

Georgia International and Maritime Trade Center Authority

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, May 23, 2018, 12:00pm

Employee Lounge, Savannah International Trade & Convention Center

Members present: Ben Polote Jr., Joe Marinelli, Mark Smith, Arnold Jackson, Rob Hernandez, Martin Miller, Bill Grainger, Anne Scheer, Ruth Quattlebaum **Members absent:** Lee Smith, Dennis Baxter, and Trip Tollison; **Also present:** Lee Hughes (Lobbyist), Michael Owens (TLC), SITCC staff: Sherrie Spinks, Stephen Hall, Ronnie Hickman, Jamie Parks and Judy Johnson

Chairman, Mr. Mark Smith, convened the meeting at 12:00 pm.

Mr. Smith reviewed the current status of the Governor's FY19 Budget, which included \$6.3 million for expansion design; however, the related bond sale has not been approved as part of the June 2018 bond sale, which was limited to \$1.3 billion. Mr. Hughes indicated that often not all projects are included in the June bond sale.

Mr. Smith indicated that the Executive Committee agreed that GIMTCA has the reserves available to "front the money". GSFIC is in agreement with our ability to request reimbursement once the bonds are sold. The funds are critical in order to complete the design and initiate the RFQ/RFP process for a construction manager, which will take a minimum of 60 days. Discussion ensued as to the risks involved in funding. Motion to fund the \$6.3 million amount needed to continue with architectural plans and move forward with contractor selection was made by Mr. Miller; seconded by Mr. Grainger and approved 8 to 1 by voice vote. Mr. Jackson recorded the one dissenting vote.

Mr. Smith recognized Ruth Quattlebaum who is filling the remaining term of Trey Cook's position.

Ms. Spinks indicated that the Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission (GSFIC) has posted the RFQ/RFP for a Construction Manager. The following board members were assigned to be GIMTCA's 3 voting members for this process: Ben Polote Jr, Bill Grainger and Dennis Baxter. GSFIC will also have two voting members on the team. There is a restriction of any communications with any contractors about this project from this point forward.

Mr. Miller introduced and highlighted the key benefits of an expansion video as a tool to present expansion plans to legislators, the local community and ultimately to potential customers. Mr. Miller recommended Austin Smith who did the Kessler video and Shellman Bluff video projects.

Motion to proceed with the contract with Austin Smith at the \$30,000 level with a \$5,000 contingency by Mr. Marinelli, seconded by Ms. Scheer and approved by unanimous voice vote. Committee was formed to review scope/content with Austin Smith to include: Martin Miller, Sherrie Spinks, Mark Smith, Joe Marinelli and Lee Hughes.

Mr. Smith then adjourned the meeting at 1:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


Board Officer