



Port of Skagit

Joint Meeting of the Port of Skagit and Port of Anacortes

Thursday, January 5, 2017; 7:00 PM

City Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 904 6th Street, Anacortes, WA

MINUTES

PRESENT: POS Commission - Commissioners Ware, Omdal and Shuler

 POA Commission - Commissioners Pope, Verdoes, Niver, Rubin and Short

 POS Staff - Patsy Martin, Scott Peterson, Sara Young, Greg Thramer, Heather Rogerson, Brady Rowe, Andrew Entriakin, Karmen Hardy and Keith Love

 POA Staff - Dan Worra, Josh Beaner, Jill Brownfield, Brenda Treadwell, Brad Johnson, Wendy Fauver, Anthony Esposito, Lindsey Herrick, Jenkins Dossen and Julie Johnson-Lindsey.

Note: Port of Anacortes (POA) Minutes can be found at www.portofanacortes.com

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Pope called to order the January 5, 2017 regular meeting of the Port of Anacortes. Commissioner Omdal called to order the January 5, 2017 special meeting of the Port of Skagit.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTIONS

The commission of each port introduced themselves. Executive Directors Worra and Martin introduced their staff members in attendance.

Executive Director Worra also thanked guests in the audience for their attendance.

PORT OF ANACORTES CONSENT AGENDA

The Port of Anacortes (POA) proceeded with their consent agenda. Port of Anacortes action taken. (See POA minutes).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Commissioner Pope opened the floor for public comment. Hearing none, the floor was closed.

REGULAR AGENDA

Port of Anacortes - Executive Director Dan Worra presented a PowerPoint reporting on their three primary operating areas: Anacortes Airport, Cap Sante Marina, the Marina Terminal and lease properties. He highlighted projects accomplished for each in 2016 and planned for in 2017.

Port of Skagit - Executive Director Patsy Martin presented a PowerPoint highlighting the Port's operating sectors and growth in marine manufacturing, aerospace, and value-added agriculture. She reported on the improvement projects in 2016 which included the WSU Bread Lab, Chuckanut Brewery, the Flour Mill, Golden Harvest, grain storage facilities, rehab of Taxiway 10/28 and the upgrade of the former TTM building. She also reported on the port's future involvement with community broadband.

Army Corps of Engineers – Presentation Swinomish Channel Dredging

Executive Director Dan Worra introduced Kym Anderson, Chief of Navigation Section, Seattle District for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Chief Anderson provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Swinomish Channel sedimentation sampling, maintenance dredging and funding. Chief Anderson introduced Scott Brown, coastal engineer for the Seattle District. Brown reviewed the three navigation structures and the sedimentation sampling.

Chief Anderson spoke to next steps for the Corps which included a detailed design report (DDR) this Spring which will include the cost, scope, benefits and environmental impacts, with a final DDR to be completed in summer 2017.

Discussion.

Pacific Northwest Waterways Association - Presentation

Executive Director Dan Worra introduced Kristin Meira and Heather Stebbings of Pacific Northwest Waterways Association. Executive Director Kristin Meira provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Swinomish Channel and its designation as a "low use" channel. "Low-Use" programs were cut by 50% in 2012. Small ports, such as Ports of Anacortes, Skagit, Ilwaco, Chinook and others, receive a total of \$35 million annually. Prior to 2012 that number was \$70-80 million per year nationwide. Executive Director

Meira reviewed the PNWA's small port funding strategy and policy. Advocacy in Congress is beginning to work with additional funding for small port starting to arrive. She cited work with leaders such as Congressman Larsen has been valuable towards securing more funding.

Meira reported that fiscal Year 2017 has \$436,000 in the President's budget for sediment characterization with an additional request of \$315K for South Jetty surveys. Fiscal Year 2018 will include dredging of the navigation channel, including the south entrance, and South Jetty repairs. Executive Director Meira noted the bottom line was the PNWA and USACE were looking for more funding for the Channel every year. She observed it was a challenging time and the 2017 Fiscal Year started October 1st but congress was not able to complete their appropriations work and now there will be additional delays while the new administration comes into place.

Discussion.

DISCUSSION ITEM: IT/FIBER/BROADBAND IN SKAGIT COUNTY

Executive Director Martin reported the port and EDASC, along with the Port of Anacortes and other entities have been working toward county-wide broadband. EDASC director John Sternlicht and director Sara Young reported on:

1. The critical need for such a broadband network with the bottom line being that economic development will not happen in Skagit County without it.
2. Partnership approach i.e. Whitman County and the Port of Ridgefield
3. Skagit Valley partnership has undertaken a Community Broadband Network Study.
4. Master plan and finance plan
5. Public investments
6. Review of existing fiber infrastructure in Skagit Valley

Ms. Young reviewed the next steps and timeline for the network study and plan:

- Complete study – January 13
- Partner meetings – January 16-31
- Adoption of plan – February
- Develop shared MOU for Partner signature – February
~ Develop shared goals & priority projects

Mayor Gere of the City of Anacortes reported on the City's progress on obtaining dark fiber.

The City sought first to provide a dark fiber Telemetry System connecting waste water pump stations, water reservoirs and water pump stations and to use the Public Works “backbone” to serve the rest of the community with the broadband network

Mayor Gere showed an aerial map indicating the “new” fiber optic routing layout throughout the City. She reported the City has completed its network design and submitted it to Northwest Open Access Network (NoaNet). The City plans to begin installation early this summer. She stated the City of Anacortes will partner with the County and provide this service for Anacortes.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION

Commissioner Omdal noted the difference in dues paid by the ports to the Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) with hopes of bringing it up for discussion. Commissioner Pope noted the amounts paid by the ports was relatively small but should be examined in terms of benefits provided. Commissioner Omdal suggested executive directors Worra and Martin could discuss the dues amount with Kevin Murphy of SCOG.

Commissioner Rubin noted the upcoming Washington Public Ports Association Port day on January 31st in Olympia.

COMMUNICATIONS

Upcoming meetings for the Port of Anacortes were announced.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Commissioner Pope opened the floor for public comment. Hearing none, the floor was closed.

ADJOURNMENT – Port of Anacortes

With no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Rubin moved to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Niver.

ADJOURNMENT – Port of Skagit

With no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Omdal called for a motion for adjournment. Commissioner Shuler moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Ware. Commissioner Omdal called for a vote on the motion, which carried unanimously.

The joint meeting of the Port of Anacortes and Port of Skagit adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

ADOPTED IN OPEN SESSION this 14th day of February, 2017 and duly authenticated by the signatures affixed hereto.

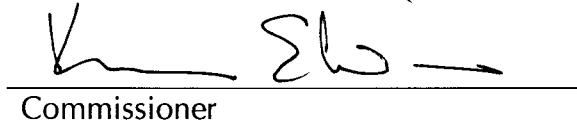
PORT OF SKAGIT COUNTY



Commissioner



Commissioner



Commissioner