

MEETING MINUTES

Port of Tacoma Commission



REGULAR MEETING

February 21, 2024 - 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 21, 2024** at the Fabulich Center, 3600 Port of Tacoma Road, Fife, WA. Commissioners Kristin Ang, Deanna Keller, Dick Marzano, and Don Meyer were present at the start of the meeting. Commissioner John McCarthy joined the meeting at 10:20 am, during Executive Session. A quorum was met.

CALL TO ORDER | EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Kristin Ang, Port of Tacoma Commission President, called the meeting to order at **10:00 a.m.** and announced that the Commission would recess into a closed **Special Order of Business** until **10:30 a.m.** to discuss a labor collective bargaining agreement. The Commission would then recess into a closed **Executive Session** until **12:00 p.m.** to discuss:

- One (1) Potential Litigation Item – RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)
- One (1) Evaluation of a Public Employee – RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)
- One (1) Receive and Evaluate Complaints or Charges Brought Against a Public Officer or Employee – RCW 42.30.110(1)(f)

1. RETURN TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE:

Commissioner Ang returned the meeting to order at **12:00 p.m.** and stated they were in Executive Session until **11:30 a.m.** The public meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Ang also acknowledged that we are situated on the traditional homelands of the Puyallup Tribe and committed to uplifting the voices, experiences, and histories of the Indigenous people of this land.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

An addition to the Consent Agenda was requested by Commission Marzano through a motion as stated below:

MOTION: To add a fifth item (5E) to today's consent agenda as follows – "Authorize Port Legal Counsel to retain an outside investigator pursuant to Port of Tacoma Commission Resolution 2023-08-PT".

Motion was made by Commissioner Marzano and seconded by Commissioner Meyer.

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

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

No additional changes to the meeting agenda were made and the agenda was approved as presented.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Eric Johnson

- We were honored yesterday (2/20/24) with a visit by Senator Patty Murray. She spent about an hour with us and was given a tour. She wanted to see the Husky Terminal, where the large PIDP grant funding

was going to be used and see our carbon emission reduction efforts. Commissioners Ang and McCarthy were also in attendance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Two separate e-mails from Julie Andrzejewski and Jeneva Apolito opposing Darling International was received through the Public Comment e-mail address on February 8, 2024. They were acknowledged and distributed to all Commissioners at the time of receipt.
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5. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Minutes: February 1, 2024
- B. Disbursement Certifications during the period of 1-9-24 to 2-9-24:
 - 1. Check numbers 239184 to 239417 and 239419 to 239486 in the amount of \$3,371,793.88, and electronic payments in the amount of \$4,423,102.73 for a total of \$7,794,896.61.
 - 2. Check number 239418 to the State Auditor for a total of \$1,511.58.
- C. Benefit Vendor Contract Approval: Reliastar
- D. Resolution 2024-01-PT: 2024 Amended & Restated Bylaws – Technical Correction Only
- E. Authorize Port Legal Counsel to retain an outside investigator pursuant to Port of Tacoma Commission Resolution 2023-08-PT.

The consent agenda votes were taken in two separate motions.

MOTION 1: Approve Consent Items A, B1, C, D & E (B2 - Check to state auditor omitted).

Motion was made by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Keller.

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

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

MOTION 2: Approve Consent Item B2 – Check to State Auditor.

Motion was made by Commissioner Keller and seconded by Commissioner Marzano

VOTE: Motion Carried 4-0-1

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

6. COMMISSION ACTIONS:

A. Resolution 2024-02-PT: Master Benefit & Salary Resolution

Jean West (Chief Human Resources Officer) and Jeniann Kaelin (Manager—Human Resources) with the Port of Tacoma presented and requested adoption of Resolution 2024-02-PT. The proposed changes for this year included removal of the administrative procedural details within the document to maintain just the Human Resource policy items. A review was conducted by an outside consultant in 2023 of the

Port's classification and compensation structure, as the last time it was reviewed was 10 years ago. This Resolution reflects the changes and updates proposed through that review.

MOTION: To approve the proposed Resolution 2024-02-PT (Master Benefit & Salary Resolution) which supersedes any and all Master Benefit & Salary Resolutions (MBSR) including Resolution 2023-02-PT.
Motion was made by Commissioner Keller and seconded by Commissioner Marzano.

VOTE: Motion Carried 4-1

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

B. Benefit Vendor Agreement: First Choice Health

Trisha Perez (Manager—Human Resources) with the Port of Tacoma presented. First Choice Health provides third party administration of claims for our self-insured medical plans and has acted in this capacity for the Port since 2014. The current 5-year contract expires on March 31, 2024. Requests for proposals were made and four responses were received. Based on the scope of services and customer satisfaction, First Choice was again selected. Rates are billed on per employee per month basis.

MOTION: To approve the vendor contract renewal for First Choice Health.
Motion was made by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Keller.

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

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

C. Commission Travel Approval: World Ocean Summit

Alisa Praskovich (Chief—Strategic Projects & Commission Relations) with the Port of Tacoma presented and requested approval of Commission international travel to the World Ocean Summit in Lisbon, Portugal. The Port was invited to speak at this event based on their expertise on sustainable practices. The Summit is sponsored by The Economist and their focus is on sustainable ocean economy with representation from multiple industries.

MOTION: To approve Commission international travel from March 11, 2024 to March 13, 2024 to Lisbon, Portugal for the World Ocean Summit.
Motion was made by Commissioner Keller and seconded by Commissioner Marzano.

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

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

7. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS: None

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Commission Meetings (Bylaws Article V) – Commissioner Keller recommended the extra regular meetings be reviewed to determine if they are necessary, from both a production cost side and agenda content side. She mentioned the meetings over the past year or so have been shorter in length (a little over an hour). There would still be opportunities to call additional meetings when necessary to take care of business. She would like to discuss this at future meeting. Commissioners Ang, Meyer and Marzano supported a future discussion. It was noted that with special meetings, the agenda becomes fixed 24 hours prior, and while items can be removed, no additions can be made. A cost breakdown and possible amendment language was requested in preparation of a future discussion.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. DEI Committee Update – Commissioners Ang & Marzano gave the report. All staff who are interested in participating in the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion efforts are invited to attend a DEI Team meeting on February 29th at 9:00 am to learn more and can sign-up for a subcommittee to help carry out the work.

10. ISSUE BRIEFINGS:

A. Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge Closure: Traffic Impacts

Ryan Medlen (Senior Planner—Port of Tacoma) and Ramiro Chavez (Public Works Director/City Engineer—City of Tacoma) presented on the subject. They were joined by Matthew Mauer (Government Affairs Manager—Port of Tacoma) and Josh Diekmann (Transportation Division Manager—City of Tacoma) to help field questions. A traffic impact study was conducted and the findings were reviewed. An update was given on the status of the bridge clean-up and process. The original bridge was built in 1926, and the steel structure has a life expectancy of approximately 100 years. Every local jurisdiction is required to conduct inspections on bridges every two years, and rate it as being in good, moderate or poor condition. The visual inspection could not be done, so the Federal Highway Administration deemed it as not in compliance and closed the bridge in October 2023. A short-term solution and the process for cleaning was presented, which includes encapsulating the bridge for cleaning, so that debris will not contaminate the waterway below. This process would take about five years to complete, but the outcome could still mean a closure, based on findings. The cost of a new bridge is estimated at \$280 million by today's prices, with a total overall cost of \$310 million by the time the design, bid, and build occurs.

B. Earley Business Center Master Plan

Deirdre Wilson (NWSA) and Eddy Kharrazi (Moffatt & Nichol) presented. An in-depth review of the site was conducted. The property is complex with a lot of issues at the site. Four scenarios were identified in the review, with the third scenario ranking highest and recommended. This scenario included a recommendation for water dependent users. The interim and long-term plans were presented.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

- **Commissioner Keller** – Thanked Local 22 for prepping the holes for the tree planting event.

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- **Commissioner Ang** – Wished everyone a Happy lunar new year. The APPC is celebrating the lunar new year at the Tacoma Dome this Saturday. She echoed the thanks to Local 22 for the tree planting prep work, where a total of 51 trees were planted. She pointed out that this is one of many efforts made by the Port for habitat restoration.
 - **Commissioner Meyer** – Requested information on the Occidental clean-up and would like more clarity moving forward.
 - **Commissioners Marzano and McCarthy** did not make any additional comments.
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12. ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Ang adjourned the meeting at **1:54 pm**.

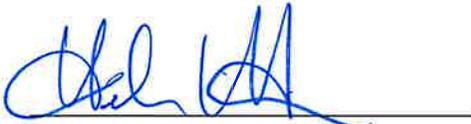
Attest:



Kristin Ang, President
Port of Tacoma Commission



Dick Marzano, Secretary
Port of Tacoma Commission



Helen Hickman, Clerk of the Port
Port of Tacoma