

The Port of Tacoma Commission met for a regular meeting on **January 17, 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 **10:00 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.

At 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Keller announced that the Commission would recess into an **Executive Session from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.** to discuss:

1. One (1) Property Selling/Leasing Item RCW 42.30.110(1)(c)
2. One (1) Acquisition of Real Estate Item RCW 42.30.110(1)(b)
3. Two (2) Litigation Items RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)

Port of Tacoma Executive Director, Eric Johnson, then stated that 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, which is consistent with the Port's Strategic Plan.

RETURN TO ORDER

Commissioner Keller returned the meeting to order at **12:01 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

Commissioner Keller proposed to amend the agenda order and move the Youth Marine Foundation's presentation to follow the approval of the agenda.

MOTION: "Approve the change in the agenda order."

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

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

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

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS (*The following issue briefing was moved up in the agenda*):

A. Youth Marine Foundation Annual Report

Leslie Barstow, Community Relations Manager for the Port of Tacoma, introduced Monique Valenzuela, Executive Director and CEO from the Youth Marine Foundation (YMF) who presented to the Commission.

- Monique thanked the Commission for the Port of Tacoma's support specific to workforce development, which is benefitting youth (ages 13 on up) in our area.
- As a result of the support from the Port, YMF was able to enter into a Capital campaign for Tacoma and Pierce County for the purchase of the training vessel, Doolin Rogers (floating classroom).
- The report included an update on the completion of their capital campaign, the implementation of specific marine workforce development, and the launch of Tacoma's only vessel operations classes in our public schools.

- Their capital campaign was completed in just 342 days and raised \$3.5 million. Due to the Port of Tacoma's leadership investment, they were able to attract more private and public investments. Donors included the City of Tacoma, Pierce County, Washington State Department of Commerce, the Cheney Foundation and many more private investors. It resulted in the purchase and transport of the MV Doolin Rogers (a floating classroom) from Texas, through the Panama Canal, to Canada, to our Tacoma docks, and four new staff positions were funded.
- The workforce development affects local students in terms of awareness, access and achievement:
 - **Awareness** – It begins with middle school students. The program includes boat field trips for over 3,000 students and the goal is to provide awareness of marine industry jobs.
 - **Access** – Currently includes Tacoma Public School students from SOTA and SAMI, but looking to expand. YMF has the only vessel operations class in Tacoma, serving 56 students each week. Students can earn PE credits based on the work associated with the program. The goal is to provide learning on a workboat and curriculum which includes basic boat knowledge.
 - **Achievement** – Recruitment of students/youth in South Sound into the Sea Scouts program, contributes to workforce development.
- Additional photographs were handed out to the Commission at the meeting.

Questions/Comments:

- Monique was thanked for her leadership and success of the program. Tom Rogers and the Doolin family were also recognized for their work and generosity.
- Recognized the public availability the work YMF offers and the workforce development involved with direct access for students to marine work on the water is unique and special. Keep up the good work!
- YMF is partnering with the Foss Waterway Seaport Museum in being good stewards of the multiple uses the Foss Waterway offers.
- While the current student focus is on the Tacoma School District, expansion is expected to reach other school districts: Clover Park School District (Hudtloff Middle School), Eatonville School District and Bethel School District.
- This organization is committed to involving the BIPOC communities and women in the program.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The legislative session began last week. Two commissioners testified: Commissioner Marzano on the transportation issue to keep SR-167 on the schedule and Commissioner Ang before the Ways and Means committee on the capital budget.
- The Chinese lunar new year begins next weekend. The Port is participating by distributing monkeyshines glass floats around the county. These are handblown glass globes that will be hidden for people to find and keep.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- **Felecia Seton, Linda Bennett, John D. French and Carlos M. Olivares, SEIU 6:** Spoke about five people who lost their jobs when a change in the cleaning company for the Port was made effective as of the new year. Notification was only given to them about three weeks ago. They spoke of how this has affected each of them personally and the longevity of their time working in those positions. It was stated that the new company is nonunion and focuses primarily on residential cleaning. They appealed to the Commission to rethink the decision.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Minutes: December 12, 2022 & December 15, 2022
- B. Check Certifications: Checks during the period of 12-3-22 to 1-6-23, totaling \$8,253,956.68

MOTION by Meyer: “Approve the above 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. Resolution 2023-04-PT: Pierce County Airport Siting Position

- Seeking approval to express the Port’s opinion and stance on the siting of a new commercial airport in Pierce County.
- There was a presentation made to the Commission at the December 15, 2022 meeting by the Commercial Aviation Coordination Commission (CACC) who were charged by the Washington State Legislature to recommend a location for a new commercial airport. Their job was not to choose a location, but to narrow down the choices and provide recommendations.
- Their final report will be made this summer, but includes two choices:
 1. Build out SeaTac
 2. Develop a greenfield site: Considerations include one in Central Thurston County, one Central Pierce County (south of 512, between Meridian & Pacific) or one East Pierce County near the Eatonville plateau.
- Transportation and environmental issues were not considered in this project, as funding for that research was not provided to the CACC.
- The resolution seeks to find common ground on the Port’s position and includes language provided by Commissioner Keller at the last meeting.
- Four main parts addressed in the statement:
 1. The Port of Tacoma supports CACC’s recommendation of adding capacity to Paine Field.
 2. The Port is not interested in sponsoring, owning or operating a new airport in their district.
 3. The Port believes lack of infrastructure to support an airport is a major shortcoming with all three proposed locations.
 4. WA state legislature should visit enabling a statute for CACC to include Government & Finance.

MOTION: “Adopt Resolution 2023-04-PT.”

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

DISCUSSION:

- Pros and cons of the statement were given.
- \$13 billion cost estimate to address the infrastructure needs is anticipated but has not been addressed at this time.
- Commissioner Meyer indicated that it appears the CACC was seeking a sponsor for a new airport but keeping the focus on the Port and the maritime industry is preferred by commissioners. However, Commissioner McCarthy doesn’t believe the presentation was such a formal or informal request.

- Commissioner McCarthy believes that a resolution that indicates what we are not going to do is reactionary, since there is no proposal before us to sponsor, own or operate an airport. Neither the staff nor the commission has advanced any such proposal for consideration. He doesn't believe we ought to be voting that "we are not interested" in items that are not being offered or proposed at this time. He also believes the resolution is too broad, it goes beyond the two sites referenced and includes "an airport in the district" which is all of Pierce County.
- Constituents want to know where the Commission stands with regard to this topic. There is always opportunity to amend the stance at a future date, if needed.
- Commissioner McCarthy gave a presentation on the history of the Port of Tacoma as it relates to discussions on a joint commercial use of McChord AFB, some fifty years ago.

VOTE: Motion Carried 4-1

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

B. 2023 Boards & Work Groups Discussion & Adoption

- Service on boards, committees and work groups are revisited annually. Commissioner Keller thanked staff for their work in compiling and tracking the list for this year's committees and work group assignments.
- Commissioner Keller called on Alisa Praskovich, Chief, Special Projects & Commission Relations, to lead the discussion.

MAIN MOTION: "Discuss the list as presented."

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

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

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

DISCUSSION:

- Discussion centered primarily on the Internal Governance (IGWG) Committee, which is a Northwest Seaport Alliance committee comprising two representatives each from the Port of Tacoma Commission and the Port of Seattle Commission.
- The Port of Seattle has their current President and immediate Past-President serve on IGWG. It was suggested that we do the same, since everyone wants to serve on this committee. This would be Commissioner Keller (current President) and Commissioner Meyer (immediate Past-President) for the Port of Tacoma.

AMENDED MOTION: "Amend the Internal Governance (IGWG) Committee to include the current President and immediate Past- President."

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

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

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

C. Finalize travelers for Asia and Europe trips:

The following agenda item is related to the Port of Tacoma Commission Bylaws: Article II, Section 1-N pertaining to Commission international travel. This travel was approved in 2022, but the travelers need to be finalized.

1. March 10-18 – Port of Tacoma Trip: Northern Europe with Rotterdam

Other groups invited (to be paid through their own means) were: ILWU, EDB, Pierce County Council, the City of Tacoma, and the Puyallup Tribe.

Final Commission Travelers: Commissioners Keller and McCarthy.

2. March 19-24 – NWSA trip: Asia Customer Visits

This travel may include one commissioner from each Port. *Final Commission Travelers: yet to be determined as of this meeting date.*

Commissioners Ang and Keller were noted as “maybe” travelers.

3. May 14-19 – NWSA Trip: Europe Customer Visits

Only two Commissioners from each Port are allotted, but this travel immediately follows the World Hydrogen Summit, so two Port of Tacoma commissioners will continue on after the Summit for the customer visits for this NWSA trip and one commissioner will return home afterwards.

Two Final Commission Travelers: Yet to be determined as of this meeting date, but will be chosen from Commissioners Ang, Marzano, and Commissioner Meyer.

a. May 9-11 – Port of Tacoma Trip: World Hydrogen Summit (Rotterdam)

We do not have a limitation on attendance to this summit.

Final Commission Travelers: Commissioners Ang, Marzano and Meyer.

MOTION: “Finalize travelers for Asia and Europe trips.”

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

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. Homeless Resolution with Initiative: The Commission requested an update from staff at the March 21st meeting on the homelessness resolution previously passed in the fall of 2022.

B. Puyallup Tribe of Indians: Status update for the letter of support to put the Ruston Way and Blair properties into trust was requested. The Port sent a letter to the Tribal Council requesting a consultation on it, but no response received to date. Commissioner Keller indicated the term “consultation” is of concern for them. Keeping communication lines open with the Tribe is of utmost importance. Continued and regular meetings are encouraged

through our tribal liaisons (Commissioners Ang and Marzano). Our attorney will respond to specific questions posed previously. The desire is to send a letter of support for the Tribe now.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Workforce Development Group** – Report given by Commissioner Ang. The work group met on January 11 to discuss the draft RFP and how to spend the extra funding provided in the 2023 budget.
- B. Local Economic Development Fund Committee** – Report given by Commissioner McCarthy. This fund is diligently managed by Leslie Barstow. We have \$250,000 to invest. Information was released to public on December 30th and applications are due by February 24, 2023.

ISSUE BRIEFINGS

A. Port Enterprise Application Strategy & Planned ERP Implementation

Executive Director, Eric Johnson, introduced the presenters and gave a synopsis of the topic. The group was charged with streamlining the Port's software platforms to simplify the efforts and seek out cost effective savings.

- In June 2022, Commissioners were briefed on the Port Enterprise Application Strategy and Planned Enterprise Resource Planning application implementation.
- Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) is creating one consolidated software platform for internal business processes.
- A brief history was given, the strategy behind the recommended changes and the platforms were presented.
- The average lifecycle for business systems is 12 years and our last upgrade for Microsoft Dynamics GP was in 2008. Dynamics GP has become outdated, and Microsoft is limiting the support.
- The Port is leaning more into Microsoft Dynamics 365 products, which offers more widespread consistency and updated products.
- Leveraging the same systems for both the Port of Tacoma and Northwest Seaport Alliance is the most cost-effective way to meet the needs and build a roadmap for financial systems.
- Historically, each department at the Port had a system that met their needs, but it presents multiple challenges from a business perspective. A large portfolio of systems is costly and hard to manage effectively.
- The IT Steering Committee approved a new enterprise strategy in 2020 with the following core elements:
 - Simplify the portfolio by retiring legacy and duplicative applications
 - Investing in 5 standardized industry leading platforms that most future business software will be based
 - Prioritize investment in Microsoft software platforms for cost effectiveness
 - Ensure all new applications are cloud-based for business agility
- Functions of the ERP include: Finance & Accounting, Human Resources, Engineering, Purchasing, Project Management, CRM, Data Services, and Access Control.
- At end of 2020, the Port had 93 separate applications. The goal is to reduce those from 93 to 58 by 2024, allowing us to consolidate the data center and reduce cost.
- A Request for Proposals was made in November 2021. Microsoft Dynamics 365 was found to be the best to meet our needs. Responses for implementation partners were received from four, with two finalists selected.
- Phase 1 – Plan & Design involves selecting the partner and refining the preparation of the next phase.
- Phase 2 – Implementation will undertake system configuration, testing, training and deployment.
- Staff will return to Commission for project authorization on Phase 1 in March 2023, with the request for Phase 2 authorization in Q3 of 2023.

Questions/Comments:

- Concern that a change like this can sometimes result in more expense than anticipated. Staff responded that with the many current systems utilized, maintenance and license costs are high. Consolidating will help bring that cost down, as we will purchase less hardware and mitigate the significant rise in IT costs.

- Staff was thanked for their efforts in researching and consolidating the systems.
- Different modules are available through this ERP, so we can build on dynamics.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Marzano – With regard to the public comment from the people who lost their jobs with the cleaning company, while the Commission is not in a position to be involved with the innerworkings, we should address their concerns with a response. He would like to know why the new company was selected. Do we have to take the lowest bidder? We heard from people who have been here for over 10 years and that dedication should be taken into consideration with the decision-making process.

Commissioner Meyer – Agrees with Commissioner Marzano and wondered if the new contract has stated performance standards. Staff responded that cost was one factor considered in the decision, and there are performance metrics that we can provide the Commission.

Commissioner Ang – Has concerns with regard to union vs. non-union with regard to our workforce and contracts, and looks forward to hearing more. She wished everyone a Happy New Year and commemorated Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Sean Eagan was thanked for his work at the capital. She feels we are on a good course in regard to our ask on the Climate Commitment Act funding, shore power, support of public schools and our maritime workforce development efforts.

Commissioner McCarthy – In terms of our asks in Olympia, he looks forward to the day where we initiate our own transportation proposal instead of adding on to someone else's proposal to address our needs in the Tideflats.

Commissioner Keller – Wants to hear more on the cleaning contract and looks forward to a thoughtful reply to the Commission. She thanked the Commissioners for thoughtfulness and openness.


ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Keller adjourned the meeting at **2:26 pm**.

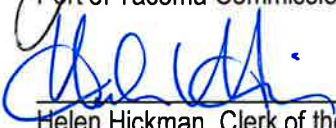


Deanna Keller, President
Port of Tacoma Commission

Attest:



John McCarthy, Secretary
Port of Tacoma Commission



Helen Hickman, Clerk of the Port
Port of Tacoma