

Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission (LPGC)
Wednesday, April 17, 2024
10:00 A.M.
Department of Public Safety
7919 Independence Blvd. – Conference room C Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Members Present:

Chairman Ira Cleveland
Commissioner Dominique Monlezun
Commissioner Todd Thompson
Commissioner Ricky Cleveland

Also present:

Executive Director Don Robin
Attorney Jason Hessick
Various Industry representatives

Action Taken:

- I. Called to Order at 10:00 A.M.**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Public Comments**
- IV. Approval of March 20, 2024 minutes** – *On motion by Commissioner Monlezun, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.*
- V. New Business**

1. LPGC reports

- a. Statistical report for March 2024
- b. Detailed appropriation report recap for March 2024
- c. Accounting total reports for March 2023 / March 2024
- d. Fire and accidents reports for March 2024
- e. Compliance audits for March 2024

2. Possible citations for next meeting

- a. Regular citations – None
- b. Insurance citations – None
- c. Permit renewals – Possible 25; failure to pay permit renewal.

3. Applications heard:

The following applicants applied for a Class 2 permit and administratively granted and ratified by the Commission:

- **Invision Technical Solutions** – 5557 Vidrine Rd. Ville Platte, LA 70586 – on motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner R. Cleveland, the application was postponed.
- **Audubon Plumbing Heating & Cooling Inc.** – 61322 Magnolia Dr. Lacombe, LA 70445 – on motion by Commissioner Monlezun, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, the permit was granted.

The following applicant applied for a Class 6 permit and administratively granted and ratified by the Commission:

- **Sherman's Glass Inc. – 1480 Veteran's Ave. Ponchatoula, LA 70454 – on motion by Commissioner R. Cleveland, seconded by Commissioner Monlezun, the permit was granted.**

The following applicant applied for a Class A4 permit and administratively granted and ratified by the Commission:

- **Hilco Liquid Transport LLC – 7700 Kenmont Road Greensboro, NC 27409, on motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Monlezun, the permit was granted in absentia.**

On motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner R. Cleveland, the following applicants applied for a Class 6X permits and administratively granted and ratified by the Commission.

- **Alleman's Grocery – 4215 Bull Island Rd. New Iberia, LA 70560**
- **Raceway #754 – 2435 North Parkerson Ave. Crowley, LA 70526**
- **On the Run #36 – 101 S. College Road Lafayette, LA 70503**
- **Birdies Paradise – 1524 Hwy. 44 Reserve, LA 70084**

On motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Monlezun, the following applicants applied for a permit but were unable to meet the requirements of the Commission, therefore, it was requested the application be withdrawn:

- **Campti Quick Stop – 3035 Hwy. 71 Campti, LA 71411**
- **Big Oak Construction – 3745 Choctaw Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70805**
- **Star Fuel Grocery LLC – 31564 Highway 15 Clayton, LA 71326**

4. Violations

- **A & B Tobacco – 2410 E. Napoleon Attn.: Bill Down Sulphur, LA 70663 Docket #2024002**

Did continue to engage in the L.P. Gas business without paying the required (Class 6X)) permit fee; thus violating R.S. 40:1849(A) of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended. On motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner R. Cleveland, the Commission imposed a \$250 fine.

- **Brothers Petroleum – 2439 Manhattan Blvd. Attn. Yolanda Graves Harvey, LA 70058 Docket #2024003**

Did continue to engage in the L.P. Gas business without paying the required (Class 6X)) permit fee; thus violating R.S. 40:1849(A) of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended. On motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Monlezun, the Commission imposed a \$250 fine.

- **Buck Stop – 2939 Hwy. 182 Attn. Wicky Wicky Sunset, LA 70584 Docket #2024004**

Did continue to engage in the L.P. Gas business without paying the required (Class 6X)) permit fee; thus violating R.S. 40:1849(A) of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended. On motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner R. Cleveland, the Commission imposed a \$250 fine.

5. Market Development business

- a. Chase bank reconciliation as of April 8, 2024: **\$491,565.58.**
- b. WWL TV – Channel 4
- c. Lamar Advertising
- d. Miss Louisiana sponsorship

Attorney Hessick informed the Commission that market development board will bring the contracts to the Office of Legal Affairs for review. The Office of Legal Affairs will draft a contract according to the requirements set by the Office of Procurement. He also stated additional justification was required before he could advise the Commission on moving forward with the contracts for WWL TV and Lamar Advertising. Commissioner Cleveland asked if it was okay to vote. According to Attorney Hessick, he planned to speak with Artie Cole who was not present at the moment. Randy Hayden was asked to approach the Commission to provide additional justifications since he attended previous market development meetings. Hayden provided an explanation of the market development advisory, funds, assessments, members and how the board is comprised. According to Hayden, the board met with 30 groups/organizations. WWL TV and Lamar Advertising was approved. WWL TV will provide social media engagement and streaming statewide. Lamar Advertising will provide vinyl and digital billboards. Lamar Advertising is working on sending the detailed information on the contract. Artie Cole approached the Commission. Chairman Cleveland verified in person meetings and attendance. Attorney Hessick asked Cole for an explanation of the WWL TV contract. According to Cole, the contract is to secure broadcasting and advertising for LPGA and LPGA by promoting propane as an alternative fuel source. Discussions continued about the goals, targets, and benefits of the WWL TV marketing campaign. Upon Executive Director Robin's recommendation, on motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Monlezun the \$25,000 WWL TV contract was approved. All agreed. Chairman Cleveland asked for an explanation of the benefits of Lamar Advertising. Hayden provided visuals of ads from Lamar Advertising with an explanation of the ads within several rural areas. Conversation continued about the vinyl and print boards. Cole provided a justification for contracting Lamar Advertising. On recommendation by Robin, a motion was made by Commissioner R. Cleveland seconded by Commissioner Thompson to approve the contract not to exceed \$100,000 for Lamar Advertising. All agreed. Due to the lack of necessary information in the Miss Louisiana contract, Attorney Hessick did not recommend moving forward with an approval. According to Hayden, a new contract was provided. Discussions continued about the Miss Louisiana sponsorship. Hayden reminded the Commission of the 12 years partnership with Miss Louisiana and the Commission. He also informed the Commission that the sponsorship amount had consistently been the same. Attorney Hessick would like to review the new contract again following the meeting before moving forward. Hayden mentioned the Event Coordinator contract. Attorney Hessick reviewed the contract from last year. Commissioner Cleveland would like the current contract reviewed. Questions about the Zurich Classic sponsorship amount was addressed. Previously the sponsorship was \$50,000. This year the sponsorship is \$30,000. According to Hayden, the difference in the amount was due to the complaints about the cost. The sponsorship was introduced because of John W. Alario. This year, Propane Education Research Council (PERC) paid the sponsorship. Hayden does not anticipate the sponsorship will be paid next year with PERC funds. Chairman Cleveland recommends reviewing contracts for next year ahead of time. Hayden informed the Commission of the pressure from other companies interested in working with the Commission. He mentioned the Special Olympics sponsorship and wanted the approval from the Commission to inform the Special Olympics that a partnership may be entered. Attorney Hessick suggested that all sponsorships be given to the Office of Legal Affairs. Hayden addressed the Event Coordinator contract again. According to him, the contract needs to be approved or he will direct companies to Robin. Hayden explained the role of the Event Coordinator. Attorney Hessick reminded Hayden that Robin's responsibility is to handle LPGA

business. Discussions about the Event Coordinator contract continued. Commissioner Monlezun inquired about Continuing Education Training. Hayden said he is working with Ralph Pool to coordinate the training.

6. **Office of Legal Affairs representative** – no comments-
7. **Open discussion by Chairman and/or Interim Executive Director** – no additional comments
8. **Tentative meeting date** – May 15, 2024 – Baton Rouge, LA
9. **LPGC Advisory Board** – no additional comments
10. **Industry Communication** – Randy Hayden – Statewide training paid with PERC funds to be held soon and everyone is invited. Alabama Propane Gas Association convention will be held in Pensacola, Florida.
11. **Adjournment** – *On motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner R. Cleveland, the meeting was adjourned. Motion carried.*