

JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIAL CALLED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Tuesday, January 12, 2021 | 3:00 pm
Birmingham City Hall, Virtual

MINUTES

COUNCILOR JOHN R. HILLIARD, COMMITTEE CHAIR
Councilor O'Quinn & Councilor Woods, Committee Members

Councilor(s) Present: Hilliard, O'Quinn, Woods

- 1. Call to Order**
Councilor Hilliard called the meeting to order.
- 2. Approval of the Minutes**
Action Taken:
Approval of Minutes Delayed – Not Attached with Meeting Packet.
- 3. An update from the BJCPA (Birmingham Jefferson County Port Authority Board)** No vote required****
Presented by: BJCPA Chair, Mike Swinson
Action Taken:
Mike Swanson opened up the BJCPA's update and introduced board members that were present for the meeting.
Mike Swinson stated that the BJCPA has four out of five new board members.
The Jefferson Birmingham County Port is located along the Locust fork of the Black Warrior Rivers about 22 miles west of downtown Birmingham. The port connects to the Gulf Coast ports for export (or import). The port is served via short line railroad with access to CSX, Norfolk Southern and BNSF railways. The port also has direct truck access to Birmingham's six-spoke interstate network; Interstate 65, I-22, I 5/20, I-459 and the under construction Northern Beltline.
Mike Swanson turned the discussion over to David Russell, Executive Director.
David Russell stated that the Port Authority was awarded a grant in February 2020 from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA).
The grant is being awarded through the Alabama Inland Port Infrastructure Program, which focuses on capital improvement initiatives such as activities to facilitate and coordinate inland port development, improvement, maintenance, onsite storage, moorings and construction
One of the Port Authority's goal is to generate revenue and economic development for both the City of Birmingham and Jefferson County.
Councilor O'Quinn requested symmetric/data i.e. volume of tonnage into the port, projections for the Port Authority.
David Russell also reviewed/discussed the Port's Executive Summaries with the Committee.
Councilor Woods asked what are the overall investment needs (amount of funding) in order for the Port Authority to be able accomplish some of their goals; the priority piece as far as infrastructure – both short and long term.
Councilor Woods requested a copy of the Executive Report.
No Action – Information Only.
- 4. Old Business**
None

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5. **New Business**
None

6. **Adjournment**
Councilor Woods: _____ **Moved to Adjourn.**
Councilor Hilliard: _____ **Seconded.**
Meeting Adjourned.