

THE PORT REPORT



PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY

JUNE 2007

PHA Salutes the Late Fentress Bracewell as a Port Maverick

The late Fentress Bracewell, the longest-serving chairman of the Port of Houston Authority Commission, is recognized by the PHA as a port maverick. Bracewell, who died June 13 at the age of 85, was the last living founder of Bracewell and Patterson (now Bracewell and Giuliani) law firm. Born in Harrisburg on the shores of the Houston Ship Channel, he had a lifelong love of Houston and its commerce. His father, J.S. Bracewell, also served as chairman of the Port Commission in the 1950s.

Bracewell served the PHA from 1970 to 1985, playing a vital role in building Houston into a world-class port. The Fentress Bracewell Barbours Cut Terminal carries his name in recognition of the foresight he conveyed to his fellow commissioners that carrying cargo in containers was a trend the shipping industry would embrace. A radical idea at the time, it has proven to be the industry standard. Earlier this year, PHA celebrated the 30th anniversary of Barbours Cut, which is the reason why the PHA now handles 72 percent of all the containerized cargo in the U.S. Gulf and 95 percent of the containers moving through Texas.



Fentress Bracewell, PHA Chairman
1970–1985



PHA Commissioner
Jimmy A. Burke

PHA Commission Re-appoints Deer Park's Burke

By a unanimous vote, the Harris County Mayors and Councils Association re-appointed Jimmy A. Burke to the Port of Houston Authority (PHA) Commission for another two years. Initially appointed to the PHA Commission in August 1999, Burke also is a member of the board of Pilot Commissioners. PHA commissioners serve two-year terms without pay.

"We welcome Commissioner Burke's return," said PHA Chairman Jim Edmonds. "He is a valuable member of the commission. He is highly regarded by the 26 Harris County cities that he serves. His dedication to the port and his constituents is greatly appreciated."

Burke is chairman of the PHA's community relations committee and past chair of the international business development task force. He is the immediate past chair of the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region and for the past two years he has chaired the Houston Port Region Annual Coffee Symposiums.

Small Business Development Program Celebrates 5th Year

More than 400 people turned out to the Wortham Center on June 14 for a reception celebrating the fifth year of a Port of Houston Authority Small Business Development Program that continues to outdo itself each year. The goal of the program is to annually award 35 percent of all eligible PHA contracts to certified small businesses. Since the program's inception and through the first quarter of this year, PHA has awarded \$183.5 million in contracts to registered small businesses.

The number of companies currently registered in PHA's Small Business Program is 1,045. A total of 45 monthly small business forums have been held over the past five years and the number of Port University graduates has reached 200. "The port commissioners made a promise to small business and it has kept that promise," PHA Chairman Jim Edmonds told those in attendance. "More work lies ahead as we continue to build Bayport and work on other projects so that Houston's port continues to be a world-class port."



Pictured here from l to r: Executive Director Tom Kornegay, PHA Commissioner Kase Lawal, PHA Chairman Jim Edmonds, Annette Edmonds, Small Business Development Director Gilda Ramirez and PHA Commissioner Steve Phelps.

May Port Commission Highlights

At its May 22 meeting, the Port Commission of the Port of Houston Authority:

- Approved execution of a change order to Terracon Consultants, Inc., for Bayport Terminal Complex Phase 1- Cruise Terminal materials testing in the amount of \$470,400.
- Approved amending the contract with L. A. King Company for Stage 2 Gate Control System for Bayport Terminal for \$250,000.
- Approved advertising and receiving competitive sealed proposals for Bayport Marine Gate Expansion, Stage 2 – canopies, lane booths and pedestals at an estimated \$700,000 to \$1,000,000.
- Approved advertising and receiving competitive sealed proposals for security equipment at entry/exit gates at Barbours Cut Terminal at an estimated \$240,000 to \$280,000.
- Approved amending port authority tariff No.14 by adding rules and regulations governing, preventing, detecting, controlling, and fighting of fires at Barbours Cut Terminal.
- Approved awarding of a contract to Navis LLC for providing annual maintenance service to the software applications used for terminal operations and billing at \$296,000.
- Approved awarding of a bank depository contract to JP Morgan Chase Bank for an operating bank for a four-year period, effective July 14, 2007.



Port of Houston Authority Commissioners Janiece Longoria and James Fonteno.



Ricky W. Kunz

Kunz Joins as General Manager, Trade Development

Ricky W. Kunz joins the Port of Houston Authority as general manager in the Trade Development Division. Beginning in 1981, Kunz served in multiple capacities in the U.S., Mexico and Italy for Lykes Bros. Steamship Co. His most recent position with Lykes Lines was as vice president, Mediterranean Services.

He began his maritime career ashore with Hellenic Lines in 1978 as a sales representative and also worked for Farrell Lines, Inc. Kunz will guide the sales team within trade development to increase vessel calls, cargo volume and overall commerce through Houston via Port of Houston Authority facilities.

A native Texan, Kunz earned a bachelor's degree in marine transportation from Texas A&M University at Galveston. He has lived around the world but said he was "glad to be back in Texas."

MS150: Cycling to Success

Representing the Port of Houston Authority, 20 cyclists put their feet to their pedals to raise a team record of \$42,117 in this year's BP MS150 bike tour and fund-raiser on April 21–22. The total exceeded the 2007 goal of \$35,000 by nearly 15 percent and overtook last year's record of \$32,000 by more than 25 percent.

The BP MS150 Bike Tour – largest fund-raiser of its kind in the nation – is a two-day cycling adventure for 13,000 cyclists, from Houston to Austin that raises funds to help people living with Multiple Sclerosis. This marks the third year PHA has fielded a team.

"I'm most proud of the team and ecstatic about surpassing our fund-raising goal," said team captain Scott Aspelin. "That's what the event is all about. Everybody stepped up and did an admirable job of soliciting."



PHA MS150 Team, 2007

Questions?

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