

**MINUTES  
PORT OF ASTORIA SPECIAL MEETING  
MARCH 8, 2011  
PORT COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

Chairman Floyd Holcom called to order the Special Meeting. Roll call was taken.

Commissioners present: Floyd Holcom, Dan Hess, Larry Pfund, Bill Hunsinger and Jack Bland.

Staff present: Executive Director Jack Crider, Deputy Director Herb Florer and Terminal/Administrative Services Manager Rita Fahrney. Also present: Director of Marketing, Bruce Conner.

**CHANGES/ADDITIONS.**

Chairman Holcom called for any changes or additions to the agenda. Commissioner Hunsinger requested addition of item for Security Issues.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Chairman Holcom called for public comment. None was given.

**RED LION SETTLEMENT.**

Executive Director Jack Crider announced there is no action on this agenda item at this time.

**SEAPORT AIRLINES TERMINATION**

Director Crider reported the Port of Astoria has received a letter from Seaport officials that the air service will terminate on March 12, 2011. He requested authorization to sign. The City of Newport has signed their letter. The subsidy is gone. Discussion followed on the Voucher Program. Bruce Conner reported Astoria flights totaled 5,400 ticket sales. In just six weeks, the Port of Astoria was able to sell just under a 1,000. Recommendations for more daily flights and a Seattle option were discussed. Commissioner Bland recommended forming a group to summarize air service from Astoria and plans to return air service to Astoria. Chairman Holcom and Commissioner Pfund voiced concurrence. Chairman Holcom thanked Bruce Conner for his efforts. *Commissioner Bland moved to authorize Director Crider to sign the letter. Commissioner Hess seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**OSU SEAFOOD LAB**

Director Crider reported the history for the OSU Seafood Lab is now known. The reversionary clause giving ownership back to the Port has hit a dead-end with negotiations with OSU. The Port financed a bond for the OSU building. Commissioners voiced agreement to direct staff to pursue legal recommendations on OSU Seafood Lab.

**SECURITY ISSUES**

Commissioner Hunsinger noted for many years the Port had two full-time and one part-time security officers. There is now only one full-time responsible for patrolling two marinas, boatyard, piers, airport

and Tongue Point. It has been brought up by Tongue Point tenants that there is a the need for security presence. He questioned continuing to hire temporary positions. There are 40 ships scheduled in this year. Additional security needs to be addressed. Discussion followed. Chairman Holcom brought up the idea for fire protection detail and enhancing security to serve dual purposes. The need for a fireboat to serve the waterfront still exists. Director Crider acknowledged their concerns and plans are to add another full-time position and a security office at Tongue Point. Crider also provided an update on fireboat issues – becoming a boondoggle between Vancouver and Portland, with Astoria possibly in line to receive a new or “hand-me-down”. FEMA hired a consultant to determine the best use of funds. Chairman Holcom thought a staff report on security staffing issues should be prepared for commission review. Commissioner Hess disagreed stating it is close to micro managing when board members tell the Executive Director what staffing is needed. Commissioner Pfund appreciated the information presented by Director Crider and Commissioner Hunsinger. No action taken.

### **WEST BAY LEASE**

Executive Director Jack Crider reported the West Bay lease has been reviewed previously and Property Manager Jessica Long has been re-working the apron numbers. Basing the apron rates on \$.10/sf would rate the lease rate to \$12,277.50 a 26% increase. Dana Ferguson, representing West Bay, stated 26% of quotas have been lost to shore-side processors. The 26% increase is excessive. The plant was built for the Sardine fisheries. Last year the season was 16 days. Crider explained staff has been working to clear up all the past amendments to make one new master lease. Commissioner Hunsinger stated he approves the lease with the exception of the apron rate; however, he acknowledge due diligence has been done.

### **BOATYARD STORAGE RATES**

Deputy Director Herb Florer reported Boatyard Manager Steve Barkemeyer has been reviewing boatyard storage rates and comparing them to other yards. He reports our rates remain competitive with other yards. He recommends increases to the following:

- Indoor work area: \$75.00/day; \$350.00/week; \$900.00/month
- Gear Storage: \$0.10/square foot/month.

*Commissioner Bland moved to approve the increases. Commissioner Hunsinger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

### **MARINA RATES**

Administrative Services Manager Rita Fahrney confirmed the Port of Astoria has an Ordinance on record authorizing the commissioners to set rates for docking fees. Deputy Director Herb Florer reported Marina Manager Janice Burk is recommending a fee be set for boat trailer parking and long-term vehicle parking fees. The marina staff advises in the past few years, more trailers are being left in the basin parking lot on long-term basis. There is very limited parking for their guests during busy fishing seasons. Chairman Holcom recommended not changing marina moorage rates until the Regular meeting to allow for any public comment. *Commissioner Pfund moved to approve the boat trailer and long-term vehicle parking fees. Commissioner Bland provided the second. The motion carried unanimously.*

### **DSL POLLUTION INSURANCE**

Executive Director Jack Crider reported Torte claim limits were increase in the last legislative session, which increases liability costs to government agencies. The cost for the Port to satisfy the conditions of Washington Group for Tongue Point is \$18,000/year. The Torte claim only protects the Port if sued. He is continuing to compile information on the effect of this on other leases coming up for renewal. Chairman Holcom set this item over for further discussion at the Regular meeting and directed Crider to contact our Representative for more information.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None was heard.

### **COMMISSION ISSUES**

Commissioner Hunsinger stated he has expressed his issues. He advised he needs to pay close attention to what goes on at the Port he represents.

Commissioner Bland was welcomed back following his recovery.

Chairman Holcom requested a pre-agenda be prepared early for commissioners to review and add to if needed.

There being no further business, the Special Meeting was adjourned.



Port of Astoria

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PORT OF ASTORIA

COMMISSION

MEETING ATTENDANCE SHEET

DATE: 3/8/11

NAME

PRINTED NAME

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