PORT OF CENTRALIA
Established 1986

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Minutes
Regular Meeting of the
PORT OF CENTRALIA
November 3, 2021
Port of Centralia Administrative Office & Via Teleconference
3:00 PM

Attendees: Commissioners: Julie Shaffley, Peter Lahmann, Kyle Markstrom
Executive Director: Kyle Heaton
Press: Eric Rosane, The Chronicle (via teleconference); Susan Delaire, Business to Business (via teleconference)
Public: Alicia Bull, Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce; John Elmore; Brian Dow; Jan Banevich; and Paul Crowner
Teleconference: Nate Lawver, Laborers 252; and one unknown caller

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

2) **Approval of Agenda:** Commissioner Markstom made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3) **Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Lahmann made a motion to approve the October 20, 2021, regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Shaffley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4) **Approval of Warrants:** Commissioner Markstrom made a motion to approve warrants 22134 through 22157 with an aggregate amount of $71,894.28. Commissioner Lahmann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5) **New Business:**

   a) **Executive Director Report:** Kyle Heaton reported that the asbestos abatement has been completed at 1920 Gallagher Road. The pole barn demolition is also complete and the successful bidder did a good job removing it as required under the bid. He said that Port staff is currently pulling the demolition permit for the house and any garbage remaining on the site will be cleaned up with that project. He said that he hoped to have the site entirely cleaned up by the end of the year.

   Kyle stated that Vector is progressing on the 4005 Galvin Road property. He said that the Port expects to see a geotechnical report back and a SEPA application from them in the next sixty days.

   Kyle said that the Fergurson Schmidt's escrow has been opened and the Port is working through their due diligence, as is Walmart on Foron Road.

   On Centralia Station, Kyle reported that NEPA has been fully issued and is complete. The Port continues to work with Winco and Powell Development to iron out some of the last parcel line

issues. The Port feels the issues are close to being resolved and are mostly between Powell and Winco at this point. The Port is hopeful the ramp permits will be issued sometime in November and the project will go to bid sometime in early 2022.

Kyle also stated that the public hearing to review the 2022 budget will be held on November 17, 2021, at 2:30 p.m.

b) **Committee Reports:** Commissioner Lahmann reported that he missed the Washington Public Ports Association's annual training session because the Port canceled the meeting during the timeframe that he should have been applying for it.

Commissioner Shaffley thanked all of the candidates that stepped forward to run for office. She said that she knows it is a big undertaking for everyone and as a constituent, she appreciates it. She congratulated everyone who was elected and thanked them and the other candidates for their willingness to serve our community. She said that what we need to go forward is to have people step up and want to lead and to further our community.

6) **Good of the Order/Public Comment:** Alicia Bull with the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce reported that the Chamber just finished the Home and Sportsman Show. She said that there were about 1,000 people that attended, which is dramatically smaller than in years past. The Chamber knew that because it has been canceled twice before, they would probably lose the show if they didn't move forward with it. She said that the sportsman focus was really nice and there was some great stuff there. The weekend before that the Chamber sponsored an organized trick-or-treat transit with stops in downtown Chehalis, the Fairway Center, and downtown Centralia. She said that it was fun and successful and a great way to reach out and be part of the downtown community for providing something safe. She said that the Chamber has some upcoming events. As requested, they will be hosting the Lewis County Hiring Event 2.0 at the Holiday Inn Express on November 16, 2021. She said that out of the 20 businesses that have signed up for the event, eight of them are Port tenants. She said that the Chamber will also be passing out Black Friday bags with special sales and discounts to promote shopping locally on November 19, 2021. The Chamber's goal is to provide a food box also to the 250 recipients of the bags. Turkey bowling will be at the Chamber office on November 18 and the Santa Parade will be on December 4, 2021. She said that the Chamber has a lot going on and any participation is appreciated.

Jan Banevich, of Centralia, submitted a public records request for everything on the table or beside him on the floor at this meeting in the possession of Director Kyle Heaton. This includes, but not limited to, all papers, packets, files, folders, notebooks, binders, briefcase, recordings, etc.

Paul Crowner, of Centralia, asked Commissioner Shaffley if he could address Commissioner Markstrom. Commissioner Shaffley replied that he would be addressing the entire group. Paul Crowner stated that his remarks are intended for Commissioner Markstrom and that he wanted to congratulate him on his win in the election. He said that he thinks it was well done and verified. Throughout the whole thing everyone did a good job of operating. He said that he hoped Commissioner Markstrom could continue with some of the things that he has stressed that he wanted to get done with the Port and again congratulated him on his successful election.

John Elmore, of Centralia, thanked the Port for his one records request and said that he appreciated the documentation, especially page 73 which is an agreement between Commissioner Lahmann and

Paul Crowner that is a violation of public disclosure laws. He said that you can't give things and that is called corruption and collusion. It needs to be filed with the Public Disclosure Commission. He stated that there is no timeframe on lapses, whether the race is over or not. He said that what is wrong is wrong and those fines typically follow those people for quite a while. What he really wanted to bring to the Commissioners' attention today is that through the FOIA process, he discovered that Commissioner Lahmann decided to submit his own paperwork and circumvent labor law, lawyers, and staff. He said that he wanted to show the Commissioners an example of redactions. He provided two copies of page 44 with one having the Commissioner's redactions. He said that he doesn't know why Commissioner Lahmann was hiding that information from the public, but it does tell him that the Commissioner likes to hide information when he wants to campaign on transparency. But he obviously doesn't want to do it in real life. He then submitted four public records requests. He requested any signed document stating Commissioner Lahmann has not deleted or forwarded to his personal computer any Port communication. He requested any signed agreements that Commissioner Lahmann has completed all training for elected officials as required by law. He requested copies of all deleted emails or electronic communications that the Port has on file regarding Commissioner Lahmann's accounts. He also requested copies of all emails Commissioner Lahmann has forwarded to other IP addresses to Port or personal accounts. He said that this request he is asking of the Port so he hopes to have it expedited.

7) **Adjourn to Executive Session:** Commissioner Lahmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting to executive session to discuss personnel matters at 3:14 p.m. He stated that executive session should last approximately twenty minutes with no possible decisions. Commissioner Shaffley stated that the executive session was not on the agenda that was approved at the beginning of the meeting. Commissioner Lahmann replied that it was unforeseen and he did not anticipate it. The motion was denied.

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

Peter Lahmann
COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER