

# **AAPA Planning Research Working Group**

## **September 28, 2017**

### Meeting Minutes

#### **Attendees:**

Dr. Natacha Yacinthe, Port Everglades  
Greg Theisen, Port of Portland  
M. John Vickerman, Jr., Vickerman Associates  
John D. Pauling, CARDNO  
Capt. John G. Peterlin, III, Port of Galveston  
Shannon McLeod, WSP  
Karl Palsgaard, IHS Consulting  
Erik Stromberg, Lamar University  
Dr. Allison Yoh, Port of Long Beach  
Luis Aguilar, Port Everglades

#### **Goals:**

1. Research and develop best practices
2. Increase the awareness of the value of seaports

#### **Priorities:**

1. Access vessel trends, technology, types and sizes, fuel types for all commodities (focus of choice)  
Discussion around interest in this topic: power sources, clean operating technologies, fueling sources and providing that fuel in challenging locations, autonomous vessels, automation at terminals, general cargo technologies that are increasing efficiencies,
2. Accessing long term financing and capital funding for ports  
Discussion of the idea of financing, especially with what is going on in Washington DC, models that are out there, how can we participate. Facilitating public private partnerships, greater focus on the private sector. New methods of delivering projects. Folks are looking for leveraging to get projects off the ground. If the Feds are not financing, then how do you get projects off the ground?
3. Trends in Port governance (Port coordination)

#### **Additional discussion:**

Shannon McLeod – what will we do with a decision that we make? Undertake some individual research and put together a report or issue paper.

Dr. Natacha Yacinthe – Can Erik's university assist? TRB has a Port Automation subcommittee that Erik is chairing.

Capt. John Peterlin – strong interest in financing opportunities, thinking about grants and the like. Also support of vessel trends...

Dr. Allison Yoh– an international perspective of the fast-moving trends elsewhere and how US ports respond to these issues. How do you do the long range planning when technology is changing so rapidly and we are building infrastructure that is to serve for such a long time?

John Vickerman – dynamic environment. New orders on big ships are high. New fuels. Very big vessels, even in the near term, twice as large as the new vessels. These major orders are looking seriously at LNG fuels.

How do we break down the trends? Container, bulks, breakbulks, cruise, LNG vessels. New permits on the lower Mississippi for LNG vessels.

Any Lamar University research on vessel type? Erik – no, we have looked at more technical issues around LNG as use as a fuel, but not vessel size serving the LNG transport market.

With growth in vessel size, is there still two sides of the story, similar to aviation with A380s and 747s, vs smaller planes? Is there room for both, or a strategy for both? What are the transshipment trends based on the current vessel issues?

ASCE has looked at changes in vessel sizes, can we find that information? Erik – be conscious of potential collaboration with ASCE and TRB, the other research initiatives that are on-going. Natasha can take in information and put it up on our webpage – AAPA.

John Vickerman – look at old committee work where there may be some historic information that could be of interest to this group.

### **Next Steps:**

Dr. Natacha Yacinthe – to follow up to review historic information with AAPA archive files.

Erik Stromberg – also understand what the growth in technologies is leading us on the landside.

Dr. Natacha Yacinthe – to coordinate with Erik and J. Vickerman to review, package and transmit to the broader committee.

- Forward all research brief findings to Natacha
- She will package and forward to the rest of the group.

Look ahead to May 9&10, 2018 seminar for another meeting of this group.