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**Pivarnik Named Interim Executive Director**

**Port Townsend, WA** – This afternoon the Port of Port Townsend Commission appointed Jim Pivarnik as the Port’s Interim Executive Director for a one-year period. Mr. Pivarnik will report directly to the Commission and will begin his temporary full-time employment with the Port on September 18, 2018. Mr. Eric Toews will continue to serve as Acting Executive Director until then. In addition to assuming the regular responsibilities of a port executive director, Mr. Pivarnik will also assist the Commission in the process to retain a permanent executive director.

Port Commissioners agree that Mr. Pivarnik’s appointment to the position of Interim Executive Director will help the Port to maintain administrative continuity and advance its mission. Commission President Steve Tucker remarked that, “Some of the most important factors the Commissioners and staff need right now in an interim director is someone whose abilities and skills are already known, someone who has already established relationships with staff and in the community, and someone who knows the Port from the inside out...this will bring a sense of stability and ability to move forward with the work that needs to be done.” Pivarnik is looking forward to serving the Port and his community in this capacity, and the opportunity “...to implement the policies and direction provided by the Commission.”

**ABOUT PIVARNIK:** Pivarnik will return to the Port of Port Townsend where he most recently served as Deputy Director. Jim served the Port of Port Townsend from 2001 to 2016 when he left to accept the position of Executive Director for the Port of Kingston. Jim was born and raised in Cleveland, OH; he received his bachelor’s degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara; and was a commercial realtor in Oregon until he relocated to Port Townsend in 2001. He is currently the treasurer for the Washington Public Ports Association and the vice commodore for the Port Townsend Yacht Club. Jim and his wife, Christina, live in Port Townsend.

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