

MINUTES  
WORKSHOP SESSION  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2004  
PORT COMMISSION CHAMBERS

Chairman Larry Pfund called the meeting to order and took roll call.  
Commissioners present: Dan Hess, Larry Pfund, Don McDaniel, Glenn Taggart,  
and Jim Bergeron.

Staff present: Peter Gearin, Bill Cook, Esther Jones, and Port Attorney Heather Reynolds. Additional people present were Kate Ramsayer, reporter for the Daily Astorian, and Jeff Nelson, reporter for KAST radio station.

STAFF REPORTS:

Bill Cook began the meeting reporting that 23 lifts at the Marine Service Center's haul-out have been successful. The maximum lift was the Charlotte B, 80 tons. In order to keep cars out of the south end of the yard, gates and fencing at the south end of the yard have been installed. Staff is working on hours for the yard and written policy and procedures. Wiring for power enabling clients to work on their boats stored at the facility is being worked on. The work structure (cover) is close to being done.

Peter Gearin also noted that funding is being accelerated for a wash down facility near the haul-out at the Pier 3 yard. The sale of the crane would certainly help.

Big River Excavation has been awarded the contract for an additional boat ramp at the East Mooring Basin; construction is scheduled to begin November 1, 2004. It would mean easier access for users of the facility, though, traffic at that end of town could be worse than it is now. Also under consideration is installation of an additional boat ramp on the west end, easing congestion at the ramps at the East End Mooring Basin. Some discussion followed on being able to impose fees for the use of this ramp by the public.

The design for part of the expansion of the West Mooring Basin, including new floats and the relocation of the fuel dock is final. Authorization was not allowed to place rock at certain levels of the breakwater.

Also in the works are plans for new marina offices with restrooms, additional showers, with a recreation area on Pier 1.

The visit of the Silver Shadow on Monday went very well. It was the inaugural visit for the SilverSeas cruise ship. Vendors participating with the Never on Sunday Market were ready, though rain caused an early departure.

September 27, 2004 will be pretty busy with three cruise ships visiting Astoria. The Zaandam, the Amsterdam, and the Norwegian Sun are expected to bring as many as 6,000 passengers and crew to Astoria.

Fourteen ships are in the current list to visit next year. You never know what can happen between now and then; surely Bill, the port's security department and the many volunteers will be ready when that time comes.

Discussion was directed to the Bornstein's Seafood Processing Plant. The Port of Astoria is reviewing four proposals from geo tech engineers. Plans are for the plant to be operable December 5, 2005.

Construction of the bulkhead not yet to be determined; awaiting the engineers completion. Integrating the two is expected.

On the topic of cold storage, Peter Gearin reported that we are waiting for the approval from the state for funds to pay for the study from a consultant. Demand and costs are issues that need study. Small bulk carriers are more desirable for this area. We have not heard back from the state on dredging involved.

A decision from Oregon Economic Development Department is still pending on the Lektro project at the airport.

Some discussion followed about Pier 1 fencing and security camera project. Estimated amount of funding available for fencing to date: \$80,624. There will be five gated areas, a permanent restricted zone, and the controlled zone. When there are no ships in, the west and east side of P1 will be open to public access. Concern was mentioned on the placement and access with the plans for the marina. Bill described to all exactly what was planned with the different areas in the drawing.

The Captain of the Port and the Coast Guard has worked with the port to approve, or "customize" our plan and get it working. The restricted zones are not a "full time" status with the facility.

The elk at the airport was discussed for a short while. Six elk were found on the property. Staff believed that the elk are getting over the cattle guards and cows are obviously having calves, thus multiplying.

Commissioner Bergeron did a brief report on the Columbia Solutions committee and it's problems currently. Some of the problems addressed, was the length of time it takes to get approvals to as simple as "getting things done". The group

was formed of people from Astoria and Portland to try and solve issues with the Columbia River. Lengthy reports are not favored by the Corps of Engineers. A discussion followed by all with other issues currently at the table. Dredge spoils is one area needing to be solved. Some members thinking about getting out, but are willing to see how things go.

After discussing the Columbia Solutions with all, the workshop meeting was closed at 5:00 p.m.