

MEETING MINUTES

Port of Tacoma Commission



REGULAR MEETING

February 18, 2026 - 12:00 p.m. 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 18, 2026**, at the Fabulich Center, 3600 Port of Tacoma Road, Room 104, Fife, WA.

CALL TO ORDER | EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commission Vice President, Deanna Keller, called the meeting to order at **10:00 a.m.** Also present at the start of the meeting were Commissioners Kristin Ang and Dick Marzano (remote). A quorum was met.

Commissioner Keller announced the Commission would meet in Executive Session until **12:00 p.m.** to discuss:

- Three (3) Potential Litigation Items RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)
- Two (2) Minimum Price of Real Estate for Sale or Lease Items RCW 42.30.110(1)(c)
- One (1) Evaluation of a Public Employee RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)

Eric Johnson (Executive Director—Port of Tacoma) stated the factors allowed to be discussed during Executive Session in relation to sale or lease of real estate are as follows: size and zoning of the property, distance from and connectivity to deep-water marine terminals, potential for job creation, and consistency with the Strategic Plan.

PUBLIC SESSION –

1. RETURN TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE:

Commission Vice President Deanna Keller returned the meeting to order at **12:01 p.m.** Commissioner JT Wilcox joined the meeting at 10:01 a.m. and Commissioner John McCarthy joined at 10:02 a.m. She stated the Commission met in Executive Session from **10:00 a.m.** until **11:58 a.m.** to discuss the items noted previously.

The public session began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Keller acknowledged that we are situated on the traditional homelands of the Puyallup Tribe. The Puyallup people have lived on and stewarded these lands since the beginning of time and continue to do so today. She recognized that this land acknowledgement is one small step toward true allyship, and committed to uplifting the voices, experiences and histories of the Indigenous people of this land and beyond.

Commissioner Keller also recognized February 2026 as National Black History Month, acknowledging the achievements of the African American community and celebrate the great diversity of the American people.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Keller sought approval of the agenda. There were no objections or changes. The agenda was approved unanimously as posted.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Eric Johnson

- **Maritime | 253 Skills Center Open House with TSD** – The Port held an open house for the Skills Center with Tacoma Public Schools at Foss Waterway Museum. Both Commission President Dick Marzano and the School Board President Elizabeth Bonbright spoke. Please contact School District to learn more about the program.
- **Chinese Lunar New Year** – In honor the Lunar New Year, monkeyshines from the Port were hidden around the community by staff who volunteered to do so. The Port's monkeyshines were made by Hilltop glass blowers. This is the year of the Fire Horse.

- **APCC Lunar New Year Event** – The Port is a title sponsor of the Asia Pacific Cultural Center’s celebration again this year.
- **Propeller Club Chowdown** – The Port has found a location for this annual event. It will be held in May of this year. Details will be forthcoming.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

5. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Approval of the minutes for the 1/21/26 meeting.
- B. Disbursement Certifications during the period of 1/9/26 to 2/9/26:
 - 1. Check numbers 4563 to 4649 and 4651 to 4822 in the amount of \$11,166,188.50, and electronic payments in the amount of \$33,689,374.13 for a total of \$44,855,562.63.
 - 2. Check number 4650 in the amount of \$14,132.56 to the State Auditor’s Office.
- C. Amend Contract 071541 with Baker Tilly for Financial Audit Services
- D. Approve WSDOT Virtual Coordination Center ILA

MOTION: Approve the Consent Agenda items 5A, 5B-1, 5C and 5D as presented.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wilcox and seconded by Commissioner Ang.

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

Commissioner Ang	Aye	Commissioner Marzano	Aye
Commissioner Keller	Aye	Commissioner Wilcox	Aye
Commissioner McCarthy	Aye		

MOTION: Approve the Consent Agenda item 5B-2 to the State Auditor’s Office.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ang and seconded by Commissioner Wilcox.

VOTE: Motion Carried 4-0-1

Commissioner Ang	Aye	Commissioner Marzano	Aye
Commissioner Keller	Aye	Commissioner Wilcox	Aye
Commissioner McCarthy	Abstain		

6. **COMMISSION ACTION:**

A. Award Purchase Order to Silverback LLC for Procurement of a Port Work Boat

Colin Millan (Director—Port Security) presented on behalf of the Port. The Department of Homeland Security, via FEMA’s Port Security Grant Program, awarded the Port \$408,750 to support maritime security. The funding will be used to purchase a boat for general Port operations, with Port Security receiving priority use.

MOTION: Approve -

- 1. **Project authorization in the amount of \$545,000.00 for purchase of a Rapid Response Vessel (boat); and**
- 2. **Authorization for the Executive Director, or his designee, to execute a purchase order with Silverback Marine for the acquisition of a Rapid Response Vessel (boat) in the amount of \$521,638.00.**

Motion was made by Commissioner McCarthy and seconded by Commissioner Ang. Discussion ensued.

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

Commissioner Ang	Aye	Commissioner Marzano	Aye
Commissioner Keller	Aye	Commissioner Wilcox	Aye
Commissioner McCarthy	Aye		

B. Commission International Travel - China

Alisa Praskovich (Chief—Strategic Programs & Commission Relations) presented on behalf of the Port. International Commission travel has to be approved by the Commission. An opportunity for one Commissioner to join the City of Tacoma’s delegation visit to China recently presented itself. Lodging and some meals will be provided by the host, but the remaining costs will need to be covered by the Port.

MOTION: Approve Commission international travel to China, April 4-12, 2026.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ang and seconded by Commissioner McCarthy. Discussion ensued.

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

Commissioner Ang	Aye	Commissioner Marzano	Aye
Commissioner Keller	Aye	Commissioner Wilcox	Aye
Commissioner McCarthy	Aye		

7. **SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:** None

8. **NEW BUSINESS:** None

9. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None

10. **ISSUE BRIEFINGS:**

A. 2025 Strategic Initiatives Progress Update – Year in Review

Alisa Praskovich (Chief—Strategic Programs & Commission Relations) and Mark Moore (Sr. Manager—IT Projects) presented on behalf of the Port. A summary of the 2025 Strategic Initiatives were reviewed. Those completed and deferred for future years were discussed. The 2026—2030 Strategic Plan was presented. One new area of focus in the current plan is Workforce Development. Discussion ensued throughout the presentation.

11. **ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

A. Commissioner Keller — Attended the Propeller Club meeting yesterday with Commissioner McCarthy. Eric Johnson was the guest speaker at the event and provided a great presentation on the state of the Port.

12. **ADJOURNMENT:** Commissioner Keller adjourned the meeting at **12:41 p.m.**

ATTEST:


Dick Marzano, President

Port of Tacoma Commission


Kristin Ang, Secretary

Port of Tacoma Commission


Helen Hickman, Clerk

Port of Tacoma