Minutes of the Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District June 2, 2025 Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District was held on Monday, June 2, 2025, at 5:00 P.M., at the Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District (PISBND) Office, located at 250 Industrial Drive, Port Isabel, Texas 78578.

Commissioners Present were:

Joe Martinez, Commissioner Chairman, Duvie Woods, Commissioner Secretary, Jose L. Morales, Commissioner,

Others in Attendance were:

Julia Barrera, Administrative Assistant,
Jose Caso, Caso Law Firm, PLLC,
Deborah A. Morales, City of San Benito Commissioner Place 2,
Mayra Woods

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe Martinez at 5:00 P.M.

Item #2. Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Martinez. Invocation led by Commissioner Morales.

Item #3. Public Comments, No Public Comments.

Item #4. Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 22, 2025, Board Meeting. The following motion was made:

Mr. Morales commented that the minutes were not properly documented. Commissioner Morales instructed Ms. Barrera regarding the corrections that needed to be made.

A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mr. Martinez to table the meeting minutes due to corrections on the minutes. All voted in favor and motion carried.

Item #5. Discussion and possible action regarding lease options regarding General Pipe's lease. The following motions were made:

Mr. Morales made a motion to accommodate General Pipe as soon as possible, and for this Commission not to wait rather than wait three months or longer for the appointment of a Port Director. The motion failed due to the lack of a second.

Mr. Martinez made a motion to wait until a Port General Manager is appointed, stating that the Port General Manager will have the expertise to determine an appropriate location for General Pipe, address the fencing requirements, and accommodate the space she needs. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Mr. Morales withdrew his motion.

A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mrs. Woods to Table to further discuss it. <u>All voted in favor and motion carried</u>.

Item #6. Discussion and possible action regarding potential dock space for Harbor Brazos Pilot. The following motion was made:

Mr. Martinez made a motion to table the item until a Port General Manager is appointed Mr. Morales seconded but later withdrew his second after misunderstanding the motion, and Mrs. Woods then seconded. Motion carried, with Chairman Martinez and Commissioner Woods voting in favor of said motion and Commissioner Morales voting against said motion.

Mr. Morales stated for the record, the Board should be helping to move leases forward, and not wait for a Port Director with the decision that the Commissioners can make.

Item #7. Discussion and potential approval regarding scheduling of future Board meetings. Julia reviewed the calendar, stating that the yellow-highlighted dates were reserved for meetings to review resumes and discuss the hiring process for the General Manager position. Mr. Morales asked where the position had been advertised. Julia listed the Port's website, San Benito News, Port Isabel Press, the South Padre Island Chamber, and the Port Isabel Chamber, noting that they were still working on publication through the San Benito Chamber due to technical issues. Mr. Morales recalled that there had been a discussion about advertising in additional newspapers like The Monitor and The Brownsville Herald. The Port Attorney reviewed his notes and confirmed that the areas mentioned previously included Laguna Madre, San Benito, the Port website, and he also noted that the Brownsville Herald and The Monitor were mentioned. No formal motion was taken regarding this matter. Mr. Morales then asked if the Board could vote on it now. The Port Attorney advised they can discuss this issue in Executive Session since this matter involved a Personnel Matter.

No Acton.

Item #8. Discussion and possible action regarding scheduling a Board Workshop.

A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mrs. Woods to come up with a date for a Board meeting workshop. Motion carried unanimously.

A second motion was made by Mrs. Woods and seconded by Mr. Morales to schedule the Workshop for June 19, 2025, at 4:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Item #9. **Executive Session**. The Board of Directors may go into Closed Session pursuant to Subchapter D of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to discuss the following:

- a) Personnel Matters (Tex. Gov't Code \$551.074)
- b) Real Property (Tex. Gov't Code §551.072)
- c) Consultation with Attorney (Tex. Gov't Code §551.071)-Discussion regarding legal issues and potential conflicts related to legal counsel's duties.

The Commissioners entered into Executive Session at 5:28 PM, in accordance with the following motion:

A motion was made by Mrs. Woods and seconded by Mr. Morales to enter Executive Session. <u>Motion carried unanimously.</u>

The Commissioners returned from Executive Session at 5:50 P.M., in accordance with the following motion:

A motion was made by Mrs. Woods and seconded by Mr. Morales to enter Executive Session. <u>Motion carried unanimously.</u>

Item #10. Open Session. The Board will reconvene in open session to take action on items discussed in Executive Session. The following motion was made:

- a) Pertaining to Advertising of Port General Manager Position: A motion was made by Commissioner Morales and seconded by Commissioner Woods to continue advertising for the Port General Manager position through the existing channels: the Port's official website, the San Benito News, the Port Isabel Press, the South Padre Island Chamber of Commerce, and the Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce. The Board further agreed not to place advertisements in The Monitor and The Brownsville Herald. The motion carried unanimously.
- b) Pertaining to Port Leases: A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mrs. Woods to take no action. Motion carried unanimously.

c) Pertaining to Port Attorney: A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mrs. Woods to take no action. All voted in favor and motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the following motion was made:

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Morales and seconded by Commissioner Woods. All voted in favor and motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:51 PM.

Approved on June 19, 2025

Joe Martinez, Commissioner Chairman

Duvie Woods, Commissioner Secretary

Jose L. Morales, Commissioner