PORT OF CENTRALIA
Established 1986

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Minutes
Regular Meeting of the
PORT OF CENTRALIA
March 15, 2023
Port of Centralia Administrative Office & Via Teleconference
3:00 PM

Attendees: Commissioners: Kyle Markstrom, Peter Lahmann, and Julie Shaffley
Executive Director: Kyle Heaton
Press: Owen Sexton, The Chronicle
Public: Jan Banevich; Janet Ruble; Rick Reichardt; Rick Schnatterly; Dawn Merchant; Paul Crowner; Lisa Striedger; Bob Jackins; and Sean Swope, Lewis County Board of County Commissioners.
Teleconference: Five 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 March 15, 2023, 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.

   Jan Banevich, of Centralia, inquired into the Winco Purchase and Sale Agreement and any extensions. She also inquired into a map on the Port's website that says in the bottom left corner that it is the Centralia Station Logistics Center.

4) **Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Lahmann made a motion to approve the March 1, 2023, regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Shaffley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5) **Approval of Warrants:** Commissioner Lahmann made a motion to approve warrants 22976 through 23007 with an aggregate amount of $98,595.59. Commissioner Shaffley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6) **New Business:**

   a) **Executive Director Report:** Kyle Heaton gave an update on the Centralia Station project. He also provided the Commissioners with a series of letters sent to local delegation with the Resolution supporting the West Connector Project as there had been confusion as to whether the Port supported the project.

   b) **Resolution No. 2023-03:** Kyle Heaton read Resolution No. 2023-03: Expressing a Collective Position in Support of the April 25, 2023, Centralia School District No. 401 – Proposition No. 1: Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy in its entirety. Commissioner

Shaffley made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-03. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Shaffley expressed the importance of this levy. Commissioner Lahmann commented that he was looking forward to the opportunity when the Port can add apprenticeships to that same list of educational opportunities for local citizens. Commissioner Markstrom commented that public schools are vital to the local economy.

Commissioner Markstrom opened the meeting for public comment on Resolution No. 2023-03. Sean Swope, Lewis County Board of County Commissioners, commented that he knows firsthand how impactful levy dollars can be when they are invested in kids. He thanked the Commissioners for supporting the levy and helping to push it forward. Lisa Streidger, of Centralia, said that she thought that it was an amazing thing and that she would like to make sure that there is accountability for the money to be spent appropriately.

c) **Flood Mitigation Support:** Commissioner Shaffley made a motion to approve the 2023 flood mitigation funding of $15,000 to the Economic Alliance of Lewis County. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

d) **I-5/Mellen Street Connector State 1 – Pay Estimate #4:** Commissioner Lahmann made a motion to approve Pay Estimate #4 to Midway Underground in the amount of $248,921.09. Commissioner Shaffley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

e) **Commissioner Reports:** Commissioner Lahmann thanked Kyle Heaton for the plan view and said that he was really looking for the detail view showing the common trench that is being put in for utilities because he was interested in what utilities that are being brought to the site at Centralia Station. Kyle Heaton replied that it was a joint utility trench that will include gas, streetlights, power, as well as any fiber optic or telecom. Commissioner Lahmann replied that he just wanted to make sure the Port had all of that stuff going.

Commissioner Markstrom stated that he attended the Mayor's meeting stakeholder meeting and the .09 Committee meeting. He added that the Economic Alliance of Lewis County is hosting a meeting with Impact Washington on April 13, 2023to discuss grand funding that is available for manufacturing and small businesses.

Commissioner Lahmann asked if there was a legislative update. Commissioner Markstrom replied that as members of the Washington Public Ports Association, their lobbyists are working on various efforts related to ports across the state. Kyle Heaton stated that the Port continues to work on protecting the money that it has been awarded and the Port's lobbyist has been extremely successful in doing that.

Commissioner Markstrom stated a postcard from the Washington State Department of Transportation regarding the open houses that it will be holding for the North County Industrial Access was in the packets. He said that it is open online from March 17, 2023, to March 31, 2023, for anyone interested in providing input.

7) **Adjourn:** Commissioner Shaffley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:20 p.m. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

COMMISSIONER **COMMISSIONER**