



**For Immediate Release**

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**PORT AUTHORITY COMMISSION APPROVES RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR VARIOUS CONTRACT AWARDS AND AUTHORIZATIONS**

*Agenda items addressed range of engineering, developmental, security,  
environmental, and support services*

HOUSTON, October 1, 2002 – The Port of Houston Authority (PHA) Commissioners approved several recommendations involving contract awards and authorizations for several professional and support services during its monthly meeting on Monday. Chairman James T. Edmonds presided over the meeting attended by vice chairman Kase Lawal and commissioners Janeice Longoria, Steve Phelps, Jim Fonteno, Jimmy Burke, and Cheryl Thompson-Draper. The meeting was held at the Port of Houston Authority's Executive Office Building, located at 111 East Loop North.

Port commissioners approved a recommendation to award a consulting contract to J.E. "Buster" Brown. As a former state senator who represented Houston, Brown served as the chairman of the Senate Natural Resources Committee and authored some of the most important environmental legislation in the past few sessions. Under the terms of the contract, Brown will provide state legislative monitoring services and assist the PHA in its efforts to secure funding under the Texas Emission Reduction Plan (TERP). TERP funding, from which the PHA has been awarded grants for various environmental projects, is essential to maintaining EPA approval of Houston's State Implementation Plan (SIP). Brown is also expected to assist in efforts to work with state legislators to draft and approve various measures that could potentially benefit the PHA's operations.

"We're pleased to add Buster Brown to our team of consultants," stated Chairman Edmonds. "As we prepare for an aggressive 2003 legislative session, Buster's depth of insight and experience will be tremendously valuable," Edmonds added.

## Security Matters

Three companies presented brief oral presentations of their proposals for a professional services contract award to provide an extensive security risk assessment for the PHA's terminals – including an analysis of the potential risks related to terrorist threats, stowaways, and port employee identification and access, and other activities. The contract will be funded by a \$300,000 grant from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). The PHA was awarded the grant as part of the series of federal government initiatives aimed at increasing security at U.S. ports.

Following the presentations, the Port Commissioners evaluated the proposals and voted to authorize the PHA to begin negotiating a professional services contract with CH2M Hill, Inc. of Houston. The two other contract bidders -- Ross & Baruzzini of Conroe and BAE Systems of Austin -- were ranked second and third, respectively, for eligibility to participate in additional negotiations that may be needed or requested by the PHA in relation to the security risk assessment contract.

The Port Commissioners also approved a recommendation to advertise a revised request for proposals (RFP) related to providing unarmed, uniformed security gate officer services at PHA facilities. In contrast to a similar RFP advertised earlier this year, the specifications of the revised RFP include additional security requirements and promote a higher percentage on the evaluation of the proposals.

## Bayport Matters

An amendment to the PHA's contract with JWD Group (formerly Jordan, Woodman, and Dobson) will provide up to \$75,000 for the firm to produce a video/CD-rom presentation to illustrate the developmental phases of the proposed Bayport Container and Cruise Terminal. The presentation will be used in conjunction with the PHA's public education initiatives related to the proposed Bayport facility.

In another matter related to the proposed development of the Bayport facility, Port Commissioners approved a recommendation to authorize Lockwood, Andrews, and Newnam, Inc. (LAN) to issue a request for qualifications (RFQ) for professional engineering services for improvements to Port Road. The RFQ is related to the company's current PHA contract for program management services for Phase I development of the Bayport project, which remains under review by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

## Environmental Matters

Under general matters of the agenda, Port Commissioners approved a recommendation related to the PHA's continuing efforts to meet or exceed

the government's environmental mandates. The measure authorizes two contracts that allow the PHA to receive a TERP grant in excess of \$97,000. The grant, which would be administered by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, or TCEQ (formerly the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission, or TNRCC), will cover the cost for incremental purchases of PuriNOx, a diesel emulsion fuel, which will be used in yard tractors and yard cranes at the PHA's Barbours Cut Terminal. Additionally, the grant will cover the cost of purchasing five new yard tractors and two new empty container lifts -- all equipped with low emission engines, which are expected to help the PHA comply with Texas clean air standards.

"The PHA maintains a steadfast commitment to excellence in environmental quality," stated H. Thomas Kornegay, PHA Executive Director. "As the first U.S. port to meet the rigorous standards of ISO 14001, we feel obligated to work diligently on developing and implementing sound environmental programs and practices throughout the facilities that we operate," Kornegay added.

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### ***The Port of Houston Authority***

*The Port of Houston Authority owns and operates the public facilities located along the Port of Houston, the 25-mile long complex of diversified public and private facilities designed for handling general cargo, containers, grain, other dry bulk materials, project and heavy lift cargo and other types of cargo. The Port of Houston Authority plays a vital role in ensuring navigation safety along the Houston Ship Channel, which has been instrumental in Houston's development as a center of international trade. The port -- sixth largest in the world -- is ranked first in the United States in foreign waterborne commerce and second in total tonnage. Each year, more than 6,600 vessels from around the world call at the port. For more information, please visit <http://www.portofhouston.com>.*