

Minutes of the meeting of the Port of Whitman County of May 23, 2011.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Port office in Colfax, Washington. Present were Commissioners Boone and Love, the Executive Director, the Properties and Development Manager, and the Port Attorney. Also present were Jack Fulfs and Tom Kammerzell.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A **MOTION** was made to approve the Minutes of the meeting of May 5, 2011, as entered in the minute book. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: The Commissioners reviewed the claims.

Commissioner Love inquired as to Claim No. 20485. The Properties and Development Manager reported the claim was for a progress payment on construction of the new hangar at POWBAC.

Commissioner Boone inquired as to Claim No. 20478. The Executive Director responded that the company was mapping the Port's fiber optic cable system in stages. The claim was for the most recent work.

A **MOTION** was made to pay Claim Nos. 20462 through 20488 totaling \$113,000.32. The motion carried.

WPPA SPRING MEETING: Commissioner Love reported on attending the Washington Public Ports Association spring meeting held May 18-20, 2011, in Blaine, Washington. The keynote speaker was Duane Knapp, who spoke on the subject of "branding." Mr. Knapp addressed the need for branding to be more than image-making--that it should also incorporate the promises and commitments of the organization.

Dr. Arun Raha, Chief Economist for the State's Economic and Revenue Forecast Council, also spoke at the meeting. He reported that the economic outlook for the state through the year 2012 is somewhat poor. He predicted that a significant recovery in the state's economy is not likely to occur until 2013.

The conference also included sessions on major transportation projects in the state.

The Properties and Development Manager reported on attending a session on water rights in the State of Washington.

SEWEDA MEETING: Commissioner Boone reported on attending the SEWEDA meeting of May 10, 2011. The Executive

Director, Duane Wollmuth, has resigned effective May 26, 2011. Commissioner Boone reported that Mr. Wollmuth has done an excellent job as the director for the organization. Discussion at the meeting focused on the future and direction of SEWEDA.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROJECT - PRE-BID MEETING: The Properties and Development Manager reported that a pre-bid meeting with interested contractors on the Port telecommunications project was scheduled for June 1, 2011. The bid opening on the project is scheduled for June 15, 2011.

POWBAC - NEW HANGAR: The Properties and Development Manager reported that the foundation work for the new hangar at POWBAC has been completed and the project is proceeding as weather permits.

RAIL LINES: The Commissioners and the Executive Director discussed a letter from Pullman City Manager John Sherman. The letter indicated that the current operator on the line, W & I Railroad, has proposed that rail between Pullman and Colfax be pulled and salvaged and used to reconstruct the line between Oakesdale and Thornton. Mr. Sherman asked for support for the proposal that if the track is pulled from the rail line between Pullman and Colfax, that the right-of-way be developed as a "path" between the two cities.

The Commissioners expressed their ongoing support for preserving rail infrastructure in the region. The reasons for this are numerous, but they include wear and tear of heavy traffic on the roads, the lower environmental cost of rail service as compared to trucking, and the advantages of keeping a system that's competitive with barge shipments. There was also some discussion as to whether it would be realistic to restore the Oakesdale to Thornton run. Due the complexities of the question, it was decided not to take action on the request. It was noted that the PCC Rail Board will be meeting on May 26, 2011, and discussion of the issues will be put on the agenda.

The Executive Director was asked to draft a response to the City of Pullman explaining the Port's position.

STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING: The Commissioners and the Executive Director discussed scheduling a strategic planning meeting for August, 2011. A meeting was tentatively scheduled for August 10 and 11, 2011.

CHANGE OF JUNE 16, 2011, PORT COMMISSION MEETING: Discussion ensued as to a change of the June 16, 2011, meeting

date. The decision on rescheduling the meeting was tabled in the absence of Commissioner Cox.

INLAND NORTHWEST PARTNERS: Commissioner Boone and Commissioner Love reported that they plan to attend the Inland Northwest Partners meeting on June 9, 2011, at Hayden Lake. The Executive Director is scheduled to speak at the meeting on Rail Board activities.

SITE F LEASE AT WILMA - OPTIONS TO RENEW: The Port Attorney reported that TGM Company has been assigned the Site F lease by AAA Tree Service. TGM has requested an addendum to the lease granting the Company three five-year options to renew after the current term expires on December 31, 2015. A **MOTION** was made to authorize the Executive Director to grant three options to renew the lease of the Site F property with the TGM Company. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 11:20 a.m., the Port President called for an executive session to discuss real estate issues with the Executive Director, with the regular meeting to reconvene at 11:50 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED: At 11:50 a.m., the regular meeting of the Port of Whitman County reconvened following executive session. Present were Commissioners Boone and Love, the Executive Director, the Properties and Development Manager, and the Port Attorney.

MEETING ADJOURNED: At 11:55 a.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned.

PORT OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION

DANIEL W. BOONE, President

JOHN E. LOVE, Vice President

DONALD COX, Treasurer