

COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 2, 2023 - 12:00 PM Public Session Start
Fabulich Center, Room #104: 3600 Port of Tacoma Road, Fife



The Port of Tacoma Commission met for a regular meeting on **February 2, 2023** at the Fabulich Center, 3600 Port of Tacoma Road, Fife, WA. Commissioners Meyer, Ang, Keller, McCarthy and Marzano were present.

CALL TO ORDER | EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Keller called the meeting to order at **10:01 a.m.** and announced that the Commission would recess into an **Executive Session from 10:01 to 11:20 a.m.** to discuss:

1. One (1) Property Acquisition and Selling/Leasing Item RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) & RCW 42.30.110(1)(c)
2. One (1) Litigation Item RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)

Port of Tacoma Executive Director, Eric Johnson, then stated the factors that go into a decision of selling or leasing property include, in this instance, the size and zoning of the property, the distance and connectivity of the property to marine terminals, and the potential for job creation, and consistency with the Port's Strategic Plan.

At 11:22 a.m. Commissioner Keller extended the Executive Session for another 20 minutes. The Commission was recessed from **10:01 to 11:40 a.m. in Executive Session.**

RETURN TO ORDER

Commissioner Keller returned the meeting to order at **12:02 p.m.**, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Keller also acknowledged that we are situated on the shores of the Salish Sea and reside on the ancestral lands of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The Port staff participated in a career fair at White River High School and spoke of career opportunities in the maritime trades and attended the Tacoma School District's kickoff event for planning the Maritime Skills Center.
- Attended the Tacoma Chamber of Commerce Horizons Economic Breakfast. The Port was one of the sponsors and the Executive Director made brief remarks at the event.
- We took the consultants, who are working on the City of Tacoma's subarea planning project, on a tour of the Tideflats. This tour also included City of Tacoma staff and the Puyallup Tribe.
- The Port is participating in a tree planting event with first graders from Sherman Elementary. This was initiated by one student who wrote a letter asking if they could plant trees. There will be about 70 first graders and the planting runs from 10am-noon on Feb 13th.
- Today is Port Day in Olympia. There is a reception at 5pm for anyone interested in attending.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public comments were given.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Minutes: January 17, 2023
- B. Resolution 2023-05-PT: Appoint Sara Kern as Designated Agent for Tort Claims
- C. Assignment of Lease from Premier Transport Inc. to Portland Container Repair

MOTION by Meyer: "Approve the Consent Agenda."

Motion was made by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Ang with no discussion.

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

Commissioner Ang Aye
Commissioner Keller Aye

Commissioner McCarthy Aye
Commissioner Meyer Aye
Commissioner Marzano Aye

COMMISSION ACTIONS

A. Afar Logistics Lease (1st Reading) - Shannon Bartlett

- No action requested today, as this is just the first reading. Action will be requested at the next Commission, following the second reading.
- Afar is looking to expand in Tacoma and would like to enter into a three-year lease.
- The proposed lease details were reviewed. Rates are based on market research and input from brokers in the community.
- Maintenance and environmental issues with the building were discussed.

B. Proclamation 2023-01-PT: Recognizing Black History Month

- The Port issued a Proclamation recognizing February as Black History Month.

MOTION: "Adopt Proclamation 2023-01-PT as presented."

Motion was made by Commissioner Ang and seconded by Commissioner Meyer

DISCUSSION:

No question or amendments were made.

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

Commissioner Ang Aye
Commissioner Keller Aye
Commissioner McCarthy Aye
Commissioner Meyer Aye
Commissioner Marzano Aye

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:

A. Port Governance Best Practices, Frank Chmelik, Washington Public Ports Association General Counsel

Eric Johnson, Executive Director for the Port of Tacoma, introduced attorney Frank Chmelik, Mr. Chmelik provided the Commission with a presentation on Port Governance Best Practices and led a facilitated discussion by the Commission. The Commission thanked Mr. Chmelik for the presentation.

NEW BUSINESS - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

ISSUE BRIEFINGS

A. Tacoma School District and 253 Maritime Skills Center

- Commissioner Meyer requested an update to address the vision, timeline, property, and what is being considered. It was suggested that the briefing occur in a special work study session to ensure the Commission understands this process and use. Multiple Commissioners were in agreement.
- It was suggested by Commissioner Ang that the Commission send the Executive Director a list of issues that they would like to hear more about on this subject.
- On the topic of education, Commissioner McCarthy added that he recently attended an advisory board meeting for the Center for Urban Waters. The question arose to see if the Port has an interest in helping with the civil engineering programs at UW Tacoma and assisting in creating internships with businesses in the Tideflats. As a reminder, the Port of Tacoma created an endowed position for \$1 million, which is held by Dr. Joel Baker. Through that contribution, we have an agreement for what is produced. Perhaps this can be addressed as well.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Ang – She is part of the Puget Sound Regional Council's (PSRC) Economic Development Board. America's Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) event will be held May 14-19. It will bring 50 senior level government business policy and economic decision makers to our area for a firsthand look at the Puget Sound region's economic vision, entrepreneurship and economic drivers. May 18th is Pierce County's day and she anticipates the primary focus will be the Port of Tacoma. Staff is aware and working with Commissioner Ang on preparations.

Commissioner Marzano – None

Commissioner McCarthy – Would like to look at our transportation priorities, as he believes this is an ongoing issue. He had an opportunity to speak with some of our legislators in Olympia recently and while we have some priorities, they are other people's projects and not our own. He hopes the Commission will continue discussion on important transportation issues in the Tideflats, so we can bring them forward with our legislators in the future.

Commissioner Meyer – Appreciated the governance discussion today and wants to conduct an evaluation of the year. He plans on attending the World Hydrogen Summit in May.

Commissioner Keller – Requests for Proposals are being made for paid internships in Pierce County for workforce development. Please send recommendations to Leslie Barstow. Unity is a shared and common purpose. It doesn't mean you always agree, but you can work toward a common purpose. She thanked commissioners for their work.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Keller adjourned the meeting at **1:50 pm**.

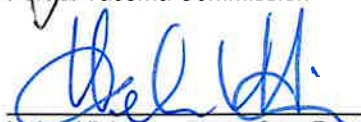


Deanna Keller, President
Port of Tacoma Commission

Attest:



John McCarthy, Secretary
Port of Tacoma Commission



Helen Hickman, Clerk of the Port
Port of Tacoma