

Minutes of Pilot Commission
Port Freeport
October 15, 2020
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 Pilot Commission will conduct a Special Meeting on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 8:30 a.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.

The meeting agenda and agenda packet are posted online at www.portfreeport.com.

Please join the meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone.

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Commissioners present:

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

Staff Members present:

Mr. Jason Cordoba, Legal Counsel
Ms. Phyllis Saathoff, Executive Director/CEO
Mr. Al Durel, Director of Operations
Mr. Rob Lowe, Director of Administration/CFO
Mr. Brandon Robertson, Network Systems Manager
Ms. Missy Bevers, Executive Assistant

Also, Present:

Mr. Keith Letourneau, Blank Rome
Captain Daniel Blanton, Brazos Pilots Association
Captain Ross Coviello, Brazos Pilots Association
Captain Matthew Krohn, Brazos Pilots Association
Mr. Robert Hawn, WGMA
Mr. Bobby Wingate, P66
Mr. William Frailey
Mr. Chris Noble, Dole Fresh Fruit

Commissioner Pirtle stated the following...

Today is October 15, 2020, and the time is 8 a.m. This is a special meeting of the Pilot 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.

An Executive Session was noticed on the published agenda and will occur unless otherwise indicated during the meeting. It will be announced prior to this body going into Executive Session. During Executive Session the public will not be permitted to hear the meeting, as is the case under the Texas Open Meetings Act.

1. CONVENE OPEN SESSION in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.001, et. seq., to review and consider the following:
2. Roll Call.
Commissioner Pirtle stated that those present in the board room (at a safe distance) included himself, Commissioners Kresta, Commissioner Croft, Commissioner Santos, Phyllis Saathoff – CEO and Jason Cordoba – Legal Counsel. Commissioner Singhania and Commissioner Hoss were present online.
3. Public Comment.

There were no public comments.

4. Review and discuss the Brazos Pilot Association's October 1, 2020 application for rate adjustment to be considered by the Pilot Commission according to the Brazoria County Pilots Licensing and Regulatory Act Subchapter D, Pilotage Rates.
No action will be taken on this item.

With no further information to be presented by Captain Blanton with the Brazos Pilots Association, the Port Commission went into Executive Session to consult with legal counsel regarding legal matters related to the application for rate adjustment.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION in accordance with Subchapter D of the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.001, et. seq., to review and consider the following:

A. Under Authority of Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney):

1. Consultation with attorney regarding legal matters related to Brazos Pilots Association request for adjustment to pilot tariff dated October 1, 2020.

6. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION:

7. Adjourn.

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.