

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Port of Whitman County of September 22, 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 Commissioners Love and Boone, the Executive Director, and the Port Attorney. Also present was Joe Smillie of the Whitman County Gazette.

A **MOTION** was made to excuse Commissioner Gronholz from the meeting. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A **MOTION** was made to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of September 3, 2009, as mailed and entered in the minute book. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: The Commissioners considered the claims. Commissioner Love inquired as to Claim No. 19183 of the City of Pullman. The Executive Director reported that the payment was the Port's agreed annual financial support amount for the Pullman-Moscow Airport fire flow project. Commissioner Boone inquired as to Claim No. 19209 to KACI General Contractor. The Executive Director reported this was the final payment to the contractor for the building improvements to the Henley Court Building for Port tenant Merry Cellars. A **MOTION** was made to approve Claim Nos. 19174 through 19211 totaling \$132,307.93. The motion carried.

"BROWNFIELD" REHABILITATION PROJECT: The Executive Director reported that on October 1, 2009, there will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the "Brownfield" rehabilitation project at Palouse. Commissioner Boone will attend the ceremony, schedule permitting, as will Dick Watters.

RAIL OFFLOAD FACILITY: Commissioner Love reported on a discussion with Edgar Johnson at the Port fair booth during the county fair regarding the possibility of a rail offload facility at the top of the Snake River canyon that would serve one or more of the grain terminals on the river. His idea is that a loaded grain car could generate electricity on the descent.

WPPA TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR: Commissioner Love reported on attending the Washington Public Ports Association trade and economic development seminar in Walla Walla on September 17-19, 2009. The general topic was the relationship of ports to innovative technologies. Don Tilton was part of a panel on new technologies, and he reported on the green grid project.

IP ZONE - GRANT APPLICATION: The Executive Director reported that staff was continuing to work on a grant application for the IP Zone to the Washington State Department of Commerce. The application is due November 1, 2009.

GREEN IT ALLIANCE: In other business, the Executive Director reported that the Green IT Alliance is consolidating its operations on a single floor at the Henley Court Building.

TIGER GRANT APPLICATION The Executive Director also reported that the Tiger grant application has been completed and submitted. A response is expected in November.

PORT/PULLMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TOUR: It was noted that the Port/Pullman Chamber of Commerce tour is scheduled on November 6, 2009. The tour will include the following businesses in the Lewis-Clark Valley: The Lewiston Tribune, ATK (an ammunition manufacturer), and Renaissance Marine Group (a boat building company). The tour will conclude at the Pullman Industrial Park with visits to Decagon, Schweitzer Engineering Labs (tentative), and Merry Cellars winery. Commissioner Boone and Commissioner Love will plan to participate in the tour.

JUDGMENT AGAINST COLUMBIA PHYTOTECHNOLOGY: The Executive Director reported that a small claims court judgment was awarded to the Port against Columbia Phytotechnology in the approximate sum of \$1,200. The Executive Director and the Port Attorney will confer on the next steps.

PNWA - BIOLOGICAL OPINION: The Executive Director reported on participating in a phone conference arranged by the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association pertaining to the Bi-Op opinion. The opinion has been concluded following review by the Obama administration. Federal District Court Judge Redden, who is presiding in the Clean Water Act lawsuit, is scheduled to rule on the opinion within the next week.

ZONE HEARING ON MADER PROPERTY: The Executive Director reported that the zoning hearing for the Mader property, scheduled on September 17, 2009, was rescheduled to September 23, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. at the City Council Chambers in Pullman. The Executive Director plans to attend.

WPPA - CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION: The Port has received correspondence from the WPPA pertaining to the Washington Public Ports Association planned centennial celebration of the Association. The Executive Director will contact the WPPA for more information.

PALOUSE BASIN WATER SUMMIT: The 5th annual Palouse Basin Water Summit for the region will be held in Pullman on October 6, 2009. Commissioner Boone will attend if his schedule permits.

ISLAND STREET RENTAL BUILDING - REPAIRS TO FURNACE: The Executive Director reported on repairs to the furnace in the Island Street rental building.

PNWA ANNUAL MEETING - SPONSORSHIP: A **MOTION** was made to authorize the Port to participate in sponsorship of the PNWA annual meeting in Vancouver in November "consistent with past participation". The motion carried.

REGULAR MEETING RECESSED: At 11:50 a.m., the Port President called for a lunch recess, with the regular meeting to reconvene at 12:30 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED: At 12:30 p.m., the regular meeting of the Port of Whitman County was called to order in the Port office in Colfax, Washington. Present were Commissioners Love and Boone. Also present was the Executive Director and the Port Attorney.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Port President called for an executive session to discuss property valuation issues, with the regular meeting to reconvene at 1:00 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED: At 1:00 p.m., the regular meeting of the Port of Whitman County reconvened following executive session. Present were Commissioners Love and Boone, the Executive Director, and the Port Attorney.

HENLEY COURT BUILDING: The Commissioners and the Executive Director discussed the possibility that given the continued interest in prospective tenants in the Henley Court Building, the Port might keep the building rather than sell it. No action was taken.

MEETING ADJOURNED: At 1:30 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