

Mid-America Intermodal Authority Port District
300 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 256, Quincy, Illinois
October 2, 2012 – 4:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Mike McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Max Edlen, Don Griffiths, Gerald Jenkins, Mike McLaughlin and Blake Roderick

Board Members Absent: H.O. Brownback and David Hood

Guests Present: Megan Backs, Charles Bell, Phil Conover and Jim Mentesti

Mike McLaughlin declared a quorum present.

Approval of June 5, 2012 Minutes

Blake Roderick motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Max Edlen seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Charles Bell gave the financial report. One quarter of the DCEO grant from Illinois has been received, \$25,000. The Port will have to spend the \$25,000 before the rest can be drawn down. The \$20,000 MoDOT grant for FY 2013 has been verbally approved, and Megan sent the completed grant agreement and resolution. Once we receive written approval we will be able to request reimbursement for administrative funds spent. Blake Roderick motioned to approve the report. Gerald Jenkins seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Presentation of Reports from Great River Economic Development Foundation

Megan Backs shared with the board that progress is being made on the website. We reviewed a first draft and should have a link to circulate to the board soon.

Mid-America Port Commission Update

Mike McLaughlin recapped the October 1, 2012 Commission meeting for the board. The Commission meeting included a lot of discussion about the Iowa fertilizer plant project. It was agreed that if the Port reaches out to project leaders, that contact should come from the Commission.

Business Items

Amend Audit Approval

Charles explained that he had sent financial information to Zumbahlen, Eyth, Surratt, Foote & Flynn so they could complete the FY 2011 and 2012 audits for the Port. He since tried to contact them three times without any response. Charles recommended the board consider using Arnold, Behrens, Nesbitt & Gray to complete the audits. Don Griffiths motioned to approve using Arnold, Behrens, Nesbitt & Gray to complete the audits. Gerald Jenkins seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

- a. It has been determined that we need to look at the purpose and focus of the Port. Phil Conover suggested that if we are going to be successful at receiving public funds to develop the Port, it would likely be much easier if we had private support to back the request. Blake Roderick mentioned that he attended a recent Waterways Conference and the Corps recognizes that the upper Mississippi and Ohio Rivers have issues. They are looking at a public/private partnership to fund upgrades. He expects a renewed emphasis on this issue after the election.

- b. There was also discussion of alternative Port facilities. The board was made aware of the interest the Rich and Jeff Goldstein had expressed in exploring opportunities for them to work with the Port group on their 31 acre property at Front and Jefferson Streets in Quincy. It was agreed on that while it was not the original site chosen for the Port, nothing should be ruled out at this time. There was also discussion of looking at individual river or port facilities located within the 26-county jurisdiction to see if there were any opportunities to work with those sites.
- c. The GREDF staff was charged with:
 - a. Inventorying ports and river services within the 26-county area using the Tennessee Valley Authority study to start
 - b. Create an overview page to help board members educate stakeholders and potential funding sources about the value of the Port

Notices and Communications

None

Public Input

None

Closed Session

None

Adjournment

Blake Roderick moved to adjourn the meeting. Don Griffiths seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm.