

These are the minutes of the December PAAC Workshop of the Port Authority Advisory Committee (the committee) held on December 12, 2023, via virtually. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Chair Chris Fisher, with the following committee members present:

Port Authority Advisory Committee:

Aaron Kocian	Lt. Governor Appointee – Virtual
Chris Fisher	Chair, Port of Beaumont – Virtual
Charles Hausmann	Port of Calhoun - Virtual
Phyllis Saathoff	Port of Freeport – Virtual
Rodger Rees	Port of Galveston – Virtual
Roger Guenther	Port of Houston – Virtual
Sean Stibich, Vice Chair	Port of Victoria – Absent
Sean Strawbridge	Southern Coast Representative – Absent
Walker Smith	Port of Harlingen – Absent
Zach Johnson	Speaker of the House Appointee – Virtual

A public notice of this meeting containing all items on the proposed agenda was filed in the Office of the Secretary of State at 12:54 P.M. on December 01, 2023, as required by Government Code, Chapter 551, referred to as "The Open Meetings Act."

ITEM 2. Introduction of committee members and TxDOT staff

Mr. Chris Fisher, Chair, performed a roll call of the PAAC Committee members then asked everyone to introduce themselves. All committee members are listed above.

ITEM 3. Guidance on virtual meeting participation

Mr. Fisher states that only PAAC Members can vote and must be visual.

Kris Knoll states that we will create a nice formal statement for Mr. Fisher when he calls meetings to order. Ms. Knoll reminds everyone only people notified as PAAC Members should be voting. This was an issue on the last two meetings. To keep some order, we need to enforce the public comment time and when we are using it. Anytime there is an item that we are voting on, prior to the vote we need to have a time for public comment. We will also need a public comment at the end of our meeting.

ITEM 4. Opening remarks

Mr. Fisher explains the main reason for this workshop is to review the scoring matrices for the Maritime Infrastructure Program and the Seaport Connectivity Program. We need to bring these items to a vote.

ITEM 5. Approval of the meeting minutes from July 10, July 28, and August 2, 2023 (Action)

Mr. Fisher states we need to approve the minutes for the PAAC Meetings on July 10, July 28, and August 2, 2023. Ms. Knoll has provided these minutes ahead of time for review.

Phyllis Saathoff makes a motion to approve all three set of minutes.

Second by Zach Johnson.

Mr. Fisher calls for a vote.

All approve.

ITEM 6. Discuss and approve the scoring matrix for the Maritime Infrastructure Program (ACTION)

Mr. Fisher states that the PAAC approved the matrix last year for the first round of the Maritime Infrastructure Program projects. We discussed at the last meeting to see if this matrix needed to be adjusted or revised (Please see the spreadsheet with items in blue and red that have been revised).

Ms. Knoll states that the items in red are items that were brought up in the November meeting and the blue items are notes from Aaron Kocian. Mr. Travis Milner and I were discussing the potential for employment opportunities under Local Impact would be counted during Economic Impact.

Mr. Fisher reiterates the items in blue are suggestions from Mr. Kocian to see if any language needed to be revised.

Mr. Fisher would like to emphasize that the economic impact is to the State of Texas under the Economic Impact. Mr. Kocian's comments does not really change the materiality of the matrix. We should maybe change the last category to Local & Other Impacts.

Mr. Fisher asked if the MPO under Enhances Connectivity creates a problem for anyone. If your projects fall under the MPO maybe it helps with the scoring. It is not a requirement.

Ms. Knoll points out that some ports are not in MPOs. Some of them are in the Rural Transportation Planning Organization or maybe potentially other regional transportation program.

Mr. Kocian suggest changing from Metropolitan Planning Organization to Regional Transportation Plans.

Mr. Fisher ask are there any other thoughts.

Phyllis Saathoff makes a motion to approve as presented and the edits as shown.
Rodger Rees seconds.

Mr. Fisher ask if any there are any public comments before the committee votes on this item.

Mr. Fishers calls for a vote from the PAAC Members only.

All in favor.

ITEM 7. Discuss and approve the scoring matrix for the Seaport Connectivity Program (ACTION)

Ms. Knoll states there no changes or comments on the Seaport Connectivity matrix.

Chris asks if there are any comments, changes, or discussion to this matrix.

Phyllis Saathoff makes a motion to approve as presented.

Second – Zach Johnson

Chris – Any public comments

Chris calls a motion.

All in favor.

ITEM 8. Public Comment

Chris ask is there are any public comments on the general item.

Kris Knoll discusses the meeting schedule for 2024.

Travis Milner – Need a meeting in September 2024 to approve the Port Mission Plan.

Glenna Bruun – link for the agenda to the public does not work. Thanks for sending the update.

Mr. Roger Guenther voices concern about not spending all the funds.

ITEM 9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn – Rodger Rees

Second - Charles Hausmann

Chris calls a motion for a vote.

All in favor

Mr. Chris Fisher adjourned the meeting at 3:36p.m.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Chris Fisher", is written over a horizontal line.

Chris Fisher, Chair

Port Authority Advisory Committee