

PORT OF THE DALLES COMMISSION
Regular Session Virtual Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 14, 2020

The Regular Session Virtual Meeting of the Port Commissioners was called to order by President Greg Weast at 5:30 p.m.
**The meeting was held via the video conferencing platform Zoom; attendees joined via computer or called in via telephone*

ROLL CALL

Commission: Greg Weast, Mike Courtney, Staci Coburn, Robert Wallace, David Griffith
Staff: Andrea Klaas, Executive Director; Jennifer Toepke, Executive Assistant; Anna Shank-Root, Land Use Strategist & Policy Analyst
Bill Dick, Attorney; Angie Macnab, Bookkeeper
Guests: Dr. Marta Cronin, President, Columbia Gorge Community College, Dan Durow & Bruce Lumpar, The Dalles Riverfront Trail LLC; Brad Houghton, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Commissioner Weast

AGENDA CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS None

COMMUNITY PARTNER UPDATE Dr. Marta Cronin, President, Columbia Gorge Community College: Enrollment is up 4%; 1 of only 2 Community Colleges in the state that enrollment is up (out of 17). Instruction online until at least March 2021. Library & advising are available onsite a couple of days per week. EDA Grant did not come through, currently looking for other funding sources. Employment opportunities available.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS As listed on Meeting Agenda, plus Commissioner Weast asked Commissioner Courtney to chair the next Port Commission Regular Session Virtual Meeting on Thursday, November 12, 2020 in his absence

ACTION ITEMS

1. **September 9, 2020 Regular Virtual Meeting Minutes *were approved by consensus***
2. **September 2020 Financial Reports *were approved by Consensus, with the Correction: Friend & Reagan, PC: Progress billing for FY 19/20 Audit should be \$4,000.00, not \$216.00***
3. **Easement Adjustment Request from The Dalles Riverfront Trail, LLC *M/M. Courtney S/R. Wallace, Motion Approved*** Discussion prior: Although supportive of the request, Commissioner Courtney raised concern that the Port has already donated the land & \$50,000 towards maintenance – now the easement request, what will be next. The Dalles Riverfront Trail, LLC Board Member Durow reiterated that it is the Community’s Trail and the need for it to be fixed. The plan to move the trail is so that fill is not used, which would be more complicated and time consuming. All Port Commissioners gave their support and approval. Commissioner Coburn asked if enough resources are available to get the work done. Trail Board Member Durow confirmed having raised \$315,000.00: \$100,000.00 City of The Dalles; \$50,000.00 Wasco County; \$50,000.00 Port of The Dalles; \$50,000.00 Northern Wasco County PUD; \$37,000.00 Google Grant Program; and The Riverfront Trail non-profit raised \$28,000 from two fundraisers in 2018 and 2019.

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. *Variance Request of Protective Covenants from Crates Point Development, LLC via Mid-Columbia Economic Development District, to install a LINK Public Transit bus shelter on Klindt Drive in front of the Department of Human Services building.* Deputy Executive Director, MCEDD, Brad Houghton: Stands as included in the meeting packet, plus: This is a 2nd deviated route, to include a stop in the Port of The Dalles area. 5x8 shelter ADA Compliant. Commissioner Weast said that the bus should not park on the street, stop to pick up people

– but cannot wait there. Commissioner Courtney questioned whether the path to the DHS building is ADA compliant and what liability insurance is in place? Commissioner Coburn echoed the same point about insurance, plus questioned who will be responsible for maintenance? Commissioner Wallace with the same question about the pathway being ADA compliant or not? And reiterated support for Public Transit expansion. Commissioner Griffith questioned who would patrol graffiti? Deputy Executive Director Houghton positively replied to all questions: The pathway is ADA compliant, MCEDD is responsible for maintenance, the Port of The Dalles will be held harmless on the insurance (in addition to the property owner). Similar language was used in the agreement with the Goodwill property owner. Commissioner Weast requested that said agreement be forward to Executive Director Klaas for review and that this variance request will be actioned at the next Port Commission meeting in November.

REPORTS

1. *Staff Report Executive Director Klaas* Stands as included in the meeting packet.
2. *RARE Report Land Use Strategist and Policy Analyst Shank-Root* Stands as included in the meeting packet, plus: Columbia River Gorge Commission adopted the Gorge 2020 Management Plan – accordingly The Port is working with Congressman Greg Walden’s office to set a meeting with the Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Purdue (or the appropriate in his office).
3. *The Dalles Marina LLC, Q3 2020 Report Owner/Operator’s Macnab* Stands as included in the meeting packet, plus: Reference the Yacht Club: Slide show presentation of remodel; tour’s are available, available to all tenants and those with boat slips; most people are excited about it, some are not. Commissioners Coburn & Wallace both offered positive feedback about the remodel & reenergize of the Yacht Club. Winterizing is done at the Marina. Commissioner Coburn inquired what is next on the “To Do List”, Owner/Operator Macnab replied: working with the PUD on an electrical issue; maintenance on the dock leveling; mobile library. Commissioner Wallace inquired if there was anything new reference the fuel pumps being upgraded, Owner/Operator Macnab said her & Executive Director Klaas have spoken about the subject and turned it over to Executive Director Klaas who confirmed that she has spoken with the Yacht Club Commodore Jeff Renard concerning a card lock system and suggested that he reach out to other Ports. Should the Yacht Club wish to proceed they should submit a proposal to The Port.
4. *Committee Report*
 - *Community Outreach Team Commissioner Weast & Executive Director Klaas* Met virtually with Washington D.C., while not optimal – better to stay in touch. Met with both Washington & Oregon delegations. Senator Merkley is working on getting the remaining \$2mil National Scenic Area Funds. The Confirmation of the new Supreme Court Justice is taking precedence over the COVID-19 Relief Package. Federal Government continues to operate on a resolution. CGCC may have some leads on obtaining a plane. Congressman Greg Walden has been in office since 1987. Planning for either an in-person or Zoom toast to wish him well!
 - *Wasco County Economic Development Commissioner Courtney* Newly elected chair Frank Kaye resigned. Megan Thomson, who was the Vice Chair, was elected Chair. Talked about Covid-19 and Gorge 2020. Maupin sold their old City Hall building to a small business. Next up is a community meeting.
 - *Urban Renewal Commissioner Coburn* Met in September. The new Interim UR Manager Alice Cannon was in attendance. The City is not interested in applying for the funding for the Millcreek Greenway Project.
 - *Dufur Commissioner Wallace* Dufur School is running on an A/B shift. Only school in the County with kids physically back in school (343 students K-12). Struggling with residential housing. Problem with the wastewater system – it needs to be developed so that Dufur can grow as a community. Past time restaurant facility was sold, hopefully the new spot will open within a couple of months.
 - *Chamber of Commerce Commissioner Griffith* Had a conflict so was unable to attend this month’s meeting. The Chamber’s website is full of information. MCEDD had their quarterly meeting – they have business training going on.

COMMISSION CALL

1. Commissioner Weast Nothing to say.
2. Commissioner Courtney Thanks to Staff for our dinner meeting. Wonderful report Strategist Shank-Root.
3. Commissioner Coburn Thanks to Executive Director Klaas for having The Port participate in the RARE program again and for finding such a bright young lady as Strategist Shank-Root. The work plan for Strategist Shank-Root will go a long way to help the community.
4. Commissioner Wallace Feels the same as Commissioner Coburn concerning the RARE program. Strategist Shank-Root is a great fit for The Port, appreciate her questions. Thanks to Staff for the lunch meeting/tour in Dufur. I would like to look further into the possibility of a bounty or reward program – for a public entity to work with private businesses – give them a grant to open a specific business in The Dalles. We need to think outside the box for opportunities for development.
5. Commissioner Griffith Thanks to Staff for my Birthday Dinner. The Yacht Club looks great! Hopeful that the fuel system upgrade works out.

PUBLIC COMMENT OR QUESTIONS: None

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE PORT COMMISSION, the meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

PORT OF THE DALLES:



Mike Courtney, Vice-President
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Robert Wallace, Secretary
Board of Commissioners

DATE APPROVED: November 12, 2020

Prepared by: Jennifer Toepke, Executive Assistant