PORT OF CENTRALIA
Established 1986

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Minutes
Regular Meeting of the
PORT OF CENTRALIA
August 7, 2024
Port of Centralia Administrative Office & Via Teleconference
3:00 PM

Attendees: Commissioners: Kyle Markstrom, Julie Shaffley, and Peter Lahmann
Port Staff: Kyle Heaton, Executive Director; Amy Graber, Director of Finance
Press: Owen Sexton, The Chronicle
Public: Bob Jackins; Jan Banevich; and Cynthia Mudge
Teleconference: 7 unknown callers

1) **Call Meeting to Order/Introductions:** Commissioner Markstrom called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2) **Approval of Agenda:** Commissioner Shaffley made a motion to approve the August 7, 2024, agenda as submitted. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3) **Good of the Order/Public Comment:** Commissioner Markstrom opened the meeting to public comment and stated the rules regarding public comment.

   Cynthia Mudge, executive director of the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce, announced several upcoming Chamber events.

   Jan Banevich, of Centralia, commented on community events and public information that other ports provide that the Port does not.

4) **Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Lahmann made a motion to approve the July 17, 2024, regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Shaffley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5) **Approval of Warrants:** Commissioner Shaffley made a motion to approve warrants 23876 through 23906 with an aggregate amount of $295,945.66. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6) **New Business:**

   a) **Executive Director Report:** Kyle Heaton provided the Commissioners with a budget status report.

   b) **Commissioner Reports:** Commissioner Shaffley had nothing to report.

   Commissioner Lahmann commented that, as a policy issue, the Port's SEPA comments on the Skookumchuck Commerce Center project should have come before the Commissioners to discuss if they were going to stand down the project prior to submission. He added that he

spoke with workers at the WinCo project site, and they said that the radius coming off Yew Street onto the ramp is too small and the trucks with trailers cannot make it in the single lane. Kyle Heaton replied that the radius was approved by the Washington State Department of Transportation and was the widest radius. Commissioner Markstrom added that that was not the truck route the construction trucks were supposed to use. Kyle Heaton stated that Commissioner Lahmann had been briefed on the Skookumchuck Commerce Center's SEPA dating back to June 2023 when the Commissioners received the first SEPA checklist and comment letter, as well as its two subsequent submissions. Commissioner Markstrom said that he spoke with a constituent regarding the Port's submission and that it was important to remember that, as a government agency, it is not the Port's position to be for or against a project but to take a stance on whether or not the project meets the letter of the law. He added that he was not educated enough to do so, and he appreciated Port staff for working with Port counsel to review the SEPA. Kyle Heaton added that nothing in the comments stated the Port was against the project, it merely asked the City of Centralia to apply its own standards to the project.

Commissioner Markstrom had nothing to report.

7) **Adjourn:** Commissioner Shaffley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:14 p.m. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

COMMISSIONER **COMMISSIONER**