

MINUTES
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2004
PORT OF ASTORIA COMMISSION CHAMBERS

Chairman Larry Pfund called the Regular Meeting to order and took roll call.

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

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

Others present: Jeff Nelson, Kate Ramsayer, Sylvia Davis, John Tomplin. Lylla Gaebel arrived during the meeting.

CHANGES TO AGENDA. Chairman Pfund called for changes to the agenda. Peter Gearin requested as addition to Item #9 on the agenda, Sale of Surplus Equipment be added. Gearin also advised County Commissioner Lylla Gaebel is scheduled to be at the meeting to discuss Agenda Item #8, Ballot Measure 34. She is held up in traffic. Commissioner McDaniel requested Commission Committee assignments be added for discussion.

MINUTES:

- (A) Workshop Session, July 13, 2004
- (B) Regular Meeting, July 20, 2004

Commissioner McDaniel moved to approve the minutes of the aforementioned meetings. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VOUCHERS FOR MONTH OF JULY 2004. Commissioner Taggart reported he has reviewed the vouchers for the month and moved for their approval. Commissioner Hess seconded the motion. Commissioner McDaniel noted one voucher had been paid twice. Staff has corrected the error. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT. Chairman Pfund called for public comment. None was received.

CONSENT AGENDA.

- (A) City of Astoria Dispatch Agreement

Commissioner Taggart moved to approve the Consent Agenda containing the City of Astoria Dispatch Agreement. Commissioner Hess seconded the motion. Commissioner McDaniel noted the wording appears outdated, using "teletype" as a communication measure. Commissioner Taggart's motion carried unanimously.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT – ILWU/PORT OF ASTORIA. Peter Gearin explained negotiations with the union have been completed. Noteworthy is the addition of three new positions in the Marine Service/Marina department not previously part of the bargaining unit. The new positions are paid at a lower rate as they will have less qualifications than existing positions and will be working as assistants to the highly skilled staff in place. Additional change to the labor agreement is that lay-offs will now be on a "seniority only" basis. Pay rates were increased 2% this year and will be increased 4% the next year, with the final year being subject to negotiation. Gearin reported the Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement has been reviewed and approved by a special labor attorney. He requested the commission ratify approval of the agreement as submitted. Commissioner Hess moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

DREDGE EQUIPMENT PURCHASE/LOAN. Peter Gearin called on Jim Larson, the Port's Dredge Captain, to discuss dredging needs and ways to improve the capacity. Jim Larson explained there are two major components to address; the size of dredge pipe and software available that will show results of the dredging efforts. He has consulted with Thomas Turner, who is knowledgeable on the subject. They ran dredge scenarios and found with larger pipe the production rate will double from the current 360 yards per hour to approximately 700 yards. This is increasing the pipe from 14" to 18". The dredge has adequate horsepower to support the production. Discussion followed.

Jim Larson explained the Port currently performs soundings of the piers manually, using a cord with a lead weight. He introduced John Tamplin, the President of SeaFloor Systems who presented a software package capable of processing information needed to accurately sound and produce on-line results and a post-dredge survey. Mr. Tamplin presented information on how the package works to sound the areas, calibrating equipment, collecting raw data needed, processing the data needed, creating a GPS mapping system that allows the operator to visually monitor real time performance and provide post-dredge surveys.

Peter Gearin explained the funding source would come from the SDAO Flexlease Program with a five-year loan. \$93,000 was set aside in the budget. The actual cost for the equipment upgrade is \$101,950. Labor savings annually and additional time for outside contracts will assist in the repayment of the loan. Additionally, he explained funds may be made available through the Channel

Improvement Grant for match funds needed. Discussion followed on the cost of the software program and how it will operate. Chairman Pfund commented this is a positive step forward, especially with the enhanced capacity of the dredge – adding this is good news and money well spent. Commissioner McDaniel moved to authorize purchase of the dredge equipment. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Taggart moved to approve application for a loan through SDAO to fund the dredge equipment upgrades. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EQUIPMENT PURCHASES AND SALES. Peter Gearin reported the Port has purchased two new (used) vehicles and a dump truck. Additional equipment is needed including a tilt-bed utility trailer to transport the tracked backhoe, a pick-up for the marina and either a boom extension for the hydro crane or attachment for the travel lift for lifting masts. Staff is requesting authorization to sell surplus equipment not being used. He clarified the fisherman's crane is the 500# crane, not the 7.5 ton Pettibone. The surplus cat is an International TD 25. Selling of the excess equipment will provide funding for additional equipment needs. Commissioner Taggart moved to authorize sale of surplus equipment. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

BALLOT MEASURE 34. Lylla Gaebel, Clatsop County Commissioner, was introduced to present information on Ballot Measure #34 regarding management of the Tillamook and Clatsop State forests. Ms. Gaebel explained the history of the Tillamook and Clatsop State forests and how they became deeded to the State. Part of the timber revenues go to the State and part goes to the counties. The Forest Management Plan was formed seven years ago requiring managing the forest to maximize permanent value through mixed uses. Passage of Measure #34 would require managing state forests balancing, as equally beneficial, conservation/preservation and timber production; managing the Tillamook and Clatsop forest half for restoration and half for production. Gaebel explained the financial impact under the new plan means no timber money to the County or to the Port for a period of time. Schools will receive funds first. It is thought it will take three years to implement the measure, meaning no cutting or timber revenue forthcoming for three years. As an elected official in the County where the impact of this measure will make a major difference on whether the County can provide certain services, she stated it is appropriate to take a position. Gaebel reported the County Commission voted 3-2 to oppose the measure and she briefly commented on positions of the commission members who did not vote to oppose the measure.

Discussion followed on the potential financial impact of the ballot measure. Port Attorney, Heather Reynolds, arrived. She explained the Oregon statutes

pertaining to public employees not taking positions or advocating for or against ballot measures, including performing tasks during work hours to support or oppose an issue. Elected officials are allowed to adopt positions on ballot measures. Lylla Gaebel noted the County used a prepared resolution adopted by Tillamook County commissioners, amending it to reflect Clatsop County commission position. Commissioner McDaniel agreed the Tillamook County resolution, also used by Clatsop County, would work for the Port of Astoria Commission. He moved to adopt the resolution used by the Clatsop County Commission, opposing Ballot Measure #34, amending it to reflect the Port of Astoria Commission position. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

GRANT OFFER, ASTORIA REGIONAL AIRPORT – MASTER PLAN. Ron Larsen reported this is a grant offer from the FAA to update the Astoria Regional Airport Master Plan and Airport Layout Plan, which was last updated in 1993. The offer is 95% grant with Port of Astoria providing a 5% match. \$125,465 will be funded through the grant. The Port match will be \$6,604. Staff requests authorization to accept the FAA Grant offer. Commissioner McDaniel moved to authorize acceptance of the FAA grant offer for updating the Astoria Regional Airport Master Plan and the Airport Layout Plan. Commissioner Hess seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CALENDAR SCHEDULE. Peter Gearin advised a meeting put together by the Department of Agriculture and Agriculture Ocean Transportation Coalition (Columbia River Vessel/Barge Service Summit) will be held August 26th at the World Trade Center in Portland. The Summit will be to discuss options with ports, shippers and barge operators to recruit additional direct vessel service and the establishment of possible feeder service between the Columbia River to other West Coast ports. Commissioner Hess and Chairman Pfund stated they would be interested in attending. Bill Cook noted Peter Friedman will be the moderator. Commissioner Taggart reported the Knights of Columbus Salmon Derby will be held August 28th and that he has additional information for any interested. Commissioner Bergeron advised the Near Shore Columbia River Group will meet on September 21st. Ron Larsen reported the Astoria Regional Airport Air-Fair is September 25th. There is a group called the Astoria Air-Fair Association raising funds for the Air-Fair.

REPORTS.

Finance. Peter Gearin reported preliminary year-end figures are included in the packet. He will reserve discussion on them until completion of the audit. Payables are high due to utility re-locations.

COMMISSION.

Commissioner Bergeron reported at a meeting of the South Jetty Group it was brought out that the Corps of Engineers are not willing to do anything soon to address the South Jetty needs. The fishermen are upset with this news. He also advised the Oregon Ocean Policy Committee is proceeding with confirmation of appointments. He provided a brief history on the Committee and discussed some of the issues of contention.

Commissioner McDaniel also attended the South Jetty meeting. He participated in the Regatta reception for the USS DULUTH. The Captain presented the port with a plaque and he presented a mug and book to the Captain. He will attend a reception Saturday on the ship and will participate in the parade.

Chairman Pfund will also be in the parade. He attended the press event for the boat lift on pier three, noting it was great to see the progress. Some discussion followed on painting options at the boat yard given wind conditions.

OTHER BUSINESS. Chairman Pfund called for other business. Commissioner McDaniel recommended a discussion be held on committee assignments. He distributed a previous list for updating purposes. Chairman Pfund asked the members to update their participation on committees and set Committee Assignments as an agenda meeting for next month.

There was brief discussion on news that AG-BAG would be going out of business. The Port owns the land on which their building is.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.