PORT OF CENTRALIA
Established 1986

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Minutes
Regular Meeting of the
PORT OF CENTRALIA
June 4, 2025
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
Port Counsel: Ray Liaw, Van Ness Feldman
Public: Jean Bluhm; Gary Odegaard; Bob Jackins; Charles Snell; Jan Banevich; Paul Crowner; Scott Tennant; Lindy Waring; and Brian Dow
Teleconference: 9 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 June 4, 2025, 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.

   Gary Odegaard, of Centralia, commented on intimidation by Port staff.

   Jan Banevich, of Centralia, commented on abuse of power by Port staff weaponization law enforcement against Port critics and violation of first amendment rights.

   Brian Dow, of Centralia, commented on public comment.

4) **Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Lahmann made a motion to approve the May 7, 2025, regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Shaffley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5) **Approval of Warrants:** Commissioner Shaffley made a motion to approve warrants 24359 through 24402 with an aggregate amount of $178,235.60. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6) **New Business:**

   a) **Executive Director Report:** Kyle Heaton gave a brief overview of ongoing Port maintenance projects. He gave an update on the WinCo sign and expected the sign to be completed by the end of June. He gave an update on the Long Road vacation, with the process expected to be completed in early July. He provided the Commissioners with highlights from the 2024 Financial Statements and invited the Commissioners to email him or present at a following meeting any questions they may have. He thanked Port staff for the timely financial

statements and submission to the Washington State Auditor, adding the Port has not had a finding in his 24-plus-year tenure.

Kyle Heaton also thanked Commissioner Markstrom for stepping up for Port staff when they and their families are being harassed in their homes, and things that are clearly beyond the pale. He appreciated Commissioner Markstrom's willingness to do so, despite the consequence to himself, and added that it is the right thing to do as an elected official.

b) Commissioner Reports: Commissioner Lahmann reported that he attended a couple of Lewis County Board of County Commissioner meetings and a Port of Chehalis meeting. He said that he would wait until the next meeting to ask about the financial statements at the Executive Director's behest. Kyle Heaton stated that he could ask anything he wanted to. Commissioner Lahmann replied that he received it too late to ask any good questions.

Commissioner Shaffley thanked Amy Graber for her amazing job on the financial statements and thanked Kyle Heaton for his diligent conservative stewardship of public money.

Commissioner Markstrom thanked Port staff for preparing the financial statements and added that he would reach out with any questions he may have.

7) **Executive Session:** Commissioner Shaffley made a motion to adjourn the meeting into executive session to discuss potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.11(1)(i) at 3:12 p.m. She stated that the executive session is expected to last 15 minutes with no decisions. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Brian Dow, of Centralia, asked what the executive session was regarding. Commissioner Markstrom informed him the Commissioners were not taking public comment at that time.

8) **Reconvene:** Commissioner Markstrom reconvened the meeting at 3:27 p.m.

9) **Adjourn:** Commissioner Shaffley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:27 p.m. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

COMMISSIONER

Approved via teleconference

COMMISSIONER