



Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (GLS)

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2023

Meeting Held in Person and via Teleconference

PRESENT

David McMillan (Advisory Board Chairperson), William Mielke (Advisory Board Member), Adam Tindall-Schlicht (Administrator), Jeffrey Scharf (Associate Administrator), Carrie Rogers (Director of Administrative Services), Michal Chwedczuk (Attorney Advisor), Elizabeth Fox (Director of Congressional and Public Relations), Kevin O'Malley (Strategic Advisor for Financial and Resource Management), and Rebecca Yackley (Director of Trade and Economic Development), and guest Adrian Williams.

I. CALL TO ORDER

In his capacity as Board Chairperson, David McMillan welcomed all participants to the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (GLS) Advisory Board meeting, noting the presence of quorum, he called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. (Eastern).

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Board Chairperson Mr. David McMillan, which was seconded by Board member Mr. William Mielke, the Board approved the minutes without objection, the motion passed, and the minutes from the November 15, 2022, meeting were approved as drafted.

III. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- GLS Administrator Adam Tindall-Schlicht reported that the Montreal-Lake Ontario section of the Seaway closed on January 1, a day later than originally announced at the request of the Canadian St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) to accommodate vessels that were late exiting the system. He said that the Canadian Welland Canal closed on January 9 due to winter storms across the Great Lakes region.
- He noted that interviews remain ongoing for a new GLS Executive Officer and Deputy Administrator. He stated that he was fortunate to spend a day with Jean Aubry-Morin to discuss internal work and ensure that relationships between the two Seaway Corporations' senior executives were strong. He has scheduled meetings with Terry Bowles, CEO and President of the Canadian SLSMC.
- Administrator Tindall-Schlicht also reported on several introductory meetings with U.S. House and Senate members and mentioned his recent visit to several Ohio Great Lakes ports, including Cleveland, Ashtabula, and Conneaut, as well as Great Lakes carrier Interlake Steamship. Lastly, the Administrator reported on the Green Shipping Corridor Network (GSCN) initiative that was announced by the U.S. and Canadian governments last November and plans for a GLS-sponsored GSCN collaborative forum in the spring.



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IV. QUARTERLY UPDATES

- Jeffrey Scharf, GLS Associate Administrator, provided an update for Chris Guimond, Director of Lock Operations and Marine Services. Mr. Scharf reported on a mechanical failure that disabled a buoy run with the *SEAWAY GUARDIAN* tugboat on December 18. He noted that Mr. Guimond and his team executed a contingency plan that involved cooperation from the Canadian SLSMC, the U.S. Coast Guard, and a third-party tug operator to take the buoy barge below Snell Lock and complete the buoy run. Additionally, Mr. Scharf reported on GLS safety inspections and ballast water examinations completed during the 2022 season.
- Rebecca Yackley, GLS Director of Trade and Economic Development, provided a brief overview of the November Highway H₂O annual conference and the December Grunt Club events in Montreal. She also spoke on upcoming plans involving Trade and Economic Development Staff, including participation at the AAPA POWERS summit in late January, the Transportation Go! conference and Seatrade Cruise Global conference in March, and the JOC Breakbulk Americas conference in April.
- Elizabeth Fox, GLS Director of Congressional and Public Relations, reported on coordination with the U.S. Department of Transportation on a number of policy issues, including supply chains, rural outreach, safety, and international policy. She also provided an update on the GLS publications – *Seaway Compass* and *Seaway Soundings* – as well as the design of the FY 2022 Annual Report.
- Associate Administrator Scharf reported that a major accomplishment over the previous quarter was the ongoing construction of the *SEAWAY TRIDENT*, with an expected delivery date in April. He reported that the majority of the structural steel for the new GLS Visitor Center at Eisenhower Lock is erected, and demolition of the old center was completed last quarter. He also reported that major contracts were awarded in late 2022 for Seaway Infrastructure Program (SIP) winter work projects, including diffuser rehabilitation at Snell Lock and concrete rehabilitation at the Eisenhower Lock. He also reported that Carrie Rogers was recently promoted to Director of Administrative Services. She will be responsible for supervising all GLS administrative services including finance, acquisitions and supply, human resources, and the GLS Visitor Center at Eisenhower Lock.
- Kevin O'Malley, Strategic Advisor for Financial and Resource Management, provided a brief update on the FY 2023 and FY 2024 budgets, including the GLS's enacted funding level for FY 2023 at \$38.5 million. Additionally, he reported on 2022 navigation season performance results, which exceeded annual goals.

V. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

The next GLS Advisory Board meeting is scheduled virtually for Tuesday, May 2, 2023.



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VI. CLOSING DISCUSSION AND ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 p.m. (Eastern), with a motion to adjourn from Mr. McMillan and seconded by Mr. Mielke.

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