

## REGULAR VIRTUAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

### June 16, 2022

The Port of Tacoma Commission met virtually for a regular meeting on June 16, 2022. Commissioners Ang, Keller, McCarthy, Marzano and Meyer were present via video teleconferencing.

As provided for in ESHB 1329, the Port determined that the Port Commission could not hold its regular meeting of June 16, 2022 in-person with reasonable safety, and the meeting was held fully remotely, without a physical location. Members of the public could listen to the proceedings or watch the live webstream.

#### CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Meyer called the regular meeting to order at 10:01 am and announced the Commission would recess into Executive Session until 12:25 pm to discuss five items:

- One item of performance review of a public employee as allowed by RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)
- Two items of considering the sale or lease of real estate as allowed by RCW 42.30.110(1)(c)
- One item considering the site selection or acquisition of real estate as allowed by RCW 42.30.110(1)(b)
- One item of potential litigation as allowed by RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)

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

Commissioner Meyer returned to Public Session at 12:25 pm to announce that the Commission required an additional 15 minutes for Executive Session and the Public Session would now begin at 1:00 pm. Executive Session concluded at 12:35 pm.

#### RETURN TO ORDER

Commissioner Meyer returned the meeting to order at 1:01 pm. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Meyer 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 THE AGENDA:** The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

**SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS:** None.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

**A. Approval of the Minutes:** April 21, 2022 and May 19, 2022

**B1. Approval of the Check Certification:** April 2, 2022 – May 6, 2022, totaling \$ 5,996,283.81

**B2. Approval of the Check Certification:** May 7, 2022 – June 3, 2022, totaling \$16,374,775.67

**B3. Approval of the Checks to the State Auditor's Office:** Checks #233328, #233399 and #233701, totaling \$3,762.09

**MOTION:** Approve Consent Agenda Items A, B1 and B2.

*Motion was made and seconded.*

**VOTE:** MOTION CARRIED 5-0

**MOTION:** Approve Consent Agenda Item B3.

*Motion was made and seconded.*

**VOTE:** MOTION CARRIED 4-0 *Commissioner McCarthy abstained*

#### PUBLIC TESTIMONY:

**Robin Evans-Agnew, RN, PhD - Project Authorization for the Off-Dock Container Support Facility – NEPA and Frontage Improvement Design:**

*This testimony was emailed and read into the record by the Clerk of the Port:*

It has recently come to my attention that there will be a NEPA assessment of the proposed project and that this request for \$615,000 will cover the design costs and the NEPA environmental assessment.

I am requesting that the commission encourage Port staff to enhance their public engagement process over the impacts of removing one of the last remaining stands of trees in the MIC, especially in view of the expected impacts of climate-related heat events on Port worker health.

It appears there has been little public involvement over the removal of these woodlands, yet "Alternative 2" appears to be already recommended, despite the requirements of the Section 1502.5c of the EIS rules, which state "the final environmental impact statement shall normally precede the final staff recommendation and that portion of the public hearing related to the impact study. In appropriate circumstances, the statement may follow preliminary hearings designed to gather information for use in the statements."

Further, published heat-related maps by the City of Tacoma indicate that the Port is a major source of heat for the surrounding region (<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/0b0e009ae2bf4fc3850161bfdfce5740>). While climate change is not directly considered within the NEPA, I urge the commission to request that staff consider these impacts for the long-term health of workers and truckers.

Given initial reviews have been completed without evidence of public comment, I request that the Commission scrutinize the effectiveness of future measures taken by the Port of Tacoma to adhere to section 1506.6 of the NEPA to assure transparency and engagement over this decision.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Blair Deepening Project:** Eric Johnson reported the U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers (ACE) Chief's report was signed by Lieutenant General Spellman last month for our Blair Waterway deepening project. This means that the Chief of Engineers has certified that the project is ready to proceed with the subsequent stages of the study, which include environmental design and planning. The Puyallup Tribe of Indians supports this project and their preliminary questions have gone to the ACE. He also noted key legislation, WRDA, passed the house last week. We will be included in that act, which is an important funding mechanism for us.
- **11<sup>th</sup> Street Viaduct Demolition / Milwaukee Way Homeless Encampments:** Executive Director Johnson stated that viaduct demolition project continues and the viaduct keeps getting shorter and shorter. This is good news. The City of Tacoma, who owns the viaduct and bridge, will be approving the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Viaduct Demolition ILA with the Port of Tacoma on 6/28/22. The Commission approved this ILA last month.  
  
On Milwaukee Way, removal of the homeless encampments has begun by the City of Tacoma with posting of notices to vacate. ILWU Locals #22 and #23 officials have expressed concerns for the movement of cargo on this freight corridor, as well as the safety of their members. Port staff have also expressed safety concerns on Milwaukee Way due to the encampments. We are working with the City of Tacoma to get these encampments cleared.
- **Public Outreach:** Bus tours have resumed with good participation. Our boat tours are scheduled for 8/28/22. Farmers Markets are back and will continue over the next couple of months.

#### COMMISSION ACTIONS

- Resolution 2022-09-PT - Habitat Mitigation Strategy:**  
**This was postponed to the 8/18/22 Commission Meeting**
- Commission International Travel:**
  - 1. International Propeller Club Conference**  
Athens, Greece            9/09/22 – 9/23/22
  - 2. World Trade Center Tacoma Trade Mission**  
Taiwan:                    10/23/22 – 11/03/22  
- Taichung, Kao Hsiung and Taipei  
Vietnam:  
- New City (Binh Duong Province), Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi
  - 3. International Customer Visits as needed**

**MOTION:** Approve trips #1, #2 and #3.

*Motion was made and seconded.*

**VOTE:** MOTION CARRIED 4-1

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

**C. Off-Dock Container Support Facility: NEPA and Frontage Design:**

**MOTION:** Approve an increase in project authorization to \$615,000, for a total authorized amount of \$2,000,000, for work associated with the Off-Dock Container Support Facility, Master Identification No. 101241.01.

*Motion was made and seconded.*

**VOTE:** MOTION CARRIED 5-0

**D. Banana Yard Replacement Switch Project and Federal Railroad Administration Grant Acceptance of \$2.5M:**

**This was postponed to the 8/18/22 Commission Meeting**

**NONACTION NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. Workforce Development Committee:**

1. The Committee will bring forward a draft Workforce Development Strategic Plan at the next Commission Meeting in July to gather the full Commission's feedback. The committee will also share the original long list of ways the Port could partner in this area, as well as their reasoning for choosing certain avenues over others, so the Commission can have input on the items chosen or not chosen from that list.
2. In August, after gathering all of the Commission's input, we will bring forward a Workforce Development Strategic Plan for adoption and inclusion in the 2023 budget. Sean Eagan and Leslie Barstow have done a yeoman's load of work on this.
3. This work is in support and implementation of the Port of Tacoma's overall Strategic Plan.

**ISSUE BRIEFINGS:**

**A. Port Enterprise Strategy and ERP Strategy:**

1. The goal of this project is to modernize, simplify and reduce the number of different software platforms we use for the Port of Tacoma.
2. Erin Galeno gave background on this project, including that the life cycle of our technology assets or applications is much shorter than a bricks and mortar asset or equipment, such as a forklift, and usually is only about 10 to 12 years. We are also looking at our technology strategy over the long-term. It has served us well to lean into Microsoft products.
3. This briefing is to inform the Commissioners prior to launching into budget season.
4. This action is part of the planning process to replace some of the systems that have served us well but will become too expensive to maintain as they near the end of their life cycle, much as a solid commuter car with 200,000 miles on it is reliable but will not last forever.
5. We are also considering a change in strategy regarding the software platforms we utilize: In the past we have used a "Best of Breed Strategy". This means that we have separate software for each business need; each department may have their own application. The downside with this is you end up with a large number of systems, making them difficult and expensive to maintain.
6. The new Enterprise Application strategy (ERP) has been approved by the IT Steering Committee, which includes all C-level executives in the Port of Tacoma and the NWSA. This strategy has three elements:
  - A. All applications will be cloud-based, allowing us to be nimble in acting on business needs.
  - B. We will lean in on Microsoft products, as they are the most efficient and cost-effective for an organization of our size. We utilize the pre-bid, competitive Enterprise Application contract that all state agencies can use for all of our software licenses.

- C. Define and invest in five standardized industry-leading Strategic Enterprise Platforms that will meet most future business software needs. These include Microsoft Dynamics 365, Microsoft 365, Microsoft Azure, IBM Maximo, and Esri ArcGIS.
7. Currently, separate applications are used for Accounting, Financial Planning and Contracts & Purchasing. These will be replaced by one integrated platform.
8. The Port currently has over 90 large and small individual business applications. The new ERP platform will decrease IT support and licensing costs.
9. Port staff will return to Commission for approval of an implementation services contract in Q4 of 2022.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**Commissioner Ang:** Wished everyone a happy Juneteenth, a day to recognize freedom and justice for our fellow black Americans.

**Commissioner Keller:** Also wished everyone a happy Father's Day. She thanked Port staff and commissioners for following COVID protocols for the meeting today. She also appreciates the public comment letter that was shared today and all of the people who are active in their government. She stated that commissioners are hungry for feedback and public comment is always highly encouraged.

**Commissioner Marzano:** Stated that he hopes everybody stays safe.

**Commissioner McCarthy:** Stated that he looks forward to everyone being healthy and not exposed to COVID so we can be in person at our next meeting.

**Commissioner Meyer:** None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Commissioner Meyer adjourned the meeting at 2:06 PM.



Don Meyer, President  
Port of Tacoma Commission

Attest:



Kristin Ang, Secretary  
Port of Tacoma Commission



Judi Doremus, Clerk of the Port  
Port of Tacoma