



**Maryland Port Administration
Open Session Meeting Minutes, #412
Thursday, November 7, 2024**

MEETING DATE & LOCATION

The Four Hundredth and Twelfth Session of the Maryland Port Commission was called to order at 9:01 a.m. on November 7, 2024, by Deputy Secretary of Transportation, Samantha Biddle. The Commission met in Open Session from 9:01 a.m. until 9:46 a.m. in the Stanton Room, 20th floor, World Trade Center, 401 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

ATTENDANCE

Chairman and Officials:

Deputy Secretary Biddle and Commissioners Barber, Brewer, Neuman, Richardson, Roberts and Webb.

Staff:

Jonathan Daniels (Executive Director, MPA), Brian Miller (Deputy Executive Director, Operations and Logistics), Robert Munroe (Deputy Executive Director, Administration and Environment), Matthew Wypyski (Deputy Executive Director, Commercial Development), Jayson Knott (Senior Director of Business Development for the Department of Commerce), Richard Powers, (Director, Business Development), Bradley Smith (Director of Maritime Commercial Management & Strategic Initiatives), Dominic Scurti (Director of Planning), Holly Miller (Director of Harbor Development), Jennifer Guthrie (Director of Office of Government Relations and External Affairs), John Boden (Director of Human Resources), John Thornton (Director of Procurement), Phil Whaling (Assistant Attorney General, Principal Counsel), Mary Kay Radford (Acting Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer), Richard Scher (Director of Communications), Steve Johnson (Director of Engineering), William Richardson (Director of the Environment), Cindy Burman (Deputy Director of Business Development and Cruise), Jasmin Todman (Budget Manager), Marvis Harden (Special Assistant to the Executive Director), Paul Wainaina (Office of Information Security and Technology) and Krystal Jones (Executive Office).

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Open Session Meeting Minutes of October 1, 2024: Commissioner Barber moved to approve the Open Session Minutes of the Four Hundredth and Eleventh Maryland Port Commission meeting. Commissioner Brewer seconded the motion. The Commission then voted unanimously to approve the Open Session Minutes.

MEETING STATUS

Meeting was held in person and open to the public via in person or by calling the conference call number. The call-in number is made available to the public via the MPC Website. Public participants are only allowed to listen to the Open Session of the meeting. Any questions regarding the matters deliberated by the Maryland Port Commission during the meeting, should be emailed to mharden@marylandports.com following the meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE, Jonathan Daniels, Executive Director

The last month saw the Port achieve multiple major successes, setting the stage for future growth thanks to the inspiring work of MPA staff. On October 28, 2024, CSX kicked off double stack operations from the Port of Baltimore along a northern route that is approximately 330 rail miles longer than the route will be after the Howard Street Tunnel and additional clearances are completed in 2026. The double-stack capability provides a distinct competitive advantage to the Port. On November 6, 2024, MPA, CSX and PAC representatives met to further discuss coordination of their marketing of the new service.

More new services and the resumption of prior services to the Port of Baltimore have or will be announced shortly. A partnership between ZIM and MSC on a trans- Pacific route will be calling on the Port next week. Additionally, an agreement has been finalized with Carnival for a new 5 year, with a 5-year option for homeport operations at the POB, to commence on January 1, 2025. Carnival recently celebrated 20 years of cruising at the POB. The MPA anticipates a potential revenue increase of 27% based on new financial arrangements in the agreement. Any increased revenue generated by the Cruise business will go into the Transportation Trust Fund and is allocated among all modes according to budget priorities.

On November 4, 2024, the Azamara Journey, an ultra-high luxury vessel, made a port call in Baltimore as part of its 13-day voyage from Montreal to Miami. The Captain was presented with a ship wheel by Matthew Wypyski, Deputy Executive Director, Commercial Development, and Cindy Burman, Deputy Director of Business Development and Cruise as a welcome to the POB.

Mr. Daniels gave accolades to the MPA grant development team whose work has led to MPA receiving grant awards from EPA and the USDOT, ranging from \$1.9M to \$145M. Among the grants awarded to the MPA were: (1) Clean Ports Grant of \$145M for net-zero equipment and accessories and \$1.9M for emission inventory; (2) \$30M INFRA grant for replacement of Berth 11; and (3) \$3.5M DERA grant to replace older diesel-powered trucks and other equipment with electric-powered units.

The President visited the Port on October 29, 2024, to announce the infrastructure and environmental/decarbonization grant awards. Mr. Daniels commended the security, operations, and communications staff for working closely with Secret Service and the White House to arrange a successful visit.

Mr. Daniels discussed the current status of the ILA negotiations. The current agreement was extended through January 15, 2025 while the parties discuss automation and technology, the primary remaining issues. The ILA and USMX have scheduled a meeting for the week of November 11. MPA is hopeful that the parties will reach an agreement prior to early January and before the existing agreement terminates on January 15.

HARBOR DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW, Holly Miller

Holly Miller, Director of Harbor Development, announced that the Office has been renamed the Office of Navigation, Innovation and Stewardship (ONIS) which better reflects the roles of the office within the organization. The office advocates for funding and policies that enable the planning, design, construction, operation, and monitoring, of sustainable dredge material management options. The Dredge Material Management Program (DMMP) has been implemented for more than 23 years and supports economic growth at the Port of Baltimore.

Ms. Miller provided an overview of the three pillars of ONIS. First, Navigation encompasses the over

130 channels of navigation supporting the POB, which are marine highways. Each year approximately 5M cubic yards of dredge material is removed from these channels: the equivalent of filling Ravens Stadium twice. *Innovation* refers to the various options for managing the dredge materials and creative solutions developed with stakeholders. *Stewardship* refers to the DMMP Stakeholder Committees and involvement of and engagement with stakeholders. The outcomes achieved by MPA and ONIS through engagement with stakeholders are in the best interest of the State, POB, Chesapeake Bay and Maryland citizens.

Over the past two decades, the MPA has built lasting relationships and partnerships with stakeholders. Examples of impactful partnerships include the Masonville Cove and Terrapin Education & Research Partnerships and Living Classrooms partnerships. These partnerships impact 20K students a year, from primarily Title 1 Schools.

DRAFT OF THE MARYLAND PORT COMMISSION REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE, Jennifer Guthrie

Jennifer Guthrie, Director of Office of Government Relations and External Affairs, advised that the draft MPC Report to the Legislature was ready to be formally approved by the Commission prior to its submission to TSO. Commissioner Richardson asked for one more read through prior to submission since he noted some minor typos and Secretary Biddle agreed. Commissioner Richardson moved to approve the draft copy of the Maryland Port Commission Report to The Legislature. Commissioner Roberts seconded the motion. The Commission then voted unanimously to approve the draft copy of the Maryland Port Commission Report to The Legislature.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Roberts and seconded by Commissioner Brewer. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.