

## Public Comments received via email for the 2/9/2022 Commission Meeting

**From:** Chris Bakken

**Sent:** Thursday, January 27, 2022 6:56 PM

**To:** Pam Petranek; Carol Hasse; Pete Hanke

**Cc:** Eron Berg; Eric Toews; Jeremy Lala; Pat Shannon

**Subject:** Jefferson County's Moderate Risk Waste Facility & The Marine Trades

Commissioners Petranek, Hasse, & Hanke,

I learned that the 50 year lease for the Moderate Risk Waste Facility is to be terminated 1 June 2022, in year 27. I also understand that Jefferson County and the Port have since negotiated to extend that lease through 1 January 2025. In order to vacate the property per the lease term the service will cease early in the fall of 2024.

I was informed by Jerry Mingo the Facility Coordinator that a replacement facility is not likely to be in operation by that date. I learned that due to the expense of meeting design standards, and because capital improvements for all of County's garbage transfer stations and that these are in the planning stages. For those reasons, a replacement facility will be required to compliment the yet unsettled design of that future transfer station. That means the earliest possible opening for a replacement is not likely until 2027. At best there is a 3 year gap for those who depend on the service.

I can tell you that from to position of a small scale waste generator, SEA Marine depends on the services provided by the MRW facility. Up to 4 years ago we used a private provider for these services and were reasonably happy. They were then acquired by a larger entity that seems ill-equipped to provide the service an operation like ours require. Scheduling a pick might require a lead time of months. When we could get their service, often the equipment they arrived with was not suited to pick up what needed to be disposed of. The service when rendered was over 400% higher than what had been paid previously.

The importance of correctly handling wastes is not lost on SEA Marine, and we understand that there is a cost for that. Conversely a service not delivered, regardless of price, is a problem for everybody. As drums full of old engine oil and solvents stack up, we would run out of space on our containment racks to store these drums. When the only service provider on the peninsula would show up, they would not have the pumps required to empty our DOT drums and so we had to load the drums onto their trucks. They would not come prepared with replacement drums. Setting the anecdotes aside, it became difficult to dispose of these materials correctly and ethically.

I was introduced to the MRW in presentation that Jerry made to a group of trades people about 2 or 3 years ago. The MRW reliably and consistently allows us to safely dispose of our moderate risk materials. Jerry has provided us with advice and materials to see the that we can continue to do so. I would suspect that we are not the only trades organization the similarly depends on the services provided by the Moderate Risk Waste Facility.

I would encourage the Port to work with the County to see that these important services are available to the Marine Trades and others for the appropriate handling of these hazardous materials at least until there is a fully functioning replacement facility in place.

Thank you for your kind consideration and your service to the community.

**Chris Bakken**, General Manager



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**Sea Green Partners, LLC DBA SEA Marine LLC**

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From: Gwendolyn Tracy  
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 8:29 AM  
To: Pam Petranek; Carol Hasse; Pete Hanke  
Cc: Eron Berg; Eric Toews  
Subject: for your consideration, the Pledge of Allegiance

Dear Commissioners and Staff,

Please consider my concerns about the following two items coming up for your review and decision making process:

One, the timing of Port meetings; at least keep the current meeting schedule going forward, one after lunch, and the second in the evening.

Out of respect for the open public process, and your constituents who hold down jobs and are less able to make meetings held during business hours, continue to hold the regularly scheduled evening meetings.

Two, in regard to opening meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance; Please continue to do so! This great country and the generations that have served to protect our freedoms deserve the respect it stands for!! Current trends should not be reason enough to extinguish our history and the independence of spirit it represents.

Thank you for all you do to keep our Port a place for our people to work and excel.

All best wishes,  
Gwendolyn

Gwendolyn Tracy  
360 379-0661

**From:** Bill Curtsinger  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 3, 2022 4:11 PM  
**To:** Pete Hanke; Pam Petranek; Carol Hasse  
**Cc:** Eron Berg; Eric Toews; Sue Nelson  
**Subject:** Shifting Port Business Meeting Time

Dear Port Commissioners:

For the record I am opposed to shifting Port Business meetings from the 5:30 pm time slot to any time earlier in the day. Most members of the working waterfront and the general public cannot just stop what they are doing during their day job to attend a Port meeting.

For those of us who own a business in the Port or who work for any one of the marine trade businesses in the Port and who are not employed by a government entity like the Port do not have the luxury of just stopping work for their boss or their client and going off to a Port meeting during the day, and more often than not, waiting around through most of it for their particular issue to come up for discussion.

Shouldn't the commission be thinking about ways to make it easier for **their working waterfront constituents and members of the general public** who have a day job, to attend Port meetings, speak to issues or listen to Port discussions instead of making it more difficult and problematic?

I think this is a bad idea. Thank you.

Bill Curtsinger  
Sunrise Coffee Company, Ltd

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**From:** Diana Talley  
**Sent:** Monday, February 7, 2022 6:31 PM  
**To:** Al Cairns; Ashlyn Russell; Carol Hasse; Chris Bakken; Eric Toews; Eron Berg; Pam Petranek; Pete Hanke  
**Subject:** Late to the party

Greetings to you all,

I've just now heard the port is considering eliminating the MRW Service facility in the boat haven. I'm retired of course, but want to weigh in on my experience using the facility for so many years.

Our shop was an Envirostar boat shop, heck, was it 4 stars or 5? We took our responsibility as environmental stewards of our extremely toxic industry very seriously. And I was shocked at the cavalier abuse of waste management by customers and maritime trades. We implemented fierce educational practices with all of our associates and colleagues, training our community. Throughout it all the MRW facility and Jerry Mingo was invaluable.

All this is to say during my time there and I'll wager now too, there is a huge and constant need to handle large amounts of maritime toxic waste in our waterfront industrial community. Sadly, one could argue that moving this service outside the port will send a signal to users and abusers that it's not an

environmental priority of the Port of Port Townsend. I know it is a strong priority and part of the triple bottom line.

So please rethink doing away with this vital service located in the port, our industry and environment depends on it.

Thanks for your time,

diana talley  
Port Townsend

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**From:** joni blanchard

**Sent:** Sunday, February 6, 2022 9:54 AM

**To:** Eron Berg; Pam Petranek; Pete Hanke; Carol Hasse; [ptmta.news@gmail.com](mailto:ptmta.news@gmail.com)

**Subject:** HazMat Facility~

#### MODERATE WASTE FACILITY IN PORT

I just learned of the possible 3 year gap between losing our hazardous waste facility in the Port and the creation of a new place to use and was asked to give my thoughts about it.

That wouldn't be good. As a private citizen and as a trades worker, I've used that facility regularly over the course of the years. I know of quite a few private citizens and businesses of all sorts that regularly use that facility.

Losing a responsible means to dispose of hazardous waste would mean the Port's dumpsters and the County dump would receive the bulk of it. It's been difficult enough to train people to dispose responsibly of haz mat, but, many have learned and are responsible.

It'd be irresponsible of our County/City to not make sure there is a place for their citizens' toxic waste. Since many boatowners/workers of the Port (along with many businesses around town) particularly generate toxic waste, it'd be good to work with the City/County to keep SOMEPLACE available until a new facility can be built.

Could it temporarily be moved to the back 40 at Point Hudson or near the Maintenance Facility in the back at the Boat Haven?

~ Joni Blanchard

Dear Port of Port Townsend Commissioners,

The Port Townsend Marine Trades Association (PTMTA) has recently taken notes regarding the proposed meeting time changes from 5:30 pm to 1:00 or 4:00 pm for the Port Commission meeting at the end of every month.

- The *Opportunity* for the working public to attend a Port Commission meeting after their workday is a valued indication of the Port's commitment to *Transparency*.
  - Pre-Covid, thus Pre-Zoom-it-all, the commission building generally had a gallery of observers and public commenters, anywhere from 5 people to well over 100 people depending on the issues raised.
    - That opportunity to attend a meeting after work hours is a public service.
- Public meeting times fairly encompass varied hours (Port of PT: 9:30, 1:00 & 5:30) showing consideration for the convenience to the public.
  - Port Staff is on salary and already have after-hours meeting mitigations in effect. I.e., staff can leave early other days to offset longer days. "Staff inconvenience" as brought up at the January 26th meeting seems to be a mute point.
- Public meetings at times available to the working public = giving the *opportunity* to attend. There is no stipulation that counts heads to alter the importance of that opportunity.
  - It was noted on January 26th that there was only one member of the public attending that ZOOM meeting. The implication being, if the public, including the marine trades workforce, are not attending, why keep staff and commissioners in a meeting as late as 7:30PM, possibly delaying mealtime? A simple resolution: pre-meeting provisions or break-time once per month could sustain staff and commissioners.
- Audio after the fact is not a universally qualified replacement for the opportunity to attend a live meeting.
  - The post commission meeting audio rapidly available on the Port's website is valued and appreciated. We are listening. However, it does not replace the opportunity to attend a live meeting for at least one of the 3 monthly commission meetings.

In the spirit of **equitable governance**, it is the recommendation of the PTMTA, on behalf of the marine trades workforce, that at least one monthly commission meeting

time remain after work hours. Based on the public standard of 9:00 - 5:00 work days, and that PT is a small town with short travel times, that meeting time could be as early as 5:15 PM. The PTMTA worked with the Port to get the evening meeting established years ago and we stand by our belief in its relevance today.

We sincerely respect the time and energy of Port Staff and Commissioners and the role of public service you have embraced.

Thank you,  
PTMTA Board members

  
*Pete Langley, (Board Chair) & PT Foundry*

*Ashlyn Brown, (Board Vice Chair) & PT Watercraft*  
*Sarah Kolbeck, (Board Secretary) & PT Rigging & Spars*  
*Melanya Nordstrom, (Board Treasurer) & The PT Shipwrights Co-op*  
*Riley McMath, Ronin Marine*  
*Pat Mahon, Patrick Mahon Marine*  
*Peter Stein, Shipwright*  
*Jeremy Lala, Sea Marine*  
*Ian Weedman of Brion Toss Rigging*

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