

Minutes of Port Commission Special Meeting
May 13, 2021
Via Video/Teleconference

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the order the Office of the Governor issued March 16, 2020, and due to imminent threat to public health and safety and urgent public necessity, the Port Freeport Port Commission will conduct a Special Meeting on Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. by video/teleconference initiated from the Administration Building, 1100 Cherry Street, Freeport, Texas. In order to meet CDC guidelines for social distancing and slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the public can join the video/teleconference meeting by following the instructions below. When the spread of COVID-19 is no longer an imminent threat to our community, in-person meetings will resume.

The meeting will not be open for the public to physically attend the meeting, but the Port welcomes the public to attend virtually. Public comment will be available at the beginning of the meeting on the agenda item indicated below. Following public comment, the public will not be permitted to communicate with the Port Commission.

This meeting agenda and agenda packet is posted online at www.portfreeport.com

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85148741374?pwd=NHpvOFV4YnlYOU9tQklYUStsY2xuUT09>

Meeting ID: 851 4874 1374

Passcode: 348612

Dial by your location

1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 851 4874 1374

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcXaWihGh5>

Commissioners present:

Mr. Shane Pirtle, Chairman
Mr. Paul Kresta, Vice Chairman
Mr. Rudy Santos, Secretary
Mr. John Hoss, Asst. Secretary
Mr. Ravi Singhania, Commissioner
Mr. Dan Croft, Commissioner

Staff Members Present:

Mr. Jason Cordoba, Legal Counsel
Ms. Phyllis Saathoff, Executive Director/CEO
Mr. Rob Lowe, Director of Administration/CFO
Mr. Brandon Robertson, Network Systems Manager
Ms. Missy Bevers, Executive Assistant
Ms. Mary Campus, Controller
Ms. Jessica Follett, Public Affairs Manager

Also, present via teleconference:

Mr. Rich Wells, Dow Chemical Company
Ms. Jamie Snead, Dow Chemical Company
Mr. Bobby Fuller, Texas Port Ministry
Mr. Will Wachel, WSP
Mr. Rob Giesecke

Commissioner Pirtle stated the following information...

Today is May 13, 2021, and the time is 1:00 p.m. This is a special meeting of the Port Commission. I am Shane Pirtle, Chairman. We are conducting this meeting by video/telephone conference pursuant to Governor Abbott's order suspending certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act in order to minimize the impact of the coronavirus outbreak. This meeting is being recorded as required by the Texas Open Meetings Act.

With the posting of today's meeting a toll-free call-in number was indicated on the agenda, along with the agenda packet. Both may be found on the Port's website www.portfreeport.com. Additionally, the public may join the meeting from a computer, tablet, or smartphone or by phone using the toll-free call-in number.

This meeting will not be open for the public to physically attend the meeting, but the Port welcomes the public to attend virtually. Public comment will be available at the beginning of the meeting as indicated on the agenda. Following public comment, the public will not be permitted to communicate with the Port Commission.

In the event any member of the public is having any technical difficulty during the meeting, please call (979) 233-2667, and someone will assist you.

Being considerate of all participants on this call today, we respectfully request everyone "mute" their phones unless you are speaking.

1. CONVENE OPEN SESSION in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.001, et. seq., to review and consider the following:
2. Public Comment – There were no public comments.

At this time, Commissioner Singhanian and Commissioner Pirtle congratulated Mr. Rich Wells with Dow who announced his retirement earlier in the day.

3. Adoption of a Resolution approving the application for tax abatement between Port Freeport and The Dow Chemical Company regarding a \$157 million Methylene Diphenyl Diisocyanate (MDI) Derivatives manufacturing facility for property located in the Brazoria County Reinvestment Zone No. 21-02, approving Tax Abatement Agreement on the same terms and conditions as granted to The Dow Chemical Company by Brazoria County and authorizing Chairman and Secretary to execute said agreement.

Mr. Lowe stated the application before the board is for a tax abatement for an MDI derivatives facility. Mr. Lowe introduced Jamie Snead and Rich Wells with Dow Chemical. Mr. Wells explained the new project which will be a global scale MDI separation plant and a \$157 million investment. Dow plans to start construction this summer and conclude in early 2023 with commissioning and startup in April 2023. The project is located in Plant A

(Freeport). The project will have 16 full time jobs and a peak of 270 construction jobs. He added that over 10 years it is estimated that this project will bring an additional 55 jobs into the county which amounts to \$21 million in wages and \$115 million in taxable sales and purchases. Mr. Lowe stated this application has been reviewed in Finance Advisory Committee and the County approved same April 13. Staff recommends approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Singhanian to approve the tax abatement as requested at 100% for 7 years. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hoss with all Commissioners present voting in favor of the motion.

4. Adjourn.

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 1:12 PM.