#### **AAPA Commissioner Seminar**

# Board - Management Relations A Critical Factor in Your Port's Success

PORTS of INDIANA Rich Cooper, CEO – Ray Arredondo, Commissioner *May 16, 2017* 



#### Today's Discussion

- A Little About Who We Are
- Our Governance and Management
- Building Board/Staff Relations
- How We Conduct Our Business
- Commissioners' DNA
- A Commissioner's Perspective





#### Direct Atlantic Ocean Route to Indiana



### Indiana's Unique Port System

- 3 ports, 2 waterways, 1 system
- 1 Lake Michigan port, 2 Ohio River ports
- Serving 3 different markets under a single centralized corporate leadership team
- Economic Impact of Indiana's Ports:
  - \$7.8 billion per year
  - 0 60,000 jobs



#### Ports of Indiana Locations

#### Burns Harbor

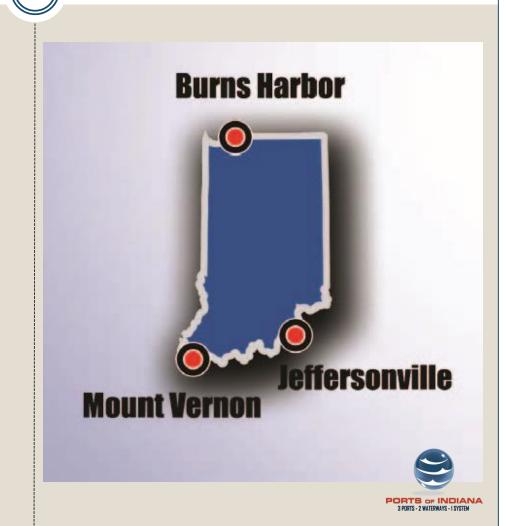
- Steel
- Project Cargo
- Limestone
- Ag Products

#### Jeffersonville

- Steel
- Ag Products

#### Mount Vernon

- Ag Products
- Ethanol
- Coal



## PORT OF INDIANA BURNS HARBOR













## **BP Expansion**

#### **Construction Statistics:**

- 800 modules and vessels
- 1,200 pieces of equipment
- 380 miles of pipe
- 50,000 tons of steel
- 1,325 miles of wire & cable (distance from Chicago to Santa Fe)
- 200 material deliveries / day
- 9,000+ workers on site at peak













**BP** Cargo





World's Largest Crawler Crane

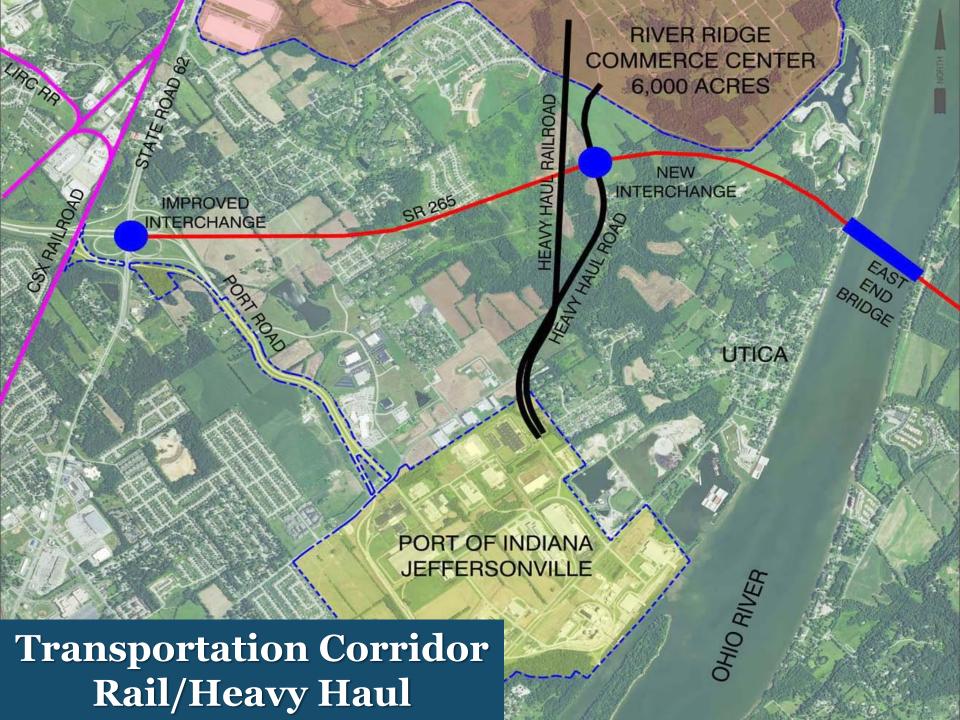












# PORT OF INDIANA MOUNT VERNON











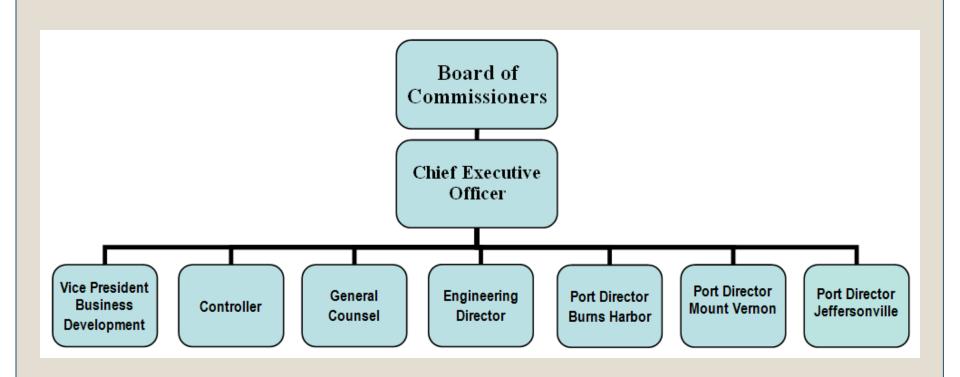


#### Port Staff

- No political appointees
- Board hires CEO; CEO hires staff
- All are business professionals from private sector
- 27 total employees at 3 ports and Indianapolis headquarters



#### Ports of Indiana Org Chart





#### **Board-Management Relations**

Successful Board-Management relations are built on:

- A. Trust
- **B.** Communication
- C. Clearly Defined Roles



#### It All Starts with Trust

- Trust is the foundation for Board/Management relationships
- Be clear on areas of responsibility
- Respect and honor those responsibilities
- Discipline from both sides that allow:
  - o Board that provides oversight, direction and establishes policy
  - Managers to manage the business



#### Communication

- Avoid misunderstandings
  - o Clearly communicate expectations early on
  - Invite feedback to ensure clear understanding
- Staff and Board must speak with one voice
- Think before choosing how to communicate
  - o Should I use email?
  - Should I use phone?
- Executive session discussions
- Staff handles <u>all</u> media communication



#### Clearly Defined Roles

#### Board's Role

- Establish policy
- Provide oversight and direction
- Provide input for and approve Strategic Plan

#### CEO's Role

- Management
- Administration
- Personnel
- Financial Results
- Public Relations
- Marketing
- Execute Strategic Plan



#### Act Like a Corporation

- Totally self-funded enterprise; non-dependent on state's general fund or taxpayer dollars
- Headquarters in Indy; operating units at 3 port sites
- Behave like the private sector
- Perceived as a business entity vs. political agency
- Do not act individually competing with each other;
   act corporately as a system of ports

#### Commissioners' DNA

- 1) Business professionals whose life experiences can benefit the organization
- 2) No personal or professional conflicts that could interfere with ports' best interests
- 3) Exceptional communicators (except with media)
- 4) Allows the Management Team to run the business
- 5) Provides constructive input for continual organizational improvement



#### A Commissioner's Perspective

- Board-Management Relations depend on:
  - An Effective CEO and skilled management team
  - Providing quality information to the Board
  - A Board that understands its responsibilities
    - ▼ Board governs and provides oversight
    - ★ Management team empowered to make day-to-day business decisions



#### Ports of Indiana Governance

- Created by state legislature in 1961 as "a body both corporate and politic"
- Governor appoints bipartisan board
  - o 7 commissioners
  - Serve staggered 4-year terms
  - Business professionals with diverse background
  - Behaves much like any private sector BOD



#### **Conducting Port Business**

- Commission meets six times per year
- Executive sessions precede public sessions
  - o Allowed to discuss leases, agreements, litigation, personnel
- At least one meeting per year in each port city
- Staff prepares briefing book for each meeting
  - Defines business that will be acted upon
  - Sent electronically one week in advance
  - Hard copies sent to Commissioners' homes



#### Expectations for CEO & Sr. Management

- Ability to build team and develop staff
- Effective communicator staff, board and stakeholders
- Develops quality proposals to attract new business
- Delegates effectively to optimize results and grow talent
- Bottom line driven
- Disciplined and willing to make hard decisions



#### Information Required for Board Decision Making

- Executive summary of operating results
- Margin contribution report by customers and cargo
- Capacity utilization report
- Cash flow statement
- Year end projections
- Balance sheet
- Receivables analysis



#### Board Member Responsibilities

- Make decisions quickly but not in a hurry
  - o Perform your due diligence and make your decision
  - Waiting too long could cause unnecessary harm
- Be team players and back your management team
  - Trust CEOs to do the job you hired them for
  - o Give assistance in areas of expertise when needed or asked
- Give best effort don't lean on others to carry load
- Never let personal self-interests trump what's best for the organization



#### Our Success Hinges On...

- Quality of our professional staff and board
- Staff and board's ability to work collaboratively to achieve our shared goals:
  - To develop and maintain a world-class port system that operates as an agile, strategically driven, self-funded enterprise dedicated to growing Indiana's economy
  - To become the premier inland port system in North America by creating a sustainable competitive advantage for our customers and the State of Indiana



# It's been our pleasure being with you here today.

RICH COOPER, CEO RAY ARREDONDO, COMMISSIONER

> INFORMATION: WWW.PORTSOFINDIANA.COM



