

March 2021

#### **Board of Directors**

Francisco G. Santos Chairman

Nathan T. Taimanglo Vice Chairman

**Isa Marie C. Koki** *Board Secretary* 

**Dorothy P. Harris** *Board Member* 

#### **Port Management**

**Rory J. Respicio** *General Manager* 

Dominic G. Muna

Deputy General Manager, Operations

#### Luis R. Baza

Deputy General Manager, Administration & Finance



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## Notices

- Guam remains in PCOR 3
- \* Qualified residents to receive a third round of federal assistance
- \* Residents 16 years of age and old may receive the COVID-19 vaccine
- \* Governor hopes to vaccinate 80% of adult population by July
- \* Mandatory social distancing continues, frequent cleaning of surfaces, mandatory use of facial masks

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#### Hotel Wharf Construction Management Services Contract Awarded

Port General Manager Rory J. Respicio signed the contract for the Construction Management Services for the Rehabilitation of Hotel Warf and Highway 11 roadway reconstruction projects on March 15, 2021.

The contract was awarded to GHD Inc. through Port Request for Proposal Number 020-002. GHD Inc. will work with the Port's Planning, Procurement and Engineering Divisions to build the Invitation For Bid for the projects and to ensure that the Port meets all timelines and stays within budget.

The rehabilitation project is being funded through a \$10 million federal grant along with local port funds and work will include reinforcing the old wharf and building a security fence, installing lighting and constructing other surface work. Additional funds will be used to upgrade the access road on the Glass Breakwater leading to the wharf. The upgrades to Hotel Wharf will bring it into compliance with the U.S. Coast Guard criteria to regain certification as a designated waterfront facility and also will expand wharf capacity to alleviate any congestion at the main cargo terminal due to Guam being major a transshipment port for the region.

Respicio said the extensive rehabilitation of Hotel Wharf is a part of the Governor's vision and

commitment she made to the people of Guam.

"This extensive work being done is in line with Governor Lou Leon Guerrero's vision to create a cruise ship industry and offer other industries for our people," Respicio said. "This is a major milestone



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in our progress at the seaport to modernize our Port into a world-class facility."

No stranger to the Port Authority, GHD has previously done work as a subcontractor to Black Construction on projects under Phase 3 of the Port Modernization program. Completed in August 2015, this phase resulted in the completion of a 4.6-acre expanded container yard, 3.7-acre terminal gate complex and runway, installation of high mast lighting, 3-generator load center, 296,000-gallon water tank supporting the Port's fire and hazard suppression system, and oil and water separators. The cost of Phase III was \$27M funded through a grant from the US Department of Defense (DOD).



## Inoperable cranes will finally be removed from the Port docks

The demolition and removal of the old gantry cranes will soon begin now that the Port Authority of Guam Board of Directors has approved the project award.

At the March 25th meeting, the Board of Directors approved the award to Guam Industrial Services DBA Guam Shipyard for the Design/Demolition Bid for Demolition Removal and Proper Disposal of 5 Port Inoperable Cranes and Optional Removal/Proper Disposal of One Barge YFN 816 Along Wharf F-6.

"I want to thank all the divisions who are a part of this endeavor. It is a culmination of a lot of work and time to put the bid packet together and to also ensure that we are compliant with the procurement process," Port General Manager Rory J. Respicio said during the meeting. "This project will also help generate money for the Port as the space that will be freed up by the removal of all of this equipment will then be able to be utilized which will bring in wharfage and dockage fees."

Board Member Dorothy P. Harris commended Respicio and the agency divisions for their work on the project.

"It's been decades since we've been trying to disposed of these old equipment and by removing them, it will expand use of container yard as well as access to the container yard, waterfront area and especially F-6 which we have not been able to use for so long," Harris said. "This is wonderful news, thank you again everyone for all your hard work. "On December 31, 2020, a Multi-Step Invitation for Bid was issued and published soliciting qualified companies/firms to design a demolition and safety plan to properly remove and dispose of five (5) Port inoperable cranes and optional one (1) barge YFN 816. A prebid conference and site inspection was held on January 25, 2021. Only one company, the Guam Industrial Services DBA: Guam Shipyard, submitted a bid packet for the project.

The purpose of the project is to safely dismantle archaic, damaged, and inoperable assets by disassembling and cutting the cranes and equipment into manageable pieces that will eventually be shipped offsite to an approved disposal facility. As allowed in the procurement process, Guam Shipyard presented a power point presentation of their demolition plan to the evaluation committee and submitted a bid amount of \$2,573,155.00, inclusive of the demolition, removal and disposal of Gantry No. 2 and No. 3, one mobile harbor crane, two rubber tire gantry cranes and one barge YFN 816 at Wharf F-6. Funding for this project is 100% provided by the Port Authority of Guam.

The Port will now be requesting final review and approval from the PUC.







#### Navy Ship Juan Sebastian De Elcano Makes Visit to Port

The Spanish navy training ship Juan Sebastian De Elcano made a stop on Guam from February 26 to March 5, 2021 on its journey to retrace the first circumnavigation of the globe 500 years ago. The expedition took the training ship across the Atlantic to Argentina, through the Straits of Magellan, and across the Pacific Ocean, passing Guam and the Philippines on their way back to the Spanish port of Cádiz.

On March 6, 1521, Magellan arrived in Guam as part of the Spanish expedition he organized in an effort to find a sea route to the East Indies. From Guam the galleon headed to the Philippines where Magellan was killed in the Battle of Mactan. The voyage was completed by Spanish explorer Juan Sebastian Elcano, the ship's namesake, after the death of Magellan. The journey was completed in September 1522 with two of the original five ships and just 17 for the original 243 crew members who survived the expedition.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the sailors were not able to interact with locals or experience the island's beauty and hospitality. However, a small delegation sent by Spain's King Felipe VI - Navy Rear Admiral Santiago Barber Lopez, Navy



Captain Carlos Mate San Roman, and Dr. Maria Saavedra Inaraja flew into Guam to attend several events, including a historical tour of the island and several receptions in their honor.

Prior to its departure, the Elcano made a guick visit at Wharf F3 of the Port Authority for a commemorative ceremony in honor of the 500th Anniversary of Magellan-Juan Sebastian de Elcano Circumnavigation. Numerous island dignitaries were in attendance including Governor Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero who delivered the keynote address and Lt. Governor Joshua F. Tenorio who delivered the Closing Remarks. Spanish Navy Rear Admiral Santiago Barber Lopez also spoke at the ceremony.

Captain Santiago de Colsa Trueba, on board the Elcano ship, was presented with gifts of an Adze (ancient Chamorro tool), Conch shell (kulu) & replica of a proa. All members of the crew were also given a Guam gift bag with Chamorro chip cookies, guyaria and local souvenirs.

Before setting off to the Philippines, the Elanco sailed past the Umatac Bay as a symbolic gesture and remembrance of the historic ties of the Chamorro and Spanish people.



#### Senators from the PAG Oversight Committee Take Port Tour

Members of the Committee on Border Protection and Maritime Transportation took a tour of Port properties on March 10, 2021 to get a firsthand look at operations here at the Port Authority of Guam.

Speaker Therese M. Terlaje, Vice Speaker Tina Muna Barnes, Oversight Chairperson Senator Telena C. Nelson, Vice Chairperson Senator Mary C. Torres and Senator Amanda L. Shelton came to the Port for the visit which began with a boat tour from the Aqua World extending to Inner Apra Harbor giving the senators a waterfront view of the Port piers and shoreline properties.

"We extend our gratitude to the leadership and workforce of the Port Authority of Guam for their many sacrifices and perseverance during the pandemic. Their stable operations helped keep our community afloat during this difficult time and we applaud each and every Port employee's contribution," said Senator Nelson.

After the boat tour, Senators were taken to Container Freight Services warehouse where they the opportunity to meet all the Port Authority division heads who introduced themselves and gave a brief synopsis of the role and responsibilities of their section. This gave senators a clearer picture of the Port's overall mission and duties of handling cargo that arrives on the island.

Senator Torres said, "We were offered a glimpse of

the attention to detail and hard work that is necessary in the daily routine of the Port employees. The service they provide is truly essential for our people. As lawmakers, we must work together to provide them with the support they need to serve our island most safely and effectively."

Also part of the tour was a visit to High Tower where vessel planners are stationed and tasked with responsibility of monitoring operations to ensure that all billable cargo movement is captured through the use of the terminal operations systems and tracked for billing purposes.



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"Having visited the Port Authority of Guam and seen first-hand the hard-work and dedication of our PORT STRONG family, I am confident that this can allow Guam to be a regional transshipment hub for the Pacific. The hard-working men and women of the Port Authority of Guam take a lot of pride in their duties and responsibilities, and I am grateful that under the current management team, we CAN and WILL do right by our People of Guam," said Vice Speaker Barnes.

Thank you Senators for taking time out of your busy schedules to visit the Port. We look forward to working with all of Guam's lawmakers to advance the Port's initiatives and endeavors to modernize our facility.

#### **GM Testifies in Favor of Legislation**

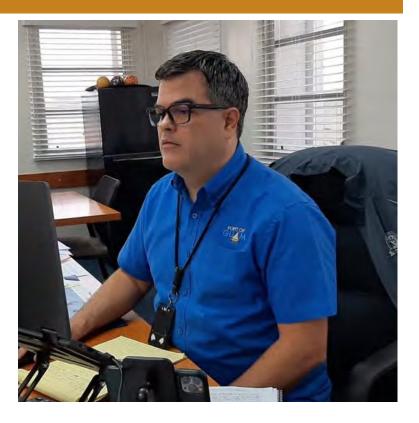
Port General Manager Rory J. Respicio testified on March 11, 2021 in favor of legislation that would extend the deadline for Guam Customs to develop a customs inspection facility.

Respicio said that on February 5, 2019 the Governor announced the new location.

"The Governor and Lt. Governor secured a \$1.6M federal grant from the Office of Economic Adjustment to update the Port's 2020 masterplan and included a feasibility study for the Customs Container Inspection Facility as part of the Port's 2020 masterplan update. This grant was awarded in September 2019," Respicio said.

Additionally, Respicio noted a stark improvement in the working relationship between the Port and Customs. "Our first directive was to ensure that Customs' officers have an all-access pass to go anywhere and everywhere to inspect cargo coming into the Port. We moved Customs into a much larger work area, more than doubling their administrative workspace, and provided them shared use of the vehicle washdown station as well as shared access to the Container Freight Station (CFS Building)."

Respicio said that the Port is also working with oversight chair Senator Telena Nelson and Vice Chairperson Senator Mary Torres to develop a security protocol providing concurrent jurisdiction between Port and Customs. This security protocol will expedite Customs' uniformed law enforcement personnel's clearance into Port's terminal yard.



#### **K9 Units perform Sniff Inspection**



Good doggies! Guam Customs officers and their dogs from the Drug Detector Dog Unit inspect vehicles inside the Port's Container Freight Station (CFS) warehouse. The vehicles arrived inside containers on the Matson vessel DANIEL K.INOUY on March 15, 2021. After arrival, Port stevedores devanned the containers and then the vehicles were scanned by the Customs Mobile X-Ray Van.



The vehicles were then brought to the CFS warehouse where the K9's conducted their sniff inspection. The Golden Retriever is named Biker and the handler is Customs Officer A. Artero. The Malinois is named Becky and the handler is Customs Officer J. Lujan. The Officer in Charge is Customs Officer III J. Pangilinan.

## Port Staff Attorney designated as Port SAAG

The Attorney General has appointed and designated Port Staff Attorney Christine Claveria as the Special Assistant Attorney General (SAAG) for the Port Authority of Guam to act as legal advisor during all phases of the procurement solicitation process, effective March 8, 2021. Whenever the Chief Procurement Officer or any head of an agency conducts any solicitation or procurement which is estimated to result in an award of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) or more, the SAAG shall act as legal advisor throughout the procurement process. In addition, the SAAG will determine not only correctness, but also the legality of the form when approving contracts.

"This designation is a major achievement for the Port. With upcoming projects and federal funds that need to be allocated, having our SAAG will definitely facilitate the procurement process," said General Manager Rory J. Respicio.



### **National Women's History Month at Port Authority of Guam**

Every year March is designated Women's History Month by Presidential proclamation. This year's theme is "Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to Be Silenced."

In honor of National Women's History Month here at the Port Authority of Guam we proudly share with you some of our amazing Port Strong women working in a traditionally male-dominated industry. May all women keep shining bright and shattering glass ceilings!

Featuring Marine Traffic Controller Jessica Quinata, Program Coordinator II Jacqueline Cruz, Cargo Checker Angela Yoshida, Cargo Checker Jasmine Santos, and Vessel Planner Janice Flores











#### First Pacific Islander Descends to the Challenger in the Marianas Trench



Port General Manager Rory J. Respicio greeted Nicole Yamase on her return from the deepest known point in the world's oceans on March 13, 2021 at the Port Authority of Guam. GM Respicio was joined dockside by University of Guam President Thomas W. Krise along with representatives from UOG Sea Grant and Guam EPSCoR.

Yamase, a native of Pohnpei in the Federated States of Micronesia and a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Hawaii, made history the week of March 8, 2021, as the first Pacific Islander to descend to the ocean's deepest known point, the Challenger Deep in the Mariana Trench. Yamase's voyage took place in the Limiting Factor, a commercial deep-submergence vehicle that holds the record for the deepest manned descent in the Challenger Deep. The full dive took 10 hours and reached 35,764 feet below sea level.

# Port Highlights



#### **HAPPY CGRM MONTH!**

The Port Authority of Guam joins the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) in recognizing Financial Affairs Controller Jose "Jojo" B. Guevara as the 2021 Guam Chapter Featured Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) of the Day for March 8, 2021 and Accountant II Amacris Legaspi as CGFM of the Day for March 18, 2021.

CGFM is a respected credential that recognizes the specialized knowledge and experience needed to be an effective government financial manager. Being a CGFM allows one to expand their career opportunities and distinguishes them from others in the same field.

Congratulations Jojo and Amy, keep up the good work. We're so proud of you!



## **Farewell Tribute to Rudy Q. Sanchez**

Employees gathered on March 5, 2021 to bid farewell to our co-worker and brother Rudy Q. Sanchez who passed away on February 10, 2021.

Prior to coming to the Port, Rudy was employed for 11 years with the private sector occupying various positions. In July 3, 2006, he joined the Port family as a Stevedore and enjoyed coming to work and the comradery he shared with fellow co-workers.

"We lost another good employee," said General Manager Rory J. Respicio who gave his condolences and sympathies to the family on behalf of the Port Strong Family. Rest in Peach Brother Rudy, we will miss you.







## **Photo Highlights**









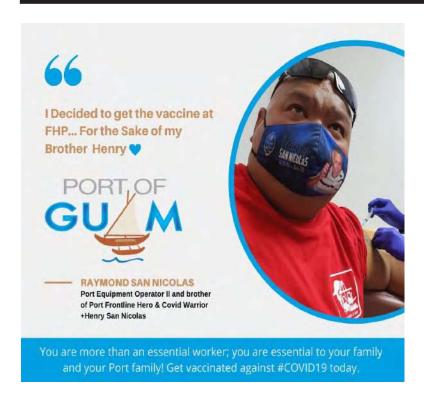
#### **WEEKEND WARIORS!**

Shout out to our Port's Facility Maintenance Division who were hard at work on Saturday morning, March 20, 2021, painting stairways, the parking lot and sidewalks.

"The only way to do great work is to love what you do." - Steve Jobs

Clockwise: Edwin San Nicolas, Jesse Mediola, Luis Diaz, Gilbert Amando, and John Tass.





# **April Birthdays**



Julie Aida Y. Siatan Rodney F. Akima Peterson F. Guerrero Masoud Khalaj-Teimoury Justin A. Candoleta Jared N.C. Perez Antonio C.P. Buenviaje Roy Jr. Flores Peter A. Salas
Rory J. Respicio
Jorge R. Javelosa
Joey Q. Aquiningoc
Joseph C. Tajalle
Arthur A. Naputi
Jerome Peter P. Guerrero
Loretta Lynn T. Topasna
Edward Q. Chargualaf
Gerard M. Duenas
Steven P. Muna
Joseph P. Cruz
Frank S.N. Cepeda David
John D. Untalan
Iremar C. Gutierrez

## **Photo Highlights**

## **Wash Rack Crew**

Facility Maintenance and Transportation crew Melchor Perez, Juan Yoshida, Ricky Garrido, Eric Balajadia, and Lester Van Meter man the wash down rack as Port vehicles drive through to get a thorough wash down. The wash rack, open 8:00am to 12:00pm on days when no vessel operations is taking place, can also be utilized for Customs and Quarantine vehicles.







# **High Tower & Harbor Master Upgrades**

Crew members from ProPacific Builder Corporation give a new coat of paint to Hightower and renovate the windows of Harbor Masters Office. ProPacific is also the contractor who painted the CMU wall along Route 11.



