

**NEW BOURBON REGIONAL PORT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Meeting Held on January 22, 2025
Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission
Ste Genevieve, Missouri**

Time 3:00 p.m.

Ronnie Inman	Chairman
Dave Flieg	Vice-Chairman
Kerry Kennon	Member
Gary Nelson	Member
Brad Moll	Member
Crystal Jones	Member
Jeremy Tanz	Executive Director, SEMO RPC
Margaret Yates	Grant Administrator, SEMO RPC
Kara Johnston	Grant Administrator, SEMO RPC
Mark Marberry	Ste Genevieve County Commission
Chris Koehler	Koehler Engineering
Joe Killian	MoDOT Southeast District

The meeting of the New Bourbon Regional Port Authority was called to order by Chairman Inman at 3:00 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was said.

Chairman Inman asked for approval of the agenda. Ms. Jones moved to approve the agenda; Ms. Kennon seconded the motion; Motion carried (6-yays 0-nays)

Chairman Inman asked for approval of the December 11, 2024, meeting minutes. Mr. Fleig moved to approve the minutes; Mr. Moll seconded the motion; Motion carried (6-yays 0-nays)

Chairman Inman asked for approval of the **financial** statements for November and December 2024. Mr. Moll moved to approve the financial statements for November 2024; Ms. Jones seconded the motion; Motion carried (6-yays 0-nays) Mr. Moll moved to approve the financial statements for December 2024; Ms. Kennon seconded the motion; Motion carried (6-yays 0-nays)

Business

Mr. Inman gave the ferry boat report. The Ferry only ran for 2 days in January due to weather causing ice on the river. New Transmission Clutch and engine costs were close to \$14,000. Mr. Tanz brought up the operations budget from MoDOT. The \$88,000 that is given to the Ferry every July is gone and there is only \$24,245.73 remaining for 5311 funds which, if the Ferry continues the way it has been, will last a month and a half to two months of reimbursements. Mr. Tanz also reported on the income/loss statement for the Ferry at end of December 2024 there was a loss of \$102,436.11. This was the actual loss without consideration of the MoDOT

\$88,000. Mr. Tanz suggested the possibility of a work session about the Ferry to discuss further options. Ms. Kennon agreed and so did Ms. Jones. Mr. Inman will be recusing himself from this work session due to his position as Ferry Operator.

Joe Killian from MoDOT attended the meeting to discuss Port Road. Around 2013 the portion of the road from Highway 61 to the Port was named a federal aid highway. This road needs significant improvements. These include the road from the railroad tracks to the port needs raised to keep from washing out during flood events. If businesses are going to be running trucks on the road there needs to be a gradual rise from Highway 61 to the railroad tracks and the road needs to be asphalted or concreted. Mr. Killian was brainstorming some grant programs that may help such as Raise Grants, Build Program, Protect Program. Almost all these programs require an 80/20 match. It was also mentioned to investigate any railroad specific money to help with the crossing itself. Another suggestion was do the project in "phases" as apposed to all at once. Mr. Killian suggested if you do this to do the railroad crossing first. It was determined that there needs to be a discussion with all entities involved, elected officials, MoDOT central office multimodal and railroad, port chair or members, regional planning commission, federal highway and special road district. Mr. Nelson asked if the roads must be at MoDOT specifications in regard to width and grade. Mr. Killian answered saying that it would be a mix of state and federal regulations but at the end it's still just a county (special road district) road that is eligible for federal funding. Mr. Tanz stated that MoDOT multimodal/waterways and railroad have already been contacted and there would be no right of ways, just easements. Mr. Killian moved on to explain the benefit of having the road as a designated federal aid highway. This allows for more funding opportunities to pave/concrete the road. He stated you can not get federal transport funds if the road is not a federal aid highway. Ms. Jones asked if there would be DRA Strategic funds to get an engineering study done to present to MoDOT.

Discussion of back ferry boat rent. It was confirmed by the RPC staff with Mrs. Fowler at MoDOT that they will not reimburse back rent. The Ferry yearly \$88,000 is already gone and the 5311 funds are almost out. Mr. Flieg stated that there have been a few times in the past that the board has just forgiven the few months of rent. Ms. Kennon moved that the board forgive the 3 months of unpaid rent in the amount of \$4,200, Mr. Moll seconded; motion passed (5-yays 0-nay). Mr. Inman abstained from voting.

Next the board discussed the unfunded project list. Kurt Johnson sent his prioritized list of projects. These were sent to Levi as "unofficial" priority lists. This brought up the need for a TAC Multimodal representative from the board. Mr. Inman nominated Mr. Nelson. Mr. Nelson said he would represent the New Bourbon Port Authority on the Multimodal TAC board. Ms. Jones is already sitting on that board as a representative for Perry County EDA however, she agreed to represent the port board in event of Mr. Nelson's absence. The discussion moved back into projects for the port. Mr. Johnson would like the second dolphin in the harbor which is an estimated cost of \$800,000. Another project is the port road. Dredging is an option for the list. Ms. Jones suggested maybe moving the railroad crossing to the first or second on the list. Mr. Tanz stated that MoDOT multimodal is looking at the railroad crossing and MoDOT rail "may" have money just to do the improvements. It was asked if the \$22,000 PE could be used for the engineering study for the road. Mrs. Yates stated that we would have to contact MoDOT to see if we could change the scope of that PE. The second dolphin was also discussed. There is \$922,000 in ARPA funds that must be used, or we lose them. This is a dollar-for-dollar match, however. There are many ways this match could be aquired. There is \$200,000 in the

port checking that could be used for match, private investors could put up match. More talks and research are to be done into this.

Status of the Corps of Engineers permit: There will be public notice and a minimum 21 day response period starting in February.

Other Business

MPAA winter meeting is February 4th or 5th in Jefferson City. Mr. Inman and Mr. Tanz will attend.

Mr. Moll asked if there was any update on the other potential customer? Mr. Inman said they would really like natural gas. This is estimated at \$4 Million project to run natural gas to the port property.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 26, 2025, at 3:00 pm in Perryville, Missouri.

Mr. Nelson moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Moll seconded this motion, motion carried. Regular meeting was adjourned @ 4:45 p.m.

Brad Moll, Secretary/Treasurer