

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Port of Whitman County of February 5, 2009.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Port office in Colfax, Washington. Present were all Commissioners, the Executive Director, the Properties and Development Manager, and the Port Attorney. Also present was Joe Smillie of the Whitman County Gazette.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A **MOTION** was made to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of January 22, 2009, as mailed and entered in the minute book. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: The Commissioners considered the claims.

Commissioner Gronholz inquired as to Claim No. 18693 to KPLU. The Executive Director explained the claim was for broadcast services for the Innovation Partnership Zone Project.

Commissioner Gronholz inquired as to Claim No. 18705. The Executive Director explained the claim was part of the fee for the feasibility study on the rail line fiber project.

Commissioner Love inquired as to Claim No. 18703. The Executive Director explained this was payment pursuant to the interlocal agreement with the Town of Rosalia on the Rosalia Airport project.

Commissioner Boone inquired as to Claim No. 18678 to Avista Utilities, specifically whether this was a monthly bill for the Port of Wilma alone. The Executive Director responded that the claim represented the monthly bill with Avista for all Port facilities.

A **MOTION** was made to approve Claim Nos. 18660 through 18705 totaling \$114,464.34 and electronic fund transfer for payroll taxes of \$8,143.38. The motion carried.

VALLEY VISION MEETING: Commissioner Boone reported on attending the Valley Vision meeting of February 3, 2009. Most of the meeting was dedicated to the organization's budget. Budget cuts have been initiated to reflect reductions in funding. It was reported that Bob Tippet will be part of a business recruitment trip to California. Also participating in the trip will be Bob Potter of the Inland Northwest Economic Alliance.

PORT/COUNTY JOINT COMMISSIONERS MEETING: Commissioner Gronholz reported on the Port Commission/County Commission joint meeting of February 2, 2009. At the meeting, the ADO contract

renewal was discussed and the relationship of the community advisory board to the organization was discussed.

RAIL FIBER PROJECT FEASIBILITY STUDY: The Executive Director reported on the progress of the rail fiber project feasibility study.

DISCUSSION OF LETTER RECEIVED BY COUNTY COMMISSIONER PARTCH: The Commissioners discussed a recent letter addressed to County Commissioner Partch from Dale Miller, President of the Uniontown Community Development Association. The letter expressed concern over the impact of state audit requirements and the public bid law on PDA projects. A copy of the letter was given to the Port Commission at the joint meeting. No specific action was requested, and no specific action was taken by the Port Commission.

WATER AQUIFERS: Commissioner Boone, who serves on the PBAC Advisory Board, commented on a recent article in the Tri-City Herald indicating that deep water aquifers in the area, including the Grand Ronde, are steadily declining.

POWBAC - WALKTHROUGH OF T-HANGAR BUILDING: The Properties and Development Manager reported on the walkthrough at the T-hangar building at POWBAC. The contractor, Mike's Pole Barns, has a short punch list of items to finish.

BOYER PARK - RV EXPANSION PROJECT: The Properties and Development Manager reported that Munir Daud + Associates are working on final drawings on the RV expansion project for Boyer Park. Once the drawings are complete, they will be sent to the Army Corps of Engineers for review. The project will include 14 to 15 new RV spaces.

BOYER PARK - TREE TRIMMING/HOTEL ROOM REMODEL: In other business at Boyer Park, the staff is working on bids for the tree trimming project. It was also noted that the hotel room remodel plans have been completed and a building permit has been applied for.

WASHINGTON CITIES INSURANCE AUTHORITY PUBLIC BID LAW SEMINAR: The Properties and Development Manager reported that she and Maintenance Supervisor Butch Riebold attended a Washington Cities Insurance Authority Public Bid Law seminar presented on January 27, 2009, in the City of Spokane Valley.

INLAND NORTHWEST PARTNERS SPRING MEETING/WPPA LEGISLATIVE DAY: It was noted that the Inland Northwest Partners spring meeting will be held on March 26, 2009, in

Hayden Lake, Idaho, one day after the Washington Public Ports Association Legislative Day in Olympia. Because of transportation logistics, it was decided that Commissioner Boone will plan to attend the Inland Northwest Partners meeting in Hayden Lake but will not plan to attend the WPPA Legislative Day program.

REPORT ON ADO ACTIVITIES: At 11:10 a.m., Dick Waters, Director for the ADO, joined the meeting. Mr. Waters reported on various ADO activities. He presented a request that the Port become a member of the "Palouse Knowledge Corridor." The organization's goal is to develop relationships with the higher educational institutions in the region to further economic development. Discussion ensued. It was concluded that the Port would consider participating with the organization in an advertising campaign connected with economic development but would not become a member of the organization.

PULLMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - "SHOP LOCAL" ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN: Mr. Waters reported that the Pullman Chamber of Commerce has requested that the Port participate in a "shop local" advertising campaign. Twenty-Five Hundred Dollars was requested. The consensus of the Commissioners appeared to be that the campaign was outside of the Port's mission, and no action was taken.

SEWEDA BOARD REORGANIZATION: The Executive Director reported on the SEWEDA Board reorganization, noting that the Board has now been configured to meet with the federal EDA program requirements. He presented a draft letter addressed to the Ports of Clarkston, Garfield, and Columbia, recommending that for the time being all four Ports work within the reconfigured Board structure. Discussion ensued. The Executive Director noted that his primary concern was that restructuring SWEDA at the present time might jeopardize obtaining project funding from the federal government at a time when a massive economic stimulus bill is working its way through Congress. A **MOTION** was made to authorize a letter to the Ports of Clarkston, Garfield, and Columbia recommending that the current Board configuration be maintained for the time being. The motion carried.

REGULAR MEETING RECESSED: At 12:00 p.m., the Port President called for a lunch recess, with the regular meeting to convene at 12:30 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED: At 12:30 p.m., the regular meeting of the Port of Whitman County was reconvened in the Port office in Colfax, Washington. All Commissioners, the Executive Director, the Properties and Development Manager, and the Port Attorney were present. Also present was ADO Director Dick Waters.

RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY FIBER PROJECT: Discussion ensued regarding the railroad right-of-way fiber project.

HEAVY LIFT CRANE PROJECT: The Executive Director reported on the status of the heavy lift crane project.

UNIT TRAIN PROJECT: The Executive Director reported on the unit train project status.

IPZ PROJECT: The Executive Director reported on the Innovation Partnership Zone Project.

WILMA - PROSPECTIVE NEW LEASES: The Properties and Development Manager reported on prospects for new leases at Wilma.

MEETING ADJOURNED: At 2:10 p.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned.

PORT OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION

JOHN E. LOVE, President

ROBERT F. GRONHOLZ, Vice President

DANIEL W. BOONE, Secretary