

PORT COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING – March 10, 2009

SPECIAL meeting of the Port of Port Townsend Commission at the Port Administration Office Conference Room, 375 Hudson Street, Port Townsend, WA 98368

Present: Commissioners – Beck, Collins, Thompson
Executive Director – Crockett
Deputy Director – Pivarnik
Senior Accountant/Recorder - Hawley

Excused: Auditor – Taylor

Excused: Attorney Harris

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.

II. Approval of Agenda:

**Commissioner Beck moved to approve the Agenda as presented.
Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

III. Public Comments (not related to Agenda)

None.

IV. Port Attorney Selection:

Mr. Crockett stated that the purpose of the Special meeting was to discuss and select Port Attorney services. He provided historical background on the topic reminding that the Commission had requested Staff to advertise for Requests for Proposals for Legal Services at the expiration of the contract with the law firm of Harris, Mericle and Wakayama on January 31, 2009. He informed of the details regarding the Request for Proposals received from interested law firms and provided details regarding the Port's selection process of five attorney candidates to interview. In conclusion, advised Mr. Crockett, staff recommended the Goodstein Law Group. He stated that one of the major reasons for recommending that particular law firm was that it employed a number of attorneys with expertise in the major areas of the Port's concerns: land use, environmental issues and airport issues to name just a few. They also had ample experience dealing with Port Districts, stated Mr. Crockett.

A thorough discussion between Staff and the Commission followed.

Commissioner Thompson moved to engage the Goodstein Law Firm as the Port of Port Townsend's General Counsel with contract details to be resolved.

Additional discussion followed regarding the details of how to transition between the Harris, Mericle and Wakayama Law Firm and the Goodstein Law Group.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

V. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 11, 2009 – Meeting at 1:00 PM, Workshop at 9:30 AM, in the Port Commission Chambers, 375 Hudson Street, Port Townsend, WA.

VI. Adjournment:

The Special Meeting adjourned at 9:26 AM there being no further business to come before the Commission.

Attest:

President

Secretary

Vice President