PORT OF CENTRALIA
Established 1986

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Minutes
Regular Meeting of the
PORT OF CENTRALIA
December 4, 2024
Port of Centralia Administrative Office & Via Teleconference
3:00 PM

Attendees: Commissioners: Kyle Markstrom, Julie Shaffley, and Peter Lahmann
Executive Director: Kyle Heaton
Staff: Amy Graber, Director of Finance & Administration
Port Counsel: Ray Liaw, Van Ness Feldman
Public: Paul Crowner; Juanita McNoughton; Jan Banevich; Gary Odegaard; David Nunn; Cynthia Mudge; and Brian Dow
Teleconference: Four 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 December 4, 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.

   Paul Crowner, of Centralia, commented on the Lewis County citizen budget hearing.

   Jan Banevich, of Centralia, commented on public comment on social media and at meetings.

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

   Brian Dow, of Centralia, commented on the length of the Port's meetings and public comment.

   Gary Odegaard, of Centralia, commented on public comment.

   Commissioner Markstrom stated that it is the Port's policy to not have back-and-forth dialogue during public comment.

4) **Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Lahmann made a motion to approve the November 20, 2024, public hearing and regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Shaffley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5) **Approval of Warrants:** Commissioner Shaffley made a motion to approve warrants 24079 through 24100 with an aggregate amount of $70,217.51. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6) **New Business:**

   a) **Executive Director Report:** Kyle Heaton gave a brief report on the ongoing work at Centralia Station.

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

   Commissioner Shaffley addressed the third-party ethics violation made against her by a member of the public. Kyle Heaton clarified that the Port's policy is for internal ethics violation complaints. Third-party complaints need to be taken to the Washington State Attorney General, the Washington State Auditor, or the Public Disclosure Commission, among others. These agencies oversee the Port, have already handled multiple complaints submitted by members of the public and have found the Port in compliance against all issues. Despite the policy, Kyle Heaton said that he reviewed the particular complaint referenced with the Port's Auditor and legal counsel and found that no investigation was warranted. He said the matter has been closed and apologized if that was not clear. He added that another issue that continues to arise is a third-party Facebook page that some members of the public take issue with. The Port has done what it legally needed to do, and no more action needs to be taken against the private page.

   Commissioner Markstrom had nothing to report.

7) **Adjourn to Executive Session:** Commissioner Markstrom adjourned the meeting to executive session to discuss a public employee review pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) at 3:15 p.m. He stated that executive session should last approximately fifteen minutes with no decisions.

8) **Reconvene:** Commissioner Markstrom reconvened the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

9) **Adjourn:** Commissioner Shaffley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

COMMISSIONER **COMMISSIONER**