

MINUTES
PORT OF ASTORIA
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 15, 2008
PORT COMMISSION CHAMBERS

Chairman Dan Hess called the regular meeting to order and took roll call.

Commissioners present: Dan Hess, Larry Pfund, Kathy Sanders, and Bill Hunsinger.

Staff present: Ron Larsen, Colleen Browne, Ken Smith, and Esther Jones. Leslie Palmeri was also at the meeting.

CHANGES TO AGENDA.

CONSIDER COMMISSION VACANCY Oath of office, 3c moved to April 17, 2008 to allow the new member time to review new requirements.

CONSIDER COMMISSION VACANCY

- a) Public comment:
Lori Durham of Astoria, Oregon. Applicant John Veenendaal best choice.
Chairman Hess called for other comments and Commissioner Hunsinger mentioned his appreciation to the applicants.
- b) Appointment of commission Member:
Chairman Hess requested board members to vote for their choice on the written ballot provided and to remember to sign. He also added his thanks to the people who had applied.
Acting Director Ron Larsen read the results of the ballots as follows:

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|------------------------|-----------------|
| Commissioner Sanders | John Veenendaal |
| Commissioner Hess | John Veenendaal |
| Commissioner Hunsinger | Chris Connaway |
| Commissioner Pfund | Chris Connaway |

Larsen announced no majority vote. The vote resulted in a tie. Discussion followed. Commissioner Hunsinger commented reasons he voted for Mr. Connaway. Hunsinger also added how Connaway had raised his family in the area and favored his honesty and desire. He also mentioned how well educated Mr. Connaway was. Connaway had also mentioned how he was prepared to continue with a campaign to run for the seat when the time came.

Commissioner Sanders mentioned although Mr. Connaway was a strong candidate, she felt the future board member would need to have a flexible schedule to attend the numerous meetings (committee assignments), some out of town, day or night. She chose John Veenendaal because he is an accomplished speaker, is knowledgeable in salmon issues, and believes he would represent the port well.

Commissioner Pfund added he liked both candidates. He liked Veenendaal's answer of being a good Commissioner first. He also mentioned that he understands people have jobs, and that should not stand in the way of being selected to serve on the board. Pfund commenting how tough the choice was for him and noted the good work ethics Connaway possessed. He also liked how that both candidates would plan to run again when the term ends.

Chairman Hess added he believed Veenendaal's involvement with the fishing industry could be helpful to the Port. Former Commissioner Bernie Bjork had strong expertise in the industry. Hess continued with reasons he'd voted for Mr. Veenendaal. Hunsinger added he also has expertise in

the area and would be willing to work on some of the responsibilities. Commissioner Sanders added interpersonal skills are extremely important. She liked Veenendaal's answers to questions on how the board members deal with issues that all do not agree on.

The second vote results are:

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|------------------------|-----------------|
| Commissioner Pfund | Chris Connaway |
| Commissioner Sanders | John Veenendaal |
| Commissioner Hess | John Veenendaal |
| Commissioner Hunsinger | Chris Connaway |

After reading the second tie vote, Larsen suggested the direction the board could go, breaking the deadlock by voting again or table the process and re-interview the candidates at another time. Commissioner Sanders thought the board should start the process over again. Larsen explained what would need to be done if we did so.

Commissioner Hunsinger made a motion to table the item. Commissioner Pfund seconded the motion. The ayes carried unanimously.

The second motion also made by Commissioner Hunsinger to re-interview the two candidates at Thursday's meeting. Commissioner Pfund seconded the motion and then rescinded his seconding of the motion in order to hear what options are suggested by the port's attorney. It was decided to hear the options at the meeting Thursday. Though, Hunsinger added he would like to keep his second motion on the table until the following morning when Larsen can brief the board after talking to counsel. Pfund let his seconding of the motion stand to re-interview the two candidates at Thursday's meeting at noon. Larsen agreed to have the attorney's answer tomorrow morning. After a brief discussion on the availability of the candidates, Commissioner Hunsinger made another motion to conduct the interviews at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion, changing the meeting time to 4:00 p.m. instead of 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES: Workshop meeting, February 15, 2008, Regular meeting, February 19, 2008, Workshop meeting March 4, 2008, and Workshop meeting March 11, 2008 minutes. Commissioner Hunsinger made the motion to approve the minutes mentioned above. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. The ayes carried.

VOUCHERS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2008. Chairman Hess called for an approval of the vouchers. After reviewing the vouchers, Commissioner Hunsinger called for questions. Commissioner Sanders moved to accept the vouchers and Commissioner Hunsinger seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION – TIM HILL, J&H BOATWORKS Tim Hill of J & H Boatworks gave the board a presentation of his plans to move his steel business, a subsidiary of their main business, Columbia Steel Supply, to the port. The process, which started two years ago with former deputy director Bill Cook and then Director of Operations, Ron Larsen has partnered with Oregon Manufacturers' Extension Partnership, who has helped with plant lay-out and organizational designs. A year ago they signed earnest money intent with the port. The move to be part of the Marine Service center in the boatyard is a big move for them. Currently, the business employs six, which will be upgraded when construction of an oyster dredge begins. Plans to begin digging could be this fall.

APPOINTMENT OF BUDGET OFFICER – RON LARSEN A budget officer at this point in time during the budget process, is appointed every year. Chairman Hess called for a motion to appoint Acting Director Ron Larsen as the budget officer this year. Commissioner Kathy Sanders

made a motion for the appointment. Commissioner Pfund seconded the motion. The vote carried unanimously.

BUDGET COMMITTEE VACANCIES – One vacancy in the committee is open to fill. One member will be retiring. Another member is unsure. Advertising for the space will probably have to be conducted. A possible vacancy of one to three members will need to be filled.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-03 - LETTER OF SUPPORT, NOAA RELOCATION The resolution supports the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) desire to move their Seattle operations to another location. The agency is considering an alternative location for their fleet of research vessels and offices. Acting Director Ron Larsen read the resolution.

Some discussion followed on areas the agency has looked over. Commissioner Sanders made a motion to approve the letter of support. Commissioner Pfund seconded the motion. The ayes carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-04 – AIRPORT MASTER PLAN The Astoria Regional Airport master plan was postponed for a later meeting to give members of the board a chance to review it in detail. The plan, a technical publication, is paid for by the Federal Aviation Administration (95%).

Commissioner Sanders suggested the members of the board take a tour of the airport and pinpoint the highlights of the plan. All agreed, especially for the new board members. It was also considered to wait until a permanent director is hired.

LETTER OF SUPPORT – TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT A letter of support for the Warrenton Trails Association's grant application to pave a 2.3 mile multi-use path and parking area along the Astoria Regional Airport dike on Youngs Bay.

Sara Shewell presented plans to the board of commissioners. Several months ago, she and Jim Scheller, chair of the association, advised the board of their plans for the 26-mile trail loop to connect cultural landmarks in Warrenton. They are at a point to put the final application together and send off next week. The letter of support supports the trail which has a total projects cost of \$482,884 and where the city of Warrenton together with the association matches the monies. The plan has all Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) endorsements.

The path is asphalt and is 10' wide with one foot gravel shoulders. Shewell and Larsen briefly showed the members of the board how the trail would be situated on the map in the room. Areas of the small communities will have the need to connect. Bicyclists are also able to use the trail.

Chairman Hess called for a motion to approve the letter of support. Commissioner Sanders made the motion to approve the letter. Commissioner Pfund seconded the motion. The vote carried unanimously.

CALENDAR

- A special meeting Thursday, April 17, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.
- The cruise ship Mercury returning next Tuesday and a week after that.
- The regular commission meeting will be in Seaside, Tuesday, May 27, 2008, 6:00 p.m. in the Seaside city council chambers on Broadway.

REPORTS: Commission

Commissioner Pfund:

- Attended a sub-committee for Columbia Solutions meeting on dredge spoils. One committee is scientific and the other is policy direction.

Commissioner Sanders:

- Attended a Clatsop Economic Development Resource Group (CEDR). The group is completing first round of interviews for the executive director, with the final interviews next week.
- Attended the NW Area Commission Transportation meeting in Tillamook, where they ranked the Connect II projects, where the port came in at number 1 and 2, with the repair of the face of Pier 2 and air service to the airport in Warrenton.
- Last Friday, the regional meeting where the Connect II grant. Twenty-four projects were ranked, where the port also came in at numbers 1 and 2.
- Oregon Public Ports Assn. meeting in Salem earlier in the month. A hand-out was passed out on the department's reorganization. A new state-wide ports plan has spaces on the committee available.

Commissioner Hunsinger:

- The commissioner took a month off attending meetings and went out in the community to see how people feel about port issues. He had recently attended several meeting in the last three months.

Chairman Hess reported:

- Discussed a report from former commissioner Jim Bergeron who works on Ocean Solutions group and marine issues. Marine reserves is a topic at the group when the meet.

Chairman Hess called for other public comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT. The following public comments are not verbatim but intended to reflect the substance of matters discussed.

Lori Durheim of Astoria: Asked if the board had public interviews set-up for the port manager? Commissioner Sanders answered that legally, we do not have to, since we had public comment on the criteria. The closing date is April 30th. The port will receive all the applications back. An open house is planned. No update on the number of applicants.

Sara Shewell of Warrenton: is organizing a clean-up on the Skipanon Peninsula with SOLV at NE King Street in Warrenton, May 17, 2008.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Commissioner Hunsinger brought up American Seafood's, catcher processors off the coast of Oregon. In his discussions with the company, he found interest in talking with the port and loading and unloading of product. He is asking the board's permission to represent the port in discussions with the company. The company is hoping to use the port again in some of their operations. Commissioner Sanders agreed as long as Acting Director Ron Larsen accompanies him. The other option, as Larsen mentioned, if there is further discussions needed, he would be willing to talk with representatives at that time.

Commissioner Pfund asked if the Joides Resolution, the scientific research ship will be returning to the port. Hunsinger agreed to speak to the company's representative and find out. More discussion followed on money the ship generates for the port and area hotels.

Other discussion followed on the dredging fine and violation attorneys. The hopes of whether the possibility of a fine reduction was revisited. The Area Wide Contamination project timelines and monies spent also was discussed. Meeting dates will have to be checked into.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.