

PORT COMMISSION REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING – Wednesday, April 24, 2024

The Port of Port Townsend Commission met for a regular business session at the Point Hudson Pavilion Building, 355 Hudson Street, Port Townsend, and also online via Zoom.

Present: Commissioners Petranek, Hasse, and Hanke
Executive Director Eron Berg
Director of Capital Projects and Port Engineer Matt Klontz
Harbormaster Kristian Ferrero
Port Recorder Joanna Sanders
Via Zoom: Attorney Seth Woolsen

I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Rec. 00:00:00)
Commissioner Hanke called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Rec. 00:00:37)
Removed from the agenda was Item B. Year to Date January 2024 Financial Report.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – GENERAL (Rec. 00:01:58)

Joni Blanchard provided written comments in support of the new slip transfer policy and in opposition to creating a formal committee in lieu of Port staff using the established criteria..

IV. CONSENT AGENDA (Rec. 00:07:33)

A. Approval of Workshop & Business Meeting Minutes from April 10, 2024

B. Approval & Ratification of Warrants

Warrant #068345 through #068347 and electronic payment in the total amount of \$140,023.95

Warrant #068348 in the amount of \$988,659.00

Warrant #068349 through #068409 in the amount of \$366,099.73

C. Approval of Pay Estimate #7, #9-#11 Wire to Orion Marine Construction for Point Hudson South Jetty Construction Work in 2023 for \$2,844,353.55

D. Approval of Pay Estimate #12-#15 Wire to Orion Marine Construction for Point Hudson South Jetty Construction Work in 2024 for \$2,163,949.42

Commissioner Petranek requested a more detailed overview of the Orion funding, which staff indicated was previously provided in a capital budget report from Matt Klontz, Director of Capital Projects and Port Engineer.

The Consent Agenda was approved as written.

V. SECOND READING - None

VI. FIRST READING - None

VII. REGULAR BUSINESS (Rec. 00:11:00)

A. Draft Rule: “Iconic Vessel” Exception to Moorage Transfer Limitations Rule

Executive Director Eron Berg gave the staff report on the proposed new rule allowing moorage transfer for a limited class of vessels.

During the discussion there were differing opinions about the need for and makeup of the committee as well as suggested modifications to the criteria. There was a preference for the term “heritage” versus “iconic” and a desire for criteria to include wooden boats or production boats or vessels built in Port Townsend or Jefferson County of classic design. It was noted that the Port of Victoria has a rule. Another suggested change was to decrease the time they would have been a moorage licensee from ten (10) years to five (5) years.

Upon consensus of the Commission on proposed revisions, including elimination of the committee, Staff agreed to return with a revised draft with a goal toward it becoming effective July 1.

B. Short Planning Process Update (Rec. 00:42:05)

Executive Director Eron Berg reported on the April 17 public open house, April 18 Farm Steering Committee to review community ideas, and then the planned May 15 meeting and

presentation of ideas. An extra Farm Steering Committee and farm tour will be held tomorrow for a more detailed look at the farm before providing input on a future vision. Another request was for the Port to do reed canary grass maintenance this year. A developing issue related to the creek and the associated wetland is that a wetland specialist has a different view of the amount of farmable acreage. Some feel roughly 80% of the acreage would be nonfarmable for conversion of the wetland and agriculture exempt under Section 404.

Commissioners asked about committee input so far as well as methods and whether federal assistance might be available for canary grass removal. It was mentioned that current farm managers have a lot of experience.

VIII. STAFF COMMENTS (Rec. 00:59:50)

Executive Director Eron Berg reported 49 copies of the Port history book were sold today and would be available at Admiral Ship Supply. He explained informational item Commitment to Job Creation associated with the Natural Resource Innovation Center. Recompete final submission is due tomorrow. There were a lot of preparations for today’s celebration.

Capital Projects Manager Dave Nakagawara reported that Raymond James Klontz was born last Friday, so he is reporting for Matt Klontz. He reported on progress on the Cupola building HVAC with Mayda Mechanical. The next Point Hudson building upgrade would be the duplex building. A building permit was submitted this week for the remainder of the Cupola Building work with anticipated occupancy by midsummer, freeing up the current moorage office for lease.

Harbormaster Kristian Ferrero reported on the successful event today.

IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (Rec. 01:04:51)

Commissioner Hasse reported on the following: admiration of today’s grand opening ceremony visioning; a free Marine Resources Committee class on May 10 (12-2) *Searching for Seaweed* at Point Hudson; suggestion that the Port advertise where the public can submit ideas on the Short Farm; her attendance at the April 19 Transportation conference; Climate Action Committee’s desire to report to the Port their greenhouse gas reduction goals; new electric vehicle charger in the community, electric vehicle additions, and electric vehicle charging station grants; current Jefferson Transit survey; Finn River incentives for employees to ride the bus or bike, May 18 is National Bike to Work day; Lon Zimmerman plans for bike shelters; report that water needs will be up 20% by 2050; and State is encouraging water reclamation.

Commissioner Petranek reported on Transportation Lab activities, including Dave Nakagawara’s attendance; she referenced two good books “Climate Uncertainty and Risk” and “Escaping the Housing Trap” by Charles Marohn, along with recommendation that he be invited as guest speaker again before the Intergovernmental Collaborative. Forest Shomer’s comment how welcoming the Port is for those desiring to contribute public comment.

Commissioner Hanke commented on the breakwater celebration and recognized how it was a reflection of the community, commissioners, staff, and all entities working together.

X. NEXT PUBLIC WORKSHOP & REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (Rec. 01:21:13)

Wednesday, May 8, 2024, Commission Workshop at 9:30 a.m. & Commission Business Meeting at 1:00 p.m., via Zoom and in Person

Wednesday, May 15-17, 2024, WPPA Spring Meeting, Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

XII. ADJOURNMENT (Rec. 01:22:23): meeting adjourned at 7.51 p.m., there being no further business before the Commission.

ATTEST:

Pamela A. Petranek
Pamela A. Petranek, Secretary

Peter W. Hanke
Peter W. Hanke, President

Carol L. Hasse
Carol L. Hasse, Vice President