

MINUTES
WORKSHOP MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2007
PORT COMMISSION CHAMBERS

Chairman Don McDaniel called the Workshop Session to order and took roll call.

Commissioners present: Don McDaniel, Dan Hess, Jim Bergeron, Larry Pfund arrived during the meeting, and Bernie Bjork.

Staff present: Ron Larsen – interim director, Rita Fahrney – terminal & administrative services manager, Ken Smith – marina manager and Port Attorney, Heather Reynolds.

Others present: See attendance sheet.

Chairman McDaniel explained the process for today's meetings. The Workshop will be held in the commission chambers, open to the public, followed by an Executive Session in another meeting room. The Executive Session is closed to the public. A Special Meeting will then follow, to be held back in commission chambers and will be open to the public.

STAFF REPORTS.

Rita Fahrney briefed the commission on cruise activity, explaining Bruce Conner could not be available due to an upcoming operation. She reported on a meeting held with Quay Cruises and others recently. Conner is working on chartering a ship to embark in Astoria. 17 cruise ships are lined up for this year. Conner plans to attend the Seatrade Cruise Convention in Miami in March. The Lower Columbia Tourism Committee was thanked for support and providing funds to offset airfare to the convention. Marian Soderberg is congratulated for her assistance with the cruise ship volunteers. A poster for 2007 ship calls, including a calendar indicating dates is in the process of being completed. Rita also reported meeting with the Rose Festival to discuss their upcoming plans for this year's festival.

Ken Smith reported staff is finishing up the fire lane mandated for the fuel dock for the West Basin. The electrical contractor is online to wire up the fuel dock and new floats. Marina staff is slowly moving into the new offices. There are still some "bugs" to work out. At the East Basin from the railroad tracks to the causeway timber is being replaced. Some discussion followed on problems at the new building. The port is not paying rent on the new building until all concerns are addressed to the Port's satisfaction.

Ron Larsen reported on the following:

The vessel WOODBINE made a payment; however, it is insufficient to cover their arrears. Plans continue to have the vessel seized. It will be a 4-6 month period before sale. The Port will mandate that when the vessel sells it will be required to leave the Port facilities.

The dredge has been inspected by the Coast Guard and the leak has been repaired, The dredge will be scheduled to go to dry-dock after this year's dredging program is complete.

Update on Dredging – Hammond flow-lane is finished. The upland permit was not in order to dredge upland. Today Hammond received the documents necessary to continue, but do not have a permit to release the water. The Port will commence with upland to the degree possible. Dredging remaining at the Port will not be completed due to late receipt of permit, so we will request an extension from the regulatory agencies. He recapped the problems dealing within the agencies in contaminant level agreement. The Port has so far been unable to find a contractor available to dredge the Bornstein area. He explained how the upland dredging will be performed. Larsen reported the dredging problems are not just a lower river problem, but is being seen up and down the river and in other waterways.

Update of Airport Projects - Pacific View Windows building was burned by controlled fire so that space is being cleaned up for lease by WOW. Lektro has put in for an additional loan from OECD. Staff has the receipts for the work done at Lektro. Lektro's lease will be increased and extended to cover the additional funding. The T-Hangars are not going to get built this year. Larsen explained the problems encountered that have delayed the project. Some discussion followed.

Miscellaneous - There is piling work needed at the haul-out, the MSRC and other pile along pier two. Bergerson will do the work. Rita has been working with Coast Guard ships wanting to use our facilities. Rita reported three are scheduled. Staff will be working to find an alternate dock for the June and August calls. The Port has an open house February 15th from 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session.