

*Celebrating 90 Years*



*of Service to the World*

# THE PORT REPORT

PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY

JUNE 2005

## STATE APPELLATE COURT RULING FAVORS BAYPORT

The Texas Third Court of Appeals on June 9th upheld a lower state court's decision dismissing a lawsuit that challenged the Port of Houston Authority's Bayport Container and Cruise Terminal. The City of Shoreacres and other plaintiffs last year tried to halt the project by alleging errors in the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's finding that Bayport would meet water quality and coastal management standards. In dismissing the group's lawsuit, 98th District Court Judge W. Jeanne Meurer pointed out that the challenge failed because the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had already issued the federal permit for Bayport, in reliance on the state's certification. The state appellate court's decision affirmed Judge Meurer's decision.

The PHA began construction at Bayport a year ago. The first phase of the facility, including 1,660 feet of the ultimate 7,000-foot wharf and approximately 89 acres of the ultimate 1,043-acre facility, is expected to be completed and open for operation in mid-2006.



## KORNEGAY INSTALLED AS IAPH PRESIDENT



Port of Houston Authority Executive Director Tom Kornegay became president of the International Association of Ports and Harbors during the organization's conference in Shanghai, China in May. Kornegay has been affiliated with IAPH for more than 25 years. Since 2003, he had been serving the association in dual capacities of first vice president and chairman of the technical committees of sustainment and growth, to which he provided leadership on membership, communication and networking, and human resources development.

Kornegay will preside over the IAPH's 2007 conference in Houston, which is expected to be attended by more than 1,000 delegates. During the 1977 IAPH conference in Houston, a time capsule was planted at the PHA's newly built Barbours Cut container terminal that Kornegay, as PHA's chief engineer, had designed. Organizers of the 2007 conference plan to open that capsule and bury a new one at the Bayport Container and Cruise Terminal.

PHA Public Affairs Director Argentina M. James will chair the 2007 conference.

## THE PORT TURNS 90

More than 300 guests turned out at the Goose Creek Country Club in Baytown on June 2 to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Port of Houston.

Several notable guests recounted some of the intriguing milestones of port history, including PHA's Chairman Jim Edmonds, Commissioner Jimmy Burke, Executive Director Tom Kornegay, State Representative Wayne Smith of Baytown, Harris County Commissioner Sylvia Garcia, Baytown Mayor Calvin Mundinger, and attorney Stephen Don Carlos.

The celebration also marked the 89th birthday of former port commissioner Bob Gillette, a retired attorney and prominent civic leader who served from 1987 until 1999 as an appointee of the Harris County Mayors and Councils Association. Coincidentally, Gillette was instrumental in lobbying Congress to fund the Houston Ship Channel widening and deepening project, which was completed this year.



## MAY PORT COMMISSION HIGHLIGHTS

- PHA was authorized to advertise and receive CSPs for the potential purchase of a radio data terminal (RDT) computer system for Bayport, the installation of fencing and lighting at the Woodhouse Terminal, and CCTV system support services for the cruise terminal at Barbours Cut.
- An inter-governmental agreement with the City of Morgan's Point will provide security services at the Barbours Cut Terminal. Effective: June 1. Annual cost: \$24,000.
- CB&I Constructors, Inc. was awarded a \$1.86 million contract for an elevated water storage tank at Bayport.
- DNV Certifications, Inc. was awarded a \$33,745 professional services contract to perform an ISO 14001: 2004 audit of the PHA's environmental management system.
- Four Seasons Development Company, Inc. was awarded a \$112,054 construction contract for the expansion of the cruise ship terminal at Barbours Cut.
- TSC Engineering Company received the top ranking for a potential contract award for a secured truck entrance at the Turning Basin Terminal.
- PHA was authorized to increase its share of funding for the Fairmont Parkway Overpass Project to an amount not to exceed \$4.6 million.
- PHA was authorized to collaborate with Buffalo Bayou Partnership and contribute \$150,000 toward purchasing a trash skimmer boat to remove debris from the Houston Ship Channel.
- Two resolutions were adopted recognizing former port commissioner Robert Gillette's 89th birthday and honoring the memory of State Representative Joe Moreno.



## GUENTHER PROMOTED TO GENERAL MANAGER — CONTAINER OPERATIONS

Roger Guenther's principal responsibilities include reviewing and recommending long-range planning of PHA's container facilities, establishing and maintaining updated labor work rules that ensure a competitive and efficient operation, and supervising and coordinating the overall performance of facility maintenance and terminal operations at the Barbours Cut, Bayport and Galveston terminals. Guenther also maintains proper relations with customers, facility users and labor, provides and maintains a high level of customer service, develops and maintains systems of tracking labor and equipment cost, and reviews and provides financial analyses for necessary tariff increases.



Guenther joined the PHA in 1988 as assistant maintenance manager at Barbours Cut. In 1992, he was promoted to assistant terminal manager and was named container facilities manager in 1998.



## SHELL PRESIDENT TOURS PORT

PHA Chairman Jim Edmonds and Executive Director Tom Kornegay showcased the world's sixth largest port to Shell Oil Company President John Hofmeister during a special tour aboard the *M/V Sam Houston* on June 1. U.S. Coast Guard Captain Richard Kaser, PHA Facility Security Officer Jerry Simon and several other Shell executives also attended the tour. Port security, environmental programs, Houston Ship Channel maintenance, and other business matters were among the informal discussion topics.

"This lets us get a point of view we don't see from the refinery," Hofmeister commented.



### QUESTIONS?

Please direct all inquiries and comments to:  
The Port of Houston Authority  
Public Affairs Division  
111 East Loop North • P.O. Box 2562  
Houston, Texas 77252-2562  
Phone 713-670-2827 • Fax 713-670-2425  
E-mail: [ljohnson@poha.com](mailto:ljohnson@poha.com)  
Web site: [www.portofhouston.com](http://www.portofhouston.com)

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