secretary Rodgers asked what day, and time are these activities supposed to take place.

Commissioner Cohn suggested that maybe people could park on Agate Street to alleviate some of the parking problems.

After further discussion about Tourmaline Park, the board decided to take this subject up at the Recreation Committee meeting.

Secretary Rodgers and Vice-Chair Williams both committed to visiting the park at different times to take note of any organized sporting activity at the park and report back to the board.

VII. New Business

1. Motion to elect the Officers of the Lakefront Management Authority to serve one-year terms commencing on January 1, 2026, and expiring on December 31, 2026.

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

Chair Richard called on Commissioner Cohn as chair of the Nomination Committee to take over the election of officers for 2026.

Chair Cohn informed the board members that each of the officers seek re-election for another term.

- Anthony Richard for Chairman
- Carlos Williams for Vice-Chair
- Howard Rodgers for Secretary

Chair Cohn opened the floor and asked if there were any nominations from the floor for Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary. Hearing no other nominations, Chair Cohn called for a motion to accept the slate of officers for 2026 to be elected by acclamation.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Heaton; and seconded by Commissioner Drouant. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Chair Richard thanked the board for their faith and trust in him to continue on as chairman of the board for another term. He mentioned that many of the commissioners' 4-year terms will end on August 15, 2026. He committed to continuing to work with this board and staff to help make the community better.

Commissioner Rodgers thanked the board for their trust in him to continue the duties of Secretary of the Board.

Vice Chair Williams thanked the board for re-electing him to serve as Vice Chair in 2026. He was especially thankful to the commissioners and the LMA staff for their valuable input on various subjects that helped him gain a clear understanding of the LMA's mission and purpose.

- 2. Motion to approve a lease with State of Louisiana House District 99 Representative Candace Newell for Suite 149 in the Terminal at New Orleans Lakefront Airport, for a term of one year, commencing on January 1, 2026, and expiring on December 31, 2026.**

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

Chair Richard stated that this lease is renewed on a yearly basis.

Commissioner Heaton mentioned that items 2 – 4 were all vetted in the Airport committee and recommended favorably to the full board for approval.

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

- 3. Motion to approve an amendment of the Lease with Skyborne, LLC at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport to extend the Lease deadlines to obtain the required permits and complete construction of a hangar on the leased premises in consideration of an increase of the per square foot rental rate commencing on January 1, 2026 and through the date that construction of the hangar is completed.**

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

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

4. Motion to authorize the Executive Director of the Lakefront Management Authority to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the New Orleans Aviation Board to accept a donation of an ARFF Fire Truck.

A motion to adjourn was offered by Commissioner Heaton and seconded by Commissioner Scott.

Commissioner Heaton thanked staff for their hard work on this matter.

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

5. Motion to approve a contract with Infinity Engineering Consultants, LLC for engineering and design services for the Fuel Farm Upgrades Project at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport for a contract sum not to exceed \$88,000.00.

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

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

6. Motion to approve the 2026 LMA Meeting Schedule.

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

Commissioner Drouant commented that the board meeting date in December 2026 is incorrect.

Mrs. McKee gave the correct board meeting date of Thursday, December 17, 2026, and said she would send the correct schedule out to the commissioners.

Commissioner Clinton made a motion to accept the schedule as amended; second by **Commissioner Heaton**.

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

VIII. Director's Report

Mr. Capo reported the following in his report:

- Lights on the Lake went well
 - o Hired (2) OLDPD officers to patrol the Pennick dock
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- Reported on the Budget versus Actuals from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026

Commissioner Howard Rodgers left at 6:21pm.

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Commissioner Drouant suggested that LMA reach out to the City of New Orleans new administration about getting the tax bills out on time.

Mr. Capo continued his report:

- talked about various grants to assist with LMA projects

IX. Committee Reports

Airport Committee – Chair Heaton: stated that the agenda items recommended by the Airport committee were approved at tonight's meeting.

Marina Committee – Chair Clinton: *Deferred*
Recreation Committee – Chair Thomas: *Deferred*
Legal Committee – Chair Drouant: *Deferred*
Commercial Real Estate Committee – *Deferred*
Finance Committee – Chair Egana: *Deferred*

Chair Richard announced the next meeting and called for adjournment.

- X. Announcement of the next Board Meeting**
1. Thursday, January 22, 2026, at 5:30pm

XI. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was offered by **Commissioner Heaton** and seconded by **Commissioner Drouant**.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Chair Richard called for a vote. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:31pm.