



Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (GLS)

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2023

Meeting Held in Person and via Teleconference

PRESENT

David McMillan (Advisory Board Chairperson), William Mielke (Advisory Board Member), Dr. Arthur Sulzer (Advisory Board Member), Adam Tindall-Schlicht (Administrator), Anthony “Tony” Fisher (Deputy Administrator), Jeffrey Scharf (Associate Administrator), Anthony “Tony” Curley (Director, Engineering and Maintenance), Carrie Lavigne (Chief Counsel), Carrie Rogers (Director of Administrative Services), Sylvonica Madlock (Executive Officer), Christopher Guimond (Director of Lock Operations), 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) .

I. CALL TO ORDER

In his capacity as Board Chairperson, Mr. 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 2:06 p.m. (Eastern).

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Board Chairperson David McMillan, which was seconded by Board member William Mielke, the Board approved the minutes without objection, the motion passed, and the minutes from the January 24, 2023 meeting were approved as drafted.

III. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

- GLS Administrator Adam Tindall-Schlicht welcomed the Board members to the meeting and began with a report on recent changes in GLS personnel. He introduced Deputy Administrator Anthony “Tony” Fisher and Executive Officer Sylvonica Madlock, the newest members of the GLS’s executive team.
- Administrator Tindall-Schlicht highlighted the GLS’s on-going efforts, along with the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Canadian St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC), to establish a Green Shipping Corridor Network (GSCN) on the Great Lakes Seaway System. He discussed the results of the April 4 GSCN collaborative forum in Chicago and the next steps in facilitating this initiative.
- He also discussed the on-going efforts to complete an update to the Great Lakes Seaway System economic impact study. The GLS is working with Martin Associates, the SLSMC, and the American Great Lakes Ports Association (AGLPA) to get the report completed and ready for an unveiling in July.



Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (GLS)

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2023

Meeting Held in Person and via Teleconference

- Administrator Tindall-Schlicht reported on the GLS's March supervisor retreat and mentioned ideas and suggestions from managers, supervisors, and leaders on how to improve service and the working environment at GLS. Finally, Administrator Tindall-Schlicht noted that he will be accompanying Transportation Secretary Buttigieg later in May to Detroit to represent the United States at Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Council meetings.

IV. QUARTERLY UPDATES

- Deputy Administrator Tony Fisher introduced himself and provided an overview of his work history prior to joining the GLS. He is excited about trade development efforts, building closer relationships with the shippers, increasing containerized service into the Lakes and finding opportunities where there's unexplored avenues for growth.
- Jeffrey Scharf, Associate Administrator, announced the onboarding of the GLS's new Chief of Security, Mary Alice LaPlante. He also provided a progress update on the Voyage Information System (VIS) project that includes work to build models and define functional requirements for the future platform. He added that the SLSMC has a full-time project manager leading the day-to-day efforts on the VIS project with GLS staff and they meet regularly to discuss project goals, strategies, and accomplishments.
- Tony Curley, Director Engineering and Maintenance, reported a successful winter work season, which included the replacement of Snell Lock diffuser structures. He spoke about the ongoing construction of the Seaway Visitor Center at the Eisenhower Lock and noted that he and his office are currently working to complete solicitations and procurements for some major projects including pavement replacement and a variety of power-related infrastructure improvements. His office recently finalized the solicitation for the design of the new GLS Administration Building to be located on the south side of Eisenhower Lock. Lastly, Mr. Curley noted that he is recruiting to fill the facility planner and electrical engineer positions.
- Elizabeth Fox, Director of Congressional and Public Relations, reported that her team has been working on an upcoming Congressional site visit to Massena and extending invitations for them to meet with the Administrator and Deputy Administrator. Ms. Fox also spoke about the upcoming economic impact study.
- Christopher Guimond, Director of Lock Operations, reported on the successful deployment of U.S. aids to navigation on the Seaway. The GLS worked closely with the U.S. and Canadian Coast Guards to assist in completing the deployments. He also mentioned that the GLS recently filled its Small Craft Operator vacancy in the Marine Services division.



Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (GLS)

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2023

Meeting Held in Person and via Teleconference

- Director of Trade and Economic Development Rebecca Yackley began her report with an analysis on cargo and port activities. She provided an overview of the SeaTrade event, which offered GLS staff an opportunity to market cruising. It also allowed Administrator Tindall-Schlicht a chance to promote Great Lakes/Seaway cruising and to interact with representatives from Cruise Lines International Association and the Great Lakes Cruise Association. Lastly, Ms. Yackley highlighted upcoming domestic and international trips to promote the Great Lakes Seaway System, including meetings in Germany with port and cargo owners and to Rotterdam for the annual Breakbulk Europe conference.
- Kevin O'Malley, Strategic Advisor for Financial and Resource Management, provided a brief overview of the status of the GLS's FY 2024 budget request. He also reported that he and Carrie Rogers, Director of Administrative Services, are working with the Office of the Inspector General and their third-party contractor on the GLS FY 2023 financial statements audit.

V. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

The next GLS Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 26, 2023, in Chicago, Ill., in conjunction with the AGLPA summer meetings.

VI. CLOSING DISCUSSION AND ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m. (Eastern), with a motion to adjourn from Mr. McMillan and seconded by Mr. Mielke.

#####