

**PORT OF GALVESTON
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION AND
TRUSTEES ACTION**

MINUTES - ITEM C-5

PREPARED BY: Judy K. Sponge Secretary, Board of Trustees December 8, 2017

SUBJECT: Minutes – Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Wharves held Monday, December 11, 2017

BACKGROUND: Attached are the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Wharves held Monday, December 11, 2017.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Port staff respectively requests Board approval of the minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Wharves held Monday, December 11, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Peter Simons, Interim Port Director

DATE ACTION TAKEN: _____

Approved: _____
Disapproved: _____
Deferred To: _____
Incorporated into Minutes: _____

Motion By: _____
Seconded By: _____
Unanimous: Yes _____ No _____
By: _____

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
Board of Trustees of the Galveston Wharves
Tuesday, December 11, 2017**

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Wharves held Monday, December 11, 2017 in the offices of the Port of Galveston on the 8th Floor of the Shearn Moody Plaza, 123 Rosenberg, Galveston, Texas.

Chairman O'Rourke called the meeting to order at 2:13 p.m., Monday, December 11, 2017.

The Secretary to the Board called roll.

Presiding Officer: E. L. "Ted" O'Rourke, Chairman, Board of Trustees

Present: Chairman E. L. "Ted" O'Rourke Vice Chairman Albert P. Shannon
Trustee Elizabeth Beeton Trustee Richard DeVries (A)
Trustee Jayson Levy Trustee Todd Sullivan
Trustee/Mayor James D. Yarbrough

The Trustees, Port staff and Visitors recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman O'Rourke called for conflicts of interest on today's agenda items. No conflicts were declared by the Trustees.

Chairman O'Rourke called for General Business.

C-1 Discuss and Consider Action to Hire a Port Director and Set the Port Director's Compensation: *Vice Chairman Shannon moved, with the second of Trustee Levy, to accept Mr. Rodger Rees as the new Port Director at the Port of Galveston.* Trustee Levy asked to hear a review of the compensation package prepared for the new Port Director before the vote of the Trustees is taken on this motion.

Mr. Brown stated that there was discussion with Mr. Rees as a finalist for the position of Port Director regarding the potential terms for compensation that were negotiated with Mr. Rees primarily with the input from the Chairman and the Vice Chairman. The proposed terms of his compensation would be a salary of \$240,000 per year, payable with normal Port practices, standard employee benefits provided to all Port employees, standard vacation time, accrual and usage per Port policy, and generally employment status as employment at will subject to if the employee is terminated without cause, Mr. Rees would receive three months compensation, salary only, not benefits, as a severance pay and for purposes of relocation. The relocation expenses are not to exceed \$20,000 with three months of temporary housing while Mr. Rees looks for permanent housing here in Galveston.

Vice Chairman Shannon and Trustee Levy both accepted the compensation package as part of their motion.

Trustee/Mayor Yarbrough noted that there was a good process in the search for the Port Director, which included better than good options, and included a number of good applicants who applied for the position.

Trustee Beeton questioned if Mr. Reese was one of the first set of applicants to apply for the position. Port staff will review the resumes received and provide Trustee Beeton with an answer to her question.

Mr. Rees will begin his new position with the Port of Galveston on January 15, 2017. Chairman O'Rourke, Trustee Sullivan and Mr. Brown will be available to help Mr. Rees with questions about the private and public schools in Galveston.

Trustee/Mayor Yarbrough stated that Trustee DeVries was not able to attend today's meeting, but that he was in agreement with the Board's motion and expressed his support of Mr. Rees.

Vice Chairman Simons commended Mr. Peter Simons on his great efforts and exceptional job as Interim Port Director. All Trustees agreed with the Vice Chairman.

Under comments, Chairman O'Rourke noted the good experience he has had as Chairman and stated the he was proud to be sitting at the table with the Trustees. The Chairman complimented Mr. Simons for working so well doing everything on a day-to-day basis.

Trustee Levy noted the tough job being performed by Port staff, stating that Mr. Simons has given 110% as Interim Port Director.

With the motion to adjourn from Trustee Sullivan, and the second of Trustee/Mayor Yarbrough, Chairman O'Rourke adjourned the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 2:20 p.m., Monday, December 11, 2017.



Judy K. Esponge, Secretary
Board of Trustees of the Galveston Wharves