



CHEROKEE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

GAR COMMITTEE REPORT FORM

Committee: Commercial Connection/Global Alliance Forum Meeting Date: Friday, September 11, 2015

Attended: Iva Rebecca Butler – Local Director filling in for State Director

Association Executive Report Submitted To: Karen Cunningham

Date: October 15, 2015

Item of Discussion:

Georgia Ports Authority - presented by Lee Beckman, Manager Governmental Affairs. Facts include the following:

- There are four (4) Ports in the State of Georgia: Savannah (Garden City Terminal), Columbus, Brunswick, and Bainbridge;
- The state economic impact is: 370,000 full and part-time jobs statewide. Each person entering must have a Federal ID to enter each facility. There are 1,000 to 1,100 employees every day that work at the Port of Savannah, this does not include truckers and contractors going in and out;
- The Port of Savannah is used for deployment of our military;
- The facility consists of 1200 acres and is the 4th largest container facility in the U.S.;
- The Port of Savannah - 49% export and 51% import;
- The west coast labor unions cost the west coast a lot of Port business because of strikes;
- Savannah is known as the “Gateway to America” and 20% of U.S. population and industry is best served by the Port of Savannah;
- The Port of Savannah is the western most Port on the east coast;
- Savannah is the easiest commute for truckers to get to I-95 which is only 5 to 6 miles away, unlike other Ports which take several hours to reach I-95;
- The Savannah River is 47’ at high tide and 42’ at low tide;
- There are 10,000 TEU’s (twenty foot (20’) equivalent unit) on a large shipment (these are big metal containers similar to a POD) – see attached pictures;
- Additionally, many ships cannot pass through the Panama Canal for it is shallow;

In conclusion to my report , there are ninety-three (93) police officers, thirty (30) service officers monitoring cameras, checking ID’s and working with the Department of Homeland Security. The Custom’s Department handles all of the check-ins.

Thoughts (Relevancy to CAOR):

We should all be very proud to live in the State of Georgia and educate consumers on the importance Georgia Ports have on the United States. Visit www.gaports.com for more information.

Signature

