

Minutes of the Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District
July 10, 2025
Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation and Canal Commission was held on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at 6:00 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,
Deborah A Morales, San Benito City Commissioner,
Gregory Belue,
Art B. Rodriguez,
Ana Lopez,
Mayra Woods,
Victor Barrera,
Armando Vega,
Oscar Morales,

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe Martinez at 6:04 P.M.

Item #3. Public Comments, No Public Comments.

Item #4. Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 22, 2025, and June 19, 2025, and meeting minutes and certified agenda and June 2, 2025, certified agenda. The following motion was made:

A motion was made by Mrs. Woods and seconded by Mr. Morales to approve the meeting minutes of May 22, 2025, and June 19, 2025. All voted in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Item # 5. Discussion and possible action to clarify motions made on items discussed in Executive Session during the May 22, 2025, meeting.

- a) Discussion and possible action regarding employee/s compensation and title.

The motion of May 22, 2025, meeting was clarified as follows: The proposed motion was to table the item with Mr. Morales being opposed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Woods and seconded by Mr. Morales to accept the proposed motion with Mr. Morales stating he wanted to give them a raise, but his fellow commissioners decided not to give them a raise and wait until we got a new Port Director. All voted in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

- b) Discussion and possible action regarding the qualifications required for the Port Director position.

The motion of May 22, 2025, meeting was clarified as follows: The proposed motion was to proceed as Directed in Executive Session.

A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mrs. Woods to accept the proposed motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

- c) Discussion and possible action regarding the lease agreement for General Pipe.

No Action.

- d) Discussion and possible action regarding the Brazos Harbor Pilot lease.

The motion of May 22, 2025, meeting was clarified as follows: The proposed motion was to proceed as Directed in Executive Session with Mr. Morales voted against.

A motion was made by Mrs. Woods and seconded by Mr. Morales to accept the proposed motion with the corrections being made why he voted against. All voted in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Morales stated for the record the reason he responded 'NA'. He thinks he found the property but at that point it wasn't confirmed, that is why he voted against it so we can accommodate Brazos Harbor Pilot and not force 150 ft when only 75 ft are needed.

- e) Discussion and possible action regarding the appointment of an Interim Port Director.

The motion of May 22, 2025, meeting was clarified as follows: The proposed motion was to proceed as Directed in Executive Session.

A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mrs. Woods to accept the proposed motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

- f) Discussion and possible action regarding proposed percentage-based increased to tenant lease rates on current rental accounts.

The motion of May 22, 2025, meeting was clarified as follows: The proposed motion was to proceed as Directed in Executive Session with Mr. Morales voting against.

A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mrs. Woods to accept the proposed motion with the corrections being made about why he voted against it as he stated for the record. All voted in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Morales stated for the record, the fair rates of Certain people get lower rates than others. I thought we should go across the board and designate each port as everybody paying the same amount and higher ports being in a different range but if they're in the same area. I wanted to clarify why I voted NA.

Item #6. Discussion regarding upcoming and conferences related to Port Business. Information only. (No action will be taken. Item requested by Commissioner Morales.)

Item #7. Discussion and possible action regarding interviewing the applicants for Port General Manager. The following motion was made:

Julia Barrera stated that interviews will be conducted in alphabetical order.

A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mrs. Woods to start the interviews. All voted in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Item #8. Executive Session- The Board may convene in Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code for the following purposes:

- a) Personnel Matters pursuant to §551.074: Discussion, selection, terms of employment, including compensation and benefits related to the hiring of the Port General Manager.

The Commissioners entered into Executive Session at 7:40 PM, in accordance with the following motion:

A motion was made by Mrs. Woods and seconded by Mr. Morales to enter Executive Session at 7:40 PM. All voted in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commissioners returned from Executive Session at 8:19 PM., in accordance with the following motion:

A motion was made by Mrs. Woods and seconded by Mr. Morales to return to the open session at 8:19 PM, there being No Action taken in the Executive.

Item #9. The Board will reconvene in open session to take action on items discussed in Executive Session.

- a) Personnel Matters pursuant to §551.074: Discussion, selection, terms of employment, including compensation and benefits related to the hiring of the Port General Manager.

After reconvening from executive session, the port attorney presented the proposed motion.

A motion to select Victor Barrera as General Manager, in the terms appointed as follows: Annual Salary of \$80,000, 6 months of probation, after 6 months of probation the Port will enter a contract with Mr. Barrera if this individual meets the expectations and objective of the Board. There will be no sick leave or vacation during the probation period. However, Mr. Barrera will be accrued 5 hours of sick leave per month and 8 hours per month for vacation time that can be accessed after the probation period. Other benefits as offered to the employees like workers' comp or health insurance will also be offered to Mr. Barrera. A motion was made by Mrs. Woods and seconded by Mr. Martinez; The Port Attorney asked the Commissioners to take an individual poll vote. Chairman Mr. Martinez, Victor Barrera "I", Commissioners Mrs. Woods, "I" Mr. Barrera, and Commissioner Mr. Morales, "NA." Motion carries with one opposed.

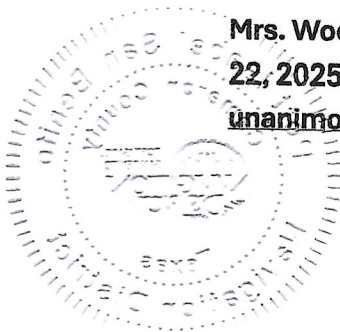
Mr. Morales stated for the record that he is the least qualified individual in his opinion.

Item #10. Mr. Martinez, Port Interim Director, Monthly Report. Mr. Martinez provided his report to the Board Commissioners.

Item #11. Ratification on Bills from May 22, 2025, to current.

Julia Barrera gave the report and stated that the main expenses were the completed new roof on the main building and the replacement of the AC units. The following motion was made:

A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mrs. Woods to approve the ratification on bills from May 22, 2025, to current. All voted in favor. Motion carried unanimously.



Item #14. Discussion and possible action regarding the scheduling of the next board meeting. The following motion was made:

A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mrs. Woods to schedule the next board meeting for Wednesday, July 23rd, 2025, at 4:00 PM. All voted in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

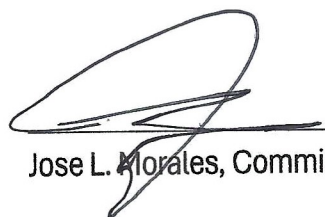
There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mrs. Woods to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Approved July 23, 2025


Joe Martinez, Commissioner Chairman


Duvie Woods, Commissioner Secretary


Jose L. Morales, Commissioner

