

PORT OF NEWPORT MINUTES

June 28, 2021

Regular Commission Meeting

This is not an exact transcript. The audio of the session is available on the Port’s website.

This was an in-person meeting subject to congregant limits. The meeting was live streamed our YouTube Channel, Port of Newport Meetings Audio. Members of the public could submit written comments in advance through a form on our website.

Agenda Item

**Audio
Time**

I. CALL TO ORDER

0:00

Commission President Jim Burke called the Regular Commission Meeting of the Port of Newport Board of Commissioners to order at 8:18 pm at the City of Newport Council Chambers, Newport City Hall, 169 SW Coast Highway, Newport, OR 97365.

Commissioners Present: Walter Chuck, Secretary/Treasurer (Pos. #1); Kelley Retherford (Pos. #2); Gil Sylvia, Vice President (Pos. #3); Jeff Lackey (Pos. #4); and Jim Burke, President (Pos. #5).

Management and Staff: Paula J. Miranda, General Manager; Aaron Bretz, Director of Operations; and Karen Hewitt, Administrative Supervisor.

Members of the Public and Media: None in attendance.

II. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

0:25

There were no changes to the agenda.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

0:29

No public comment was submitted.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR.....

0:32

- A. Minutes 2021
- 1. Budget Hearing & Regular Commission Meeting May 25
- B. Financial Reports
- C. Contract Extension for Alliance Engineers – PD 5 & 3 Electrical

A motion was made by Lackey and seconded by Chuck to approve the Consent Calendar as written. The motion passed 5 – 0.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Items Removed from Consent Calendar

No items were removed from the Consent Calendar.

- B. Accounts Paid

0:48

A motion was made by Chuck and seconded by Sylvia to approve the Accounts Paid. The motion passed 5 - 0

- C. Summit Public Relations Strategies, LLC, Contract Renewal..... 1:06

Miranda introduced the Staff Report, Communication Summary, and proposed contract included in the Meeting Packet. She commented that the Port has worked with Angela Nebel for the past two years. Miranda said she has received positive comments about how the Port has taken a hand on communication. She said she would like to continue to use Nebel’s services and noted the proposed contract did not include a rate increase. Miranda said the intent for the upcoming year would include two newsletters. Lackey commented that this was money well spent and a job well done.

A motion was made by Retherford and seconded by Lackey to authorize the General Manager to contract with Summit Public Relations Strategies, LLC, and move forward with the proposal not to exceed \$23,800 plus another 10% contingency. The motion passed 5 – 0.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Commissioners Oaths: Gil Sylvia, Jeff Lackey, Kelley Retherford 4:11

Each Commissioner recited the oath, included on the Agenda, for their elected positions, for the term beginning on July 1, 2021. Miranda congratulated the Commissioners and expressed appreciation of their service to the Port.

- B. Resolution 2021-05 Authorizing Application for Renewal of an Enterprise Zone..... 6:29

Miranda introduced the Staff Report included in the Meeting Packet. She introduced Paul Schuytema, the new Executive Director for the Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County (EDALC). Schuytema said he came to the Oregon coast from Michigan about a year ago. He said he was interested in ramping up and revitalizing economic development in Lincoln County. He commented that priorities had shifted over time, and there were opportunities in the blue economy. He mentioned that the Oregon Ocean Innovation Hub was a partner organization. Schuytema said that EDALC looked to develop: the local and regional workforce including research careers; education; entrepreneurship; business as it relates to resiliency and recovery; inclusion; and taking advantage of funding. Schuytema mentioned a possible large investment in the area, which would be a big win for all of Oregon if it was received in this area. He said that Miranda would be a new EDALC board member, as well as School District Superintendent Karen Gray.

Schuytema handed out information on the Lincoln County Enterprise Zone, which is included in the Meeting Packet. He said that EDALC is wrapping up the redesignation process, starting July 1st for four additional years, adding that in 2025 Enterprise Zones sunset statewide. Schuytema said that the sponsoring units, including the Port of Newport, needed to support a resolution in order to redesignate. He commented that this would mean that development in machinery on any properties owned by the Port that created full-time jobs would see a property tax abatement incentive for a period of years. Schuytema said he was here as a consultant and tool to land deals and connect with other parts of the state. Sylvia asked how successful the Enterprise Zone has been in creating new jobs. Schuytema said it has been successful statewide, but not so in Lincoln County – he aims to

work to communicate this opportunity to the local business community. Miranda commented that the Enterprise Zone tool can make or break a deal; it is important to being competitive.

A motion was made by Lackey and seconded by Sylvia to adopt Resolution No. 2021-05 A Resolution Authorizing Application for Renewal of an Enterprise Zone as written on page 53. The motion passed 5 – 0.

VII. STAFF REPORTS

- A. General Manager 20:00
 - 1. Director of Finance & Business Services
 - a) May Occupancy Report
 - 2. Director of Operations

Miranda introduced the Staff Reports included in the Meeting Packet. Lackey asked what the Port Dock 5 Pier Ribbon Cutting would look like. Miranda said she invited federal and local legislators to attend. Oregon Senator Dick Anderson and Representative David Gomberg will be there, but the federal legislators are not available. A staff person for US Senator Ron Wyden will attend. Miranda said that EDA representatives are not authorized to travel yet. There will be local attendees from construction, engineering, and City officials. Miranda said she expected a lot of people there. Hot dogs would be grilled at the Pier, and an official ribbon cutting will take place. She mentioned the Maritime Museum will also have a ribbon cutting for their entrance at 1:00 pm. Miranda said she would try to bring a speaking device. Bretz said this was a 5-year project, starting with conceptual plans before he joined the Port, and completed during his 4 years here.

VIII. COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

There were no Commissioner reports or additional comments.

IX. CALENDAR/FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

There were no changes to the Calendar/Future Considerations.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

- XI. ADJOURNMENT 24:37**

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

ATTESTED:

JAMES BURKE
JAMES BURKE (Aug 30, 2021 15:17 PDT)

 James Burke, President

Walter Chuck

 Walter Chuck, Secretary/Treasurer