

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

**Meeting Held on March 26, 2025
Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission
Perryville, Missouri**

Time 3:00 p.m.

Ronnie Inman	Chairman
Dave Flieg	Vice-Chairman
Garry Nelson	Member
Brad Moll	Member
Jeremy Tanz	Executive Director, SEMO RPC
Kara Johnston	Grant Administrator, SEMO RPC
Mark Marberry	Ste. Genevieve County Commissioner
David Bova	City of Ste Genevieve
Chris Koehler	Koehler Engineering
Joe Fallert	Ste. Genevieve Special Road District
Paul Viox	Ste. Genevieve Special Road District
Paul Arnold	Ste. Genevieve Special Road District
Brock Gibson	Ste. Genevieve Resident
Sarah Volner	Ste. Genevieve Resident
Kurt Johnson	Southern Illinois Transfer

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.

Introductions followed.

Chairman Inman asked for approval of the **agenda**. Mr. Flieg moved to approve the agenda; Mr. Nelson seconded the motion; Motion carried (4-yays 0-nays)

Chairman Inman asked for approval of the February 26, 2025, meeting **minutes**. Mr. Nelson moved to approve the minutes; Mr. Flieg seconded the motion; Motion carried (4-yays 0-nays)

Chairman Inman asked for public comment for Items not on the agenda. Mr. Gibson, a Ste Genevieve Resident, spoke as to how the Ferry is special to the town and is important to him and other residents. He is here to learn and see if there is any way he could help. Mr. Tanz spoke as to the losses after the State Funding is received. MODOT funding will not change, they don't want to be the sole funders of the Port. IDOT does not fund private ferries; the Cave-In Rock Ferry does receive funding, but it does not go through IDOT it goes directly through Gov. Pritzker's office. Mr. Gibson asked about privatizing the ferry. Chairman Inman said it could be if someone wanted to buy the Ferry boat and tug. Mr. Tanz spoke about the survey results. Out of 1888 responses to the survey on increases; 50% said \$5.00 and 16.8% said \$10.00 increase

in rates. 79% of the responders were tourism riders and 69% of the responders were coming from Illinois to Missouri.

Chairman Inman asked for approval of the **financial** statements for February 2025. Mr. Tanz reported as of the end of February the balance is \$237,553.34. The Ferry is making interest only payment to RLF, and the Ferry line of credit is 32,288.31. Mr. Nelson moved to approve the financial statements for January 2025; Mr. Moll seconded the motion; Motion carried (4-yays 0-nays)

Chairman Inman asked for an update on the Railroad Crossing. Mr. Tanz gave the update. MODOT rail has money to do rail improvements. Clients could increase truck traffic and road improvements to raise the road. MODOT and BNSF are wanting to do a site visit to look at that crossing. We do need to verify who owns the road, who has rights to the road, what we need for the right-of-way, and if there is in kind of match funds that are local. The port authority and special roads need to sit down and make a plan. Special roads don't have much money for road improvements at that cost.

Mr. Inman gave the ferry boat report. The Ferry only ran for 1 day in February due to low water level. The pilot is going to the Ferry every day and running the engines for 1 to 2 hours to prevent them from "sanding in" according to Mr. Inman. Mr. Johnson said they could use the new z boats to help blow the sand around at no charge. Chairman Inman asked what everyone thought about the rates. Mr. Bova suggested we raise the passenger car rates only at this time.

BUSINESS

Review and approval of the FY24 audit has been tabled until the April 23rd meeting.

Chairman Inman asked for the status of Corps of Engineers permit. Mr. Koehler stated they did not issue a public comment but there was a late comment from REACT. He asked Mr. Johnson how we were going to moored. Mr. Johnson said it would be piles in the river.

Mr. Tanz discussed the rail spur/loop. He received an email from BNSF Economic Development saying they had a client looking for port access to unload unit trains of frack sand. They also want to purchase 200 acres but are not sure what their plans are. TG aggregates are actively working for someone to lease. They would want to process the already mined dirt that is already of top of the ground at least. There is sandstone with good hard rock underneath that would already meet MODOT specs. Mr. Inman said that Mr. Vesil was asking about buying the 12 ½ acres and he told them no. He wants a natural gas line.

Other Business

Mr. Tanz reported there is \$22,222.22 of PE money that needs to be spent by June. A dolphin will not spend all the money. Possibly concept design of roadway, descending ramp to spud barge, or dump doc concept plans – a controllable spout. There is also \$922,000.00 of ARPA dollars setting there that we must match dollar for dollar that needs to be spent by December of next year. Chairman Inman asked if we had a motion to choose Kohler Engineering off the on-call list to draw up concept designs for 2nd dolphin and some type of dump doc. Mr. Moll moved to approve Kohler Engineering; Mr. Flieg seconded the motion; Motion carried (4-yays 0-nays)

Mr. Tanz did reach out to Cunningham, Vogel, and Roast. They work with other port authorities, and they will be sending Mr. Tanz a packet of information on services and costs.

Mr. Johnson said the Kaskaskia River will be down in August and September for major repairs. It's possible we could do still coils, grain, F.S. which would be multiple barges per year.

Mr. Tanz asked if there would be any interest in having a public hearing in April. The commissioner thought it would be a good idea. Mr. Nelson said we needed to make sure we have all our information and financials available.

The next meeting was scheduled for April 23, 2025, at 3:00 pm in Perryville, Missouri.

Mr. Flieg moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Moll seconded this motion, motion carried. meeting was adjourned @ 4:25 p.m.

Brad Moll, Secretary/Treasurer