

A beefed-up security system was approved at the December meeting of the City of Tulsa-Rogers County Port Authority. When completed, the system will have some 32 cameras "about double the present number" strategically placed at the entrances, along roads, terminal areas and the port's navigation channel. Some will have night-vision capability, others will be able to read vehicle tags and all will be connected in a wireless network with the present system upgraded, said David Yarbrough, deputy port director. It is not uncommon for port tenants from time to time to seek information captured on the cameras or the Oklahoma Highway Patrol to use the information following wrecks near the port's main gate at the intersection of Oklahoma Highways 167 and 266. The authority formally accepted a \$195,000 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, approved JTI Security to integrate the work at a not-to-exceed cost of \$50,000, purchase equipment at an estimated cost of \$212,000 and contract for an estimated \$6,000 in electrical work. Total cost was estimated at \$260,000. Anticipating that the Oklahoma Department of Transportation will need to modify Oklahoma Hwy 266 just north of the port's main entrance to provide turn lanes for a seven-acre truck stop, the authority approved seeking to contract with the department for a traffic study at an estimated cost of \$10,000. ASAP Energy, Inc. of Weatherford was granted a 15-year lease with lease with options for extensions on the site in September. Work on rehabilitating the port's main dock is about 60 percent complete at a cost of \$6.85 million, Yarbrough said. Three phases of the project which are fully paid for include demolition of the transit shed and rehabilitation of both the north and central section. Repairs and upgrading of the 200-ton overhead crane are nearly complete. Yarbrough said refurbishing the south section is well underway, while work on the dock's fender system has begun. The wood fenders, which were installed before the port was opened in 1971, have been removed with repairs to the surface along the 720-foot length of the work being made. Work should be completed in the spring. A decision on acquiring a second overhead crane will be

made later. Shippers moved 146,410 tons of cargo through the port on 88 barges during November. The traffic was less than the 170,751 tons and 100 barges that moved through the port in October and the 221,188 tons on 124 barges loaded and unloaded a year earlier. Outbound traffic totaled 111,216 tons on 63 barges. Agricultural products, particularly soybeans, accounted for 62,583 tons or 56 percent of the cargo moving downstream. There was also heavy activity at the low-water wharf with the loading and unloading of project cargo with more anticipated in January, the authority was told. Inbound traffic for the month amounted to 35,194 tons on 25 barges. During the first 11 months of the year, shipments through the port totaled 1.4 million tons on 852 barges compared with 2.16 million tons on 1,274 barges for the same period of 2014. November shipments through the port totaled 31 percent of the 472,847 tons moved along the Oklahoma portion of the Arkansas Waterway and 18 percent of the 819,103 tons carried along the entire two-state route.