



REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CONNECTICUT PORT AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Tuesday, April 18, 2023  
12:00 p.m.**

**Location:**

***In response to concerns regarding the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), and in the interest of the safety and well-being of participants, this meeting was held remotely by conference call.***

*\*Please Note: In addition to the minutes below, an audio recording of this meeting can be found on the Authority's website at <https://ctportauthority.com/governance/>*

**Board Attendance**

Chair David Kooris; Doug Dalena; Brian Thompson; Paul Hinsch; John Johnson; Tom Patton; Dave Pohorylo; Grant Westerson; Parker Wise; Paul Whitescarver

Absent: Alexandra Daum; Charles Roman; Mayor Justin Elicker; Felix Reyes; John Carter; Tom Gill

CPA Staff/Other: Ulysses Hammond; Veronica Calvert; Joseph Salvatore; Marlin Peterson (AECOM); Steve Nuhn

**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Kooris called the meeting to order at 12:07pm. He welcomed new member Paul Whitescarver to the Board.

**2. Approval of February 21, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve made by Grant Westerson, seconded by John Johnson. So VOTED, with abstention by Paul Whitescarver.

**3. Public Comment**

*(Begins at 00:02:47 of the audio recording)*

**4. Executive Director's Update**

*(Begins at 00:09:18 of the audio recording)*

Ulysses Hammond provided an update on: Financial Management; State Auditor biennial audit; submission of reports; procurement update; New Haven Harbor Navigation Improvement Project; Pier 7 Fort Trumbull Project; SHIPP Round 3; Statewide Dredging Study with assistance from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Community Engagement and Outreach Activities.

## 5. Committee Updates

*(Begins at 00:22:07 of the audio recording)*

### (a) 2023 Committee Appointments and Assignments

Chair Kooris noted that an updated committee membership list has been circulated. He asked members to review the list of committees and let him know their interest(s), so committee assignments could be completed and approved at the June Board meeting before the start of the upcoming fiscal year.

### (b) Finance Committee

Chair Kooris indicated the Finance Committee met earlier and reviewed with the Executive Director and Director of Finance the capital and operations accounts of the budget and that there were no substantial changes from last month. He reported that the Committee expects additional revenue to start next month after the State Pier terminal operator assumes operations this month. The Committee also received a briefing from the Executive Director and Finance Director regarding a draft FY 2024 Budget that includes a significant increase in revenue that the board will need to discuss.

The only action of the Committee was to recommend Board approval of a resolution authorizing submission of the Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Financial Report pursuant to C.G.S. sec 1-123a.

RESOLVED, that the Executive Director be and hereby is authorized, empowered and directed, for and on behalf of the Connecticut Port Authority, to submit the annual report responsive to Connecticut General Statutes Section 1- 123(a) to the Governor and the Auditors of Public Accounts, as recommended by the Finance Committee and as further described in the Exhibit to Agenda Item #5(b) and to deliver any and all other reasonable and necessary documents in furtherance thereof.

Motion made by John Johnson and seconded by Tom Patton. So VOTED.

### (c) Human Resources Committee

*( Begins at 00:27:02 of the recording)* Committee Chair Brian Thompson advised that the Human Resources Committee met and prioritized the hiring and addition of a new position, Office Manager, to address the need for daily administrative support. The position would be added to the Schedule of Positions. A job description has been developed and is attached to the Board's agenda. He also advised the Board regarding the Committee's preparations of the Executive Director's posting. After discussion, Chair Brian Thompson proposed the Board approve the Committee's recommended Schedule of Positions and Total Staffing Levels for FY 2024, which includes the new position.

Chair David Kooris read the proposed resolution:

Consideration and approval of the Annual Schedule of Positions and Total Staffing Levels for Fiscal Year 2024.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby approves the adoption of an annual Schedule of Positions and Total Staffing Levels for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, as outlined in Section V of the

Authority's Operating Procedures, and as described in the Exhibit to Agenda Item #5c(i).

Motion made by Grant Westerson and seconded by Tom Patton. So VOTED.

## **6. State Pier Infrastructure Improvements Project Update**

*(Begins at 00:37:25 of the audio recording)*

The State Pier Project, this month will achieve another major milestone by transferring approximately 60% of the site's acreage from construction to terminal operations by Gateway Terminal in time for the anticipated first arrival of vessels in May and on target for commencement of the South Fork Wind Project. The coordination and collaboration of the Team has been remarkable. While we still have approximately 40% to complete before the champagne celebration, the current momentum and commitment is promising. I am also happy to report that as part of the transition from construction activities to upcoming terminal operations, the CPA – together with Gateway, NEO, Pilots and USCG – has successfully completed a navigational risk assessment associated with anticipated vessel activities.

Additionally, State of Connecticut Licensed Marine Pilots and local tug operators from Thames Shipyard in New London received training April 11 and April 13 at the US Maritime Resource Center in Newport, RI. Ørsted Marine Affairs provided updated port simulation charts, and the CPA provided hydrographic surveys of the improved dredging within the turning basin, so pilots could become familiar with maneuvering offshore wind delivery vessels and equipment within the Port.

Over the last several months and continuing into April, construction activity has progressed significantly at each of the major work fronts.

- Northeast (NE) Bulkhead Heavy Lift Platform (known as the Delivery Berth)
- Uplands Area
- Dredging
- Central Wharf & South Wall
- State Pier Toe Wall
- State Pier Heavy Lift Platform (known as the Installation Berth).

To facilitate upcoming ship arrivals, the NE bulkhead heavy lift platform achieved substantial completion at the end of February 2023. Fenders, bollards and ladders have been installed. The turnover of key upland areas for terminal operations follows the substantial completion of multiple construction activities, including installation of drainage pipe, storm water outfalls, electrical duct bank, critical equipment platforms, high mast lights, subgrade proof-rolling, placement and compaction of dense graded aggregate (or DGA), perimeter fencing, guard rail and asphalt pavement. Dredging activity within the turning basin and delivery berth, in

compliance with permit conditions, was completed. As noted at our last meeting, dredging of the final 14,000 cubic yards, which is adjacent to the State Pier Installation Berth has been rescheduled for fall 2023, following completion of the State Pier toe-wall rock sockets, which are required for stability of the new foundation toe wall.

From an electrical equipment perspective, the project team continues to track the supply chain challenged delivery of various electrical equipment and components, such as transformers, panel boards, switch gear and direct disconnect switches. While the majority of the equipment is on site, the delivery dates for the 690v panel boards and the 15kv disconnect switches for the shore to ship power at the State Pier Installation Berth remain early fall 2023. However, commissioning of the electrical equipment for the south Fork Wind Project remains scheduled for next month, May 2023.

At the central wharf, final impact driving of the pipe and sheet pile to construct the South Wall continues from east to west (i.e from State Pier to CVRR). The balance of works at the South Wall will continue through August 2023.

As noted in my previous report to the board, pile driving at State Pier has continued to be challenged due to the existence of shallow and deep obstructions and variable high rock elevations along the toe wall and throughout the footprint of the heavy lift platform. The contractor continues to utilize multiple means for removing obstructions. For specific locations where high rock elevations have been encountered, the contractor has scheduled rock sockets to be drilled into the bedrock commencing later this spring and final driving of pipe piles that have not reached design tip elevation is scheduled for summer 2023 after the last concrete deck pour of the State Pier heavy-lift platform.

As I stated earlier, significant progress has been achieved. Also, as I stated in my previous report to the board, we have been engaged in a series of complex negotiations with multiple parties regarding the development of a fair final path forward to project completion this fall. We have recently made significant progress in negotiating with both Kiewit on final cost and with NEO on cost share for the remaining work. That said, many details remain to be resolved and negotiation of those aspects remain ongoing. It is anticipated amongst the parties that a fourth amendment to the HDA and ninth amendment to the Construction Manager contract can be presented to the Board at a special meeting in May.

We will reach another major milestone this spring when turbines are assembled for South Fork. Once completed later this year, the port will be the first in the nation capable of accommodating a wind turbine installation vessel. The Charybdis, the first built in the United States, will deploy from New London in 2024 for the Revolution Wind and Sunrise Wind Projects.

Project Construction Administrator Update  
*(Begins at 00:45:45 of the recording)*

Good afternoon Board, as noted by Executive Director Hammond, during the month of April, significant construction activity continues at each of the major work fronts with a special focus on the upcoming turnover this Friday April 21, 2023 of the Northeast Bulkhead Heavy Lift

Platform, Delivery Berth and adjacent upland areas from the construction team to terminal operations.

While activities associated with terminal operations will ramp up during the upcoming months, construction activities will continue at distinct locations including the South Wall and State Pier Heavy Lift Platform and Toe Wall. As noted previously, these three areas have been challenged due to existing conditions. None the less, since the last Board meeting, the project team solved the subsurface obstruction, pile tolerance and insufficient soil tension capacity issues by modifying the South Wall's anchor wall design and location. Consistent with the redesign and sourcing of additional pipe and other materials, current construction activities include pile installation, anchor wall placement and assembly of tie-rods. As the Southern anchor wall installation progresses east to west, tie-rod installation will connect the South Wall to the anchor wall. Consistent with the Engineer's direction, this connection enables a sequential placement of final fill material in the wedge in the same east to west orientation. Once fill material is placed to subgrade, vibro-compaction of the soil densifies the material for subsequent DGA placement. Fill placement is scheduled to complete in early June with the balance of works at the South Wall continuing through August 2023.

In a similar manner, installation of the last 2 pipe piles for the State Pier Heavy Lift Platform is underway. Drilling activities indicate the rock obstructions in this area are approximately 4 to 5' thick. Obstruction drilling at these 2 pipe piles is forecast to complete in the coming weeks, which will enable the drill rig to relocate to the State Pier toe wall to install the 27 rock sockets, which are required due to the previously mentioned higher than anticipated rock elevation.

Concurrent with the completion of pile driving, the following activities at the State Pier heavy lift platform are in progress: (i) welding of shear rings within the pipe piles, (ii) setting of rebar cages and pouring of concrete plugs within the pipe pile, (iii) placement of rip rap along the underwater slope of the heavy lift platform and (iv) erecting formwork, installing rebar and pouring concrete beams and slabs that comprise the heavy lift platform. More than 55% of the concrete beams have been placed with the 5 concrete slabs scheduled for placement during the months of June, July and August 2023.

As of mid-April 2023, the value of work completed is approximately \$205M. In light of the activities detailed in this month's progress update, the completion of the State Pier Infrastructure Improvements remains scheduled for late fall 2023.

This ends the Construction update for the month of April 2023.

## **7. Old Business**

*(Begins at 00:50:47 of the audio recording)*

Chair David Kooris reminded board members of the May 1, 2023, Ethics Certification deadline and encouraged anyone, who had not done so already, to get in touch with Veronica Calvert the Ethics Liaison.

## **8. New Business**

**None**

However, Chair David Kooris reminded the Board that as the Executive Director suggested, members should be on the lookout for the scheduling of a special meeting in approximately three weeks.

## **9. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Grant Westerson and seconded by Parker Wise. Meeting adjourned at 12:59pm.