

MINUTES  
PORT OF ASTORIA WORKSHOP  
JULY 11, 2006  
PORT COMMISSION CHAMBERS

Vice Chairman Glenn Taggart called the Workshop Session to order and took roll call.

Commissioners present: Jim Bergeron, Dan Hess, Larry Pfund, Glenn Taggart. Don McDaniel is excused.

Staff present: Peter Gearin, Rita Fahrney, Ron Larsen and Port Attorney, Heather Reynolds.

Others present: See attendance sign-in sheet.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Peter Gearin reported the following:

- The Port is close to final resolution on the health insurance benefits for this year, reimbursing employee deductibles will save \$36,000 - \$80,000 per year.
- A CREST employee has been hired to fill the Compliance Officer position. An intergovernmental agreement will be prepared. This program will save the Port \$30,000 per year.
- Jim Larson, the Port's dredge captain, has taken a position with Peter Kiewit Company. They are working on the Columbia River jetty project. Staff is negotiating with Mark Stillwell, a Port of Portland dredge employee who has worked for the Port of Astoria during our dredge season, to take over the dredge captain duties for our dredging season beginning in November. Hiring this person as a half-time employee will save an additional \$40,000 per year.
- Port staff is undergoing clean-up efforts. We have hired the Sheriff's work crew for a few days. For \$225 per day we are able to employ four people with their own equipment to do clean up, including mowing, washing, planting, etc.

Ron Larsen reported the following:

- The Airport Open House was very successful, with a B-17 and B-24 drawing a large crowd. Currently Gulf Stream jets from Georgia are in the area filming their aircraft for promotions. Commissioner Taggart stated he spoke with crew and others at the airport and they are very appreciative of the efforts of Ron Larsen and John Overholser.

- June had very good aircraft fuel sales, being second highest recorded. The self-service fueling is well received. He reported on specific sales to the Gulf Stream jets.
- Ford Motor Company will be renting pier one to store Ford vehicles while filming commercial shots.
- Additional T-hangar construction will be put on hold until the first part of next year while the Port continues to work through permit issues.

Ron Larsen introduced David Haugeberg, an attorney with Western Oregon Waste (WOW). WOW is negotiating with the Port to acquire the Ag-Bag building currently owned by the Taggarts and land at the airport to relocate their operation, including a transfer station. Larsen explained terms of the amendment include WOW leasing additional land at the current return on value, adding additional options to extend the lease from 2014 to include 20 more years. There are also wetlands in the area and the mitigation bank will be used. WOW will be requesting first right of refusal for an additional 5+ acres west of the Ag Bag building. Questions followed to Ron Larsen and David Haugeberg regarding the operation and transfer station. Peter Gearin commented the new water system in at the airport is attributed to the increased interest.

Peter Gearin reported further as follows:

- Noted the Port has received approval from the Coast Guard to move fence on pier one to supply additional parking needs.
- A developer is interested in the Red Lion. A proposal should be forthcoming within the next 3-4 weeks.
- Staff is having the vessel PACIFIC PRODUCER arrested. The vessel has been deemed worthless. There is a labor claim against the vessel owner for \$170,000. The Port plans to put a condition on the sale of the vessel that it must be moved. The WOODBINE recently paid in full their docking fees. In order to sell equipment on the vessel, the Port required the owners to pay dockage before allowing entrance onto the vessel to sell the equipment.
- ODOT is re-doing directional signs for port properties.
- He explained how an island is going to be made to direct traffic north of Englund Marine, using the propeller the Port acquired and having it put on a stand and polished.

Ken Smith reported the following:

- Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife is putting up a branding station for sea lions, towing a float to use to trap them for branding. He briefly explained the procedure. Rita Fahrney noted Robin Williams with Fish & Wildlife will give a presentation on the Sea Lion project at the Port's regular meeting next week.

- Fishing is slow. No Salmon currently and Sturgeon fishing is over. Tuna fleet has not yet arrived.
- Marina staff is trying to complete the West Basin docks. They have been very busy in the boat yard.

There being no further business the workshop session was adjourned.