

**Maryland Port Commission**  
**Open Session Minutes**  
**June 6, 2023**

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The Three Hundred and Ninety-Eighth Session of the Maryland Port Commission was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Secretary of Transportation Paul J. Wiedefeld. The Commission met in Open Session from 9:00 a.m. until 9:35 a.m. in the Stanton Room, 20<sup>th</sup> floor, World Trade Center, 401 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

**Present:** Secretary Wiedefeld and Commissioners Barber, Dandy, Lunn, McDonald, Richardson, and Roberts.

**Staff:** William Doyle (Executive Director), Brian Miller (Deputy Executive Director, Operations and Logistics), Robert Munroe (Deputy Executive Director, Administration and Environment), Christina Nichols (Chief of Staff), Philip Whaling (Assistant Attorney General and Principal Counsel), Richard Scher (Director of Communications), Dominic Scurti (Director of Planning), Holly Miller (Director of Harbor Development), Steve Johnson (Director of Engineering), Wonza Spann-Nicholas (Director of Finance), Ryan Barry (Director of Operations), Richard Powers (Director of Marketing), Bradley Smith (Director of Maritime Commercial Management & Strategic Initiatives), Jennifer Guthrie (Director of Office of Government Relations and External Affairs), William Richardson (Director of the Environment), John Thornton (General Manager of Procurement), Mark Riesett (Procurement), Jenilee Jay (Procurement), Brandon Couser (Information Services Department), and Krystal Jones (Executive Office).

**Minutes of the Three Hundred and Ninety-Seventh Closed Session and Open Session Meeting**

Commissioner McDonald moved to approve the Closed Session and Open Session Minutes of the Three Hundred and Ninety-Seventh Port Commission meeting. Commissioner Richardson seconded the motion. The Commission then voted unanimously to approve the Open Session Minutes.

**Introduction of New Members of the Maryland Port Commission**

Executive Director Doyle introduced the new members of the Maryland Port Commission. The new Commissioners are Karenthia Barber and Sandy A. Roberts. The new Commissioners introduced themselves and gave a brief biography and provided insight on their background.

Commissioner Barber is a business owner, operating her own consulting firm. She is acquainted with the port as she has family members who worked in the local maritime industry. Commissioner Roberts is an attorney and businessman. Commissioner Roberts is the managing partner of a law firm and has a concession business operating in several major airports throughout the country.

## **Executive Director Update, William Doyle, Executive Director**

Executive Director Doyle provided an update on issues impacting the Port of Baltimore.

### Maersk

The Maersk Eindhoven brought imports into the Port of Baltimore this past weekend (June 3-4, 2023), setting a new container moves record of 6383. It took two days of round-the-clock effort to complete the unloading. The Eindhoven vessel has a capacity of 13,000-plus TEU containers. The Maryland Port Administration expects container activity at the port to continue to be heavy in June and July.

### ZIM Integrated Shipping Services

With its increasing number of ships calls at the Port of Baltimore, ZIM wants to take advantage of rail transport of cargo into the Midwest (Chicago and Columbus, Ohio). ZIM works with a beneficial cargo owner (BCO) that is currently trucking cargo to Columbus. ZIM is seeking to obtain a dedicated rail service to Columbus. ZIM's customer is moving 10 containers per week to the Midwest and expects that to double to 20 containers with the shift of more cargo from the West to the East Coast, once it can use rail instead of trucking. If ZIM can coordinate the transport of 30 containers on a weekly basis, then it would be able to obtain a regularly scheduled stop to Columbus, in addition to Chicago. ZIM expects that once it has rail service to Columbus, other BCOs would be eager to utilize the service. All this potential activity is prior to the completed expansion of the Howard Street Tunnel.

### General Industry Outlook/Status

Commissioner Richardson asked if West Coast struggles are related to the shift in cargo destinations. Mr. Doyle replied that it is too early to tell. The pandemic along with Panama Canal vessel traffic flow issues and the buildup of distribution centers on the East Coast and Gulf Coast have taught retailers to diversify.

There is a shortage of roll-on/roll-off (Ro/Ro) vessels because there is so much farm equipment and automobiles being moved. Carriers are now resorting to lift-on/lift-off (Lo/Lo) vessels to move the Ro/Ro equipment. Wallenius Wilhelmsen will pursue new roll-on/roll-off vessel builds. Seventy-five (75) roll-on/roll-off vessels are currently being constructed. Seventy percent of those vessels are fueled by liquified natural gas (LNG) or other fuel sources. Mr. Doyle explained that the shipping industry is trying to move away from fossil fuels and testing new fuels/duel fuels such as gas/methanol.

Secretary Wiedefeld asked if using the lift-on/lift-off (Lo/Lo) vessels to move cargo causes any time or cost issues. Mr. Doyle replied that it does, but that MPA is prepared for and has experience handling these ships.

Commissioner Richardson asked about the state of the global supply chain and the status of the microchip industry. Mr. Doyle added that as of the last week of May, North America, China and

the rest of Asia had no production cuts for automobiles due to the microchip shortage. In prior months, auto manufacturers had to remove vehicles from factory schedules because of the shortage of microchips.

#### **Pier 4 Replacement at Fairfield Marine Terminal, Steve Johnson, Director of Engineering**

Mr. Johnson updated the Commission on the status of the Pier 4 replacement at Fairfield Marine Terminal. The Commission will be presented with a contract for the replacement of Pier 4 for its approval.

Together, Fairfield Marine Terminal and Masonville Marine Terminal are the most used among MPA terminals. Replacing Pier 4 at Fairfield will take the load off Pier 3. Mr. Johnson provided a history and overview of the Fairfield Marine Terminal and an extensive review of the Pier 4 structure.

Mr. Johnson reviewed the brownfields history of the Fairfield Marine Terminal. As part of the MPA's robust inspection process, which includes inspection of structures every five years, significant structural issues were identified, and Pier 4 was taken out of service in 2020. Inspectors identified the work needed to replace Pier 4. The replacement of Pier 4 will result in two usable piers which will eliminate ships having to anchor in the harbor.

Commissioner Richardson asked if operations will be affected while Pier 4 is replaced. Mr. Johnson stated that MPA coordinates its construction projects so as to not impact operations. Pier 3 will still be available for use and there is enough space between Pier 3 and Pier 4 to maintain operations.

Secretary Wiedefeld asked for, and John Thornton provided, an explanation of the procurement process for the replacement of Pier 4.

#### **Contracts for Approval, John Thornton, General Manager, Procurement**

John Thornton, General Manager of Procurement, presented the following contracts to the Maryland Port Commission for approval:

1. Contract #223008-IT– Installation/Replacement/Removal of Power over Ethernet (PoE) Powered Devices at various Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) Locations, Starlight Security, Inc., Beltsville, Maryland; Total Contract Amount – \$900,000 (Initial Amount – \$450,000); Term: July 6, 2023 – July 5, 2026 (Three Years with Three (3) One-Year Renewal Options).

After discussion, a motion to approve Contract #223008-IT was made by Commissioner McDonald, seconded by Commissioner Dandy, and approved unanimously by the Commission.

2. Contract #521105 – Pier 4 Replacement at Fairfield Marine Terminal; McLean Contracting Company, Glen Burnie, Maryland; \$16,520,778; Term: July 6, 2023\* – July 31, 2025 (*\*or earlier upon BPW approval*).

After discussion, a motion to approve Contract #521105 was made by Commissioner McDonald, seconded by Commissioner Dandy, and approved unanimously by the Commission.

3. Contract #521058 – Agency-Wide Paving at Facilities of the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA); P. Flanigan & Sons, Inc; \$10,000,000; Term: July 6, 2023\* – June 30, 2026 (*\*or earlier upon BPW approval*).

After discussion, a motion to approve Contract #521058 was made by Commissioner Richardson, seconded by Commissioner McDonald, and approved unanimously by the Commission.

### **Move into Closed Session**

At 9:35 a.m., in accordance with State General Provisions Article, Sections 3-305(b)(1)(i)(ii), Annotated Code of Maryland, Commissioner Richardson moved that the Commission meet in Closed Session, and Commissioner Barber seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. See attached Closing Statement. The Commission met in Closed Session from 9:35 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. Secretary Wiedefeld and Commissioners Barber, Dandy, Lunn, McDonald, Richardson, and Roberts, and William Doyle (Executive Director), Robert Munroe (Deputy Executive Director, Administration and Environment), Christina Nichols (Chief of Staff), and Philip Whaling (Assistant Attorney General and Principal Counsel) were present in the closed session and the meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Barber and seconded by Commissioner Roberts. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.