

Minutes of a meeting of the Plaquemines Parish Council, as the Sole Governing Authority of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District, held in Belle Chasse Council Chambers, 333 F. Edward Hebert Blvd., Bldg. 203, Belle Chasse, Louisiana on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 2:52 p.m., pursuant to notice to all members with a quorum present as follows:

PRESENT: Commissioner Ronnie Newsom, Chairman
Commissioner Tyrone Edwards
Commissioner Brian Champagne
Commissioner Chris Schulz
Commissioner Stuart Guey
Commissioner Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr.
Commissioner Mitch Jurisich

Crystal Flood, Assistant Council Secretary

ABSENT: Commissioner Patricia L. McCarty
Commissioner Mark Cognevich

The Port Executive Staff was present.

The following items were deferred:

- 6d, “An Ordinance establishing the policy of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor, and Terminal District in regard to its records; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.”

The following items were withdrawn:

- 6b, “A Resolution authorizing and directing Charles D. Tillotson, Executive Director of the Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District (“the Port”) to enter into lease negotiations with a confidential customer for a project known as “LA Haven” and will be Confidential until further notice; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.”
- 6c, “A Resolution authorizing the Executive Director of the Port, Charles D. Tillotson to enter into and execute a Memorandum of Understanding between APMT, and Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District d/b/a Louisiana Gateway Port (“the Port”).”

Commissioner Newsom moved to Agenda Item 2, “Executive Session”. Without objection, so ordered.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-116

On motion of Commissioner Newsom, seconded by Commissioner Schulz, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, except Commissioners McCarty and Cognevich who were “ABSENT”, 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 resolves itself into Executive Session at 2:54 p.m. on the following matters: Executive session pursuant to LRS 42:17(A)(2) for the discussion of litigation, Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District v. Tuan Nguyen, Case No. 68-734, 25th JDC, Parish of Plaquemines, Louisiana, Docket No. 2024- 0614; Executive Session pursuant to LA R.S. 42:17(A)(10) and in accordance with Louisiana Attorney General Opinion No. 18-0144, the Commission shall receive attorney-client privileged communications from its legal counsel as provided for by Louisiana Code of Evidence Article 506(B) and pursuant to LA R.S. 42:17(A)(1) to discuss personnel matters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT it hereby came out of Executive Session at 3:34 p.m. with no final or binding action taken.

Commissioner Newsom moved to Agenda Item 3, “Status Report by Executive Port Director”. Without objection, so ordered.

Port Marine Operations Update

- Port Ferries are in service (Belle Chase, and Point a La Hache)
- MV Belle Chasse II Vessel is shoreside, expected completion date is mid to late April.

- MV Port Authority I Vessel is back at Belle Chasse Rescue Dock and is fully operational.
- New Build Ferry (Diesel Electric) \$26.5M, awaiting final bid package from DOTD/ Send rendering of final design.

Port Marine Ferry Landing Projects

- Point a La Hache landing replacement (\$18.6M Grant) Project is processing, estimated construction, 12/2028.
- Belle Chasse/Scarsdale Landing
 - Engineering for Repairs at Landings is progressing
 - Meeting with engineering this week.
- Belle Chasse Security Vessel Landing Project is progressing, meeting with engineering this week.

Critical Infrastructure Projects

- LGP Rail Extension Project
 - communicating with stakeholders.
 - The project has been placed on pause.
- Peters Road Rail Bypass
 - Meetings with CSRS and commissioners to explain alignment and amendment to CEA.
- Peters Road Vehicle Bridge, project is progressing/meeting with engineering today.
- Water Booster Station and Feedlines, Project progressing, estimated completion end of June 2026. Coordinating with PPG Engineers and Inframark.

Commissioner Newsom moved to Agenda Item 5, “Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions”

- 1) An Ordinance authorizing Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District, to amend Task Order No. 6 for Infinity Engineering to create Task Order 6a to approve additional scope requirements for additional engineering and design services for LGP Rail Extension project and to amend the Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan 11 Mile Rail-CAD/Surveys Project; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER NEWSOM
- 2) A Resolution authorizing the Plaquemines Parish Port, Harbor & Terminal District to enter into agreements with Enterprise FM Trust and Enterprise Fleet Management Inc. for the acquisition, maintenance, management, disposal, and financing of Port fleet vehicles, and otherwise providing with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER NEWSOM
- 3) A Resolution adopting revisions to the Operations Policies and Procedures for Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District (the Port) regarding Service Animals; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COMMISSIONER NEWSOM

Since there were no items listed under Agenda Item 6, “Ordinances and Resolutions on Second Reading and Final Passage”. Commissioner Newsom moved to proceed to the next item.

Commissioner Newsom made a motion to allow a presentation under Agenda Item 7, “New Business.” The motion was considered twice, and both attempts failed.

The first vote was offered by Commissioner Schulz and seconded by Commissioner LaFrance. The motion failed, with all Commissioners voting “YES” except Commissioner Edwards, who voted “NO.”

A second vote was then offered by Commissioner Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Champagne. This motion also failed, with all Commissioners voting “YES” except Commissioner Jurisich, who voted “NO.”

Commissioner Newsom moved to Agenda Item 8, “Approval of the Minutes from the February 26, 2026, meeting.”

RESOLUTION NO. 26-117

On motion of Commissioner Jurisich, seconded by Commissioner LaFrance, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, except Commissioners McCarty and Cognevich who were “ABSENT”, 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 the February 26, 2026, 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 of Commissioner Schulz, seconded by Commissioner LaFrance, and on roll call all members present voting “YES”, except Commissioner Edwards who voted “NO” and Commissioners McCarty and Cognevich who were “ABSENT”, the meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Chairman

Assistant Secretary

For a full transcript of discussions and presentations a video of this meeting is available for viewing on the Parish website www.plaqueminesparish.com or on YouTube.