

PORT COMMISSION REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING – Wednesday, June 25, 2025

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: Commissioner Hasse, Petranek and Hanke (virtually)
Executive Director Eron Berg
Deputy Director Eric Toews
Port Recorder Joanna Sanders
Via Zoom: Attorney Seth Woolsen

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

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Rec. 00:01:05)
There were no changes.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – GENERAL (Rec. 00:01:15)

Marshall Brennan for the PT Marine Trades Association spoke in favor of retaining the four-year Commission term.

Joni Blanchard provided written comment with concerns about promoting more tourism versus building a stronger local economy if the Port were to partner with American Cruise Lines on infrastructure improvements.

Mary Dilles, Ethan Cook, Kris Morris with advice of Dixie Llewellyn and Donna Frosthalm provided written comment with concerns about the Port's wetland report for the Boat Haven proposed stormwater development wetland/buffer impacts and mitigation.

Dixie Llewellyn provided written comment asking for a peer and environmental review of the wetland report prior to permit approval.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA (Rec. 00:07:11)

A. Approval of Business Meeting Minutes from June 11, 2025

B. Approval & Ratification of Warrants

Warrant #070355 through #070397 in the amount of \$299,422.84

Warrant #070398 in the amount of \$318.00

Warrant #070399 and #070401 and Electronic Payments in the total amount of \$144,434.73

Electronic debit in the amount of \$14,770.70

Electronic debts in the amounts of \$76.45 and \$5,839.71

Warrant #070096 in the amount of \$158.97 is void

C. Resolution 847-25 Authorizing Adoption of the 2024 Revision of the Jefferson County – City of Port Townsend Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan

D. Resolution 848-25 Authorizing Executive Director to Apply for Federal Economic Development Administration Disaster Supplemental Grant Funding to Support the Boat Haven Western Boat Yard Expansion Project to Retain Existing Jobs in the Marine Trades Economic Sector, Create New Job Opportunities, Improve the Port's Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery Capabilities, and Expressing the Port's Commitment to Providing Local Grant Matching Funds

Unanimous approval of the Consent Agenda as written with the removal of item D to regular business.

V. FIRST READING – None

VI. SECOND READING - None

VII. REGULAR BUSINESS (Rec. 00:02:05)

A. Port Hadlock Floating Dock Condition

Executive Director Eron Berg gave a report on the poor condition of the pilings supporting the floating dock and options for addressing the liability and safety concerns. He spoke to issues about unauthorized use of the dock by transient vessels and led a Commission discussion about the future for the Hadlock facility float and ramp.

The Commission valued continued public access to dock space and the ramp as community assets and suggested a community process to consider options. The Port, Northwest School of Wooden Boatbuilding, and Star Marine might partner to preserve access.

Executive Director Eron Berg recognized the need to prepare a cost estimate before further Commission discussion. Also discussed was the need for more research on cameras for dock monitoring.

- B. Resolution 848-25 Authorizing Executive Director to Apply for Federal Economic Development Administration Disaster Supplemental Grant Funding to Support the Boat Haven Western Boat Yard Expansion Project to Retain Existing Jobs in the Marine Trades Economic Sector, Create New Job Opportunities, Improve the Port's Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery Capabilities, and Expressing the Port's Commitment to Providing Local Grant Matching Funds

Commissioner questions arose around the Port's wetland report and the classification of the wetland as it relates to project permitting. Referenced were public comments and a statement from Lizzie Carp of Ecology and other wetland experts with differing opinions. The Commission sought to separate the issues distinguishing between a discussion of the wetlands from a decision on the resolution to seek funding for the expansion.

Executive Director Eron Berg clarified that the project for which there is disagreement on the wetland is the City's Sims Way stormwater project already submitted for permitting for the water conveyance and maintenance access road. The project for which the Port is seeking funding is the boatyard expansion and it would proceed after the wetland has already been filled and the mitigation addressed. He acknowledged the difference of opinion on the functions and values of the wetland.

Motion carried to approve Resolution 848-25 Authorizing Executive Director to Apply for Federal Economic Development Administration Disaster Supplemental Grant Funding to Support the Boat Haven Western Boat Yard Expansion Project to Retain Existing Jobs in the Marine Trades Economic Sector, Create New Job Opportunities, Improve the Port's Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery Capabilities, and Expressing the Port's Commitment to Providing Local Grant Matching Funds. Commissioner Hasse abstained.

VIII STAFF COMMENTS (Rec. 00:37:00) - None

IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (Rec. 00:38:41)

Commissioner Hasse met with Derek Firenze, who would like to meet with the Port offering a mobile testing unit through Thriving Earth Exchange using citizen scientists. She met with David Balliff of the EDC, and she looks forward to the Commission's further discussion about the EDC. As of today, the risk of fire is being increased prior to the July 4 holiday. The County preparedness day at Finn River is Saturday, June 28 from 9-4 p.m. Heather Dudley-Nollette is working to establish climate refuge centers and including them in hazard planning and emergency operations plans. Commissioner Hasse referenced and provided a copy of Jefferson Transit's Climate Action Plan and referenced their work on electric buses. Christy Kisler of the Climate Action Committee is heading up a food system resiliency team. It might be an opportunity for the Port to collaborate pertaining to the Short Farm.

Commissioner Hanke commented about the merit of the previous wetland discussion. He recognized Commissioner Hasse's participation in the ride, along with his son, on the Artemis. He believes there are possible options for electric ferries. There was interest in including an EDC discussion at the next Port workshop.

X. NEXT PUBLIC WORKSHOP & REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (Rec. 00:46:00)

Friday, June 27 at 2:30 p.m. potential quorum of Commission attending Sue Nelson's retirement party.

Wednesday, July 9 at 9:30 a.m. Workshop and at 1:00 p.m. Business Meeting at the Pavilion Building & via Zoom

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

XII. ADJOURNMENT (Rec. 00:48:00)

At 6:18 p.m., the meeting adjourned there being no further business before the Commission.

ATTEST:



Peter W. Hanke, Secretary



Carol L. Hasse, President



Pamela A. Petranek, Vice President