

Minutes
Port of Siuslaw
Board of Commissioners
Florence Oregon Ocean Resources Coalition Committee
Regular Meeting
Thursday, 16 July 2009

Port Recording Secretary Lacer called the first and regular meeting of the Port of Siuslaw FOORC Committee to order at 5:10 p.m. in the Port office conference room located at 1499 Bay Street, Florence, Lane County, Oregon.

Attendance: Committee: Gunter Bahr (Bahr), Nola Xavier (Xavier), Al Pazar (Pazar), Larry Nixon (Nixon). Absent: Melonie Rollin, Keith Tymchuck, Howard Crombie. Commission: Joshua Greene (Greene), Bud Saulsgiver (Saulsgiver), Bob Thorp. (Thorp); Staff: Recording Secretary Susy Lacer (Lacer). Audience: John Schaefer, attending for Howard Crombie.

Lacer distributed a welcome message from Port Manager Mark Freeman who was unable to attend, along with a Committee roster and by-laws.

New Business: Xavier noted the by-laws stipulate what needs to be done initially. Nixon moved to nominate Xavier as Chair of the Committee. Discussion. Pazar suggested Xavier serve as Chair for this first meeting only, with a vote for Chair to take place at the next meeting when the full Committee would hopefully be in attendance. Pazar moved to close nominations and call for a vote. Lacer read the **Motion: to appoint Xavier as Chair for the 7/16/09 meeting only. The Committee voted unanimously in favor.**

Xavier opened discussion regarding a regular meeting time. It was agreed the regular meetings for FOORC will be on the third Thursday at 5:00pm, on a monthly basis at least for the time being. Lacer noted the next meeting would be 20 August 2009. Xavier requested an agenda item for the next meeting: in addition to voting for a permanent Chair the Committee will need to select a Vice Chair.

Discussion on meeting procedures. Pazar noted the need to have an agenda for each meeting. Lacer agreed to prepare an agenda each month. Xavier suggested having an ending time for the meetings as well. It was agreed meetings would run from 5:00-6:30pm on a regular basis.

Pazar noted member terms are three years. Nixon noted the provision for an alternate for each Committee member. Lacer agreed to email copies of the application form to each Committee member so they can recommend an alternate for their position. The Port Commission will then appoint alternate Committee members.

Xavier noted Freeman had suggested the first topic for FOORC discussion would be marine reserves. The Committee agreed. Pazar stated a bill was passed recently in the legislature and ODFW (Oregon Dept of Fish & Wildlife) has been given 14 months and \$1M to work on marine reserves. Pazar attended an Oregon Marine Reserves Workshop put on by ODFW on 14 July 2009. Pazar passed out copies of some of the materials from the workshop and Lacer agreed to copy and distribute the full set of materials to all FOORC members. Pazar stated ODFW has a group of scientists available who can act as a resource for the Committee. Nixon asked if offshore mapping had been completed. Pazar stated most mapping is being done currently for wave

energy and is nonproprietary. Pazar explained the Ecotrust style of mapping where all users receive 100 pennies to place on areas of importance, resulting in a map shaded to show areas of high and low use. Pazar stated that SOORC (Southern Oregon Resource Coalition) in Coos Bay has participated in the exercise. Pazar stated ODFW also has a log book program and they are plotting those use results. Pazar recommended the Committee get on board with the Ecotrust mapping project to facilitate the process and help ODFW to meet their timeline. Nixon stated Lidar over flies have been used on the coast and that might be another source of information. Pazar noted the information gathered will apply to many issues, including wave, wind, oil and other energy projects. Xavier stated she has attended OCZMA (Oregon Coastal Zone Management Assn) meetings and listened to Jack Brown from Depoe Bay discuss their process of coming up with a marine reserve proposal. Xavier stated she believes it is better to have suggestions come from the community, to be a 'from the ground up' process. Pazar stated the Port Orford reserve was also a joint community effort, six years in the making. Pazar noted the other reserves that were proposed did not move forward because they were not 'ground-up' processes. Pazar stated the two recommended reserves are being considered test (pilot) areas that will be re-examined in 5 years. Xavier noted that OCZMA meetings are very valuable and she believes the Port should be actively represented there, to have its voice heard. Greene agreed and admitted his lapse in attendance.

Nixon requested that if or when the Committee holds meetings to request public input that the Committee hold a meeting Yachats. The Committee agreed.

Pazar suggested Committee members review the packet of materials on marine reserves (that Lacer will distribute) and get up to speed on the issue.

Discussion on wave energy proposals. Nixon stated some designs are noisy and obtrusive and require direct access to an electric substation. Xavier noted the wave energy units proposed by the Swedish company (Seabased USA), do not require sub access and were the best design she has seen. Greene agreed and suggested Lacer send copies of the presentation made by Seabased to the Committee members. Lacer agreed.

Discussion on wind energy projects. Pazar stated Tillamook has a plan to put in a wind power system. Bahr noted Denmark is developing lots of wind power. Greene stated Seabased also has a vertical wind energy design. Xavier agreed and noted their designs can be placed on a roof top because they don't take much space. Nixon stated this area of the coast gets winds over 80mph and that wave energy designs will need to be hauled out for maintenance. Nixon stated lots of concerns have been raised and not yet addressed regarding ocean energy uses. Bahr asked how wave energy buoys will be kept from being a boating hazard. Nixon stated they would be marked on location, and in nautical notices. Pazar added the buoy areas would be restricted zones for boats. Pazar noted the retrieval of anchoring systems is an issue that would need to be addressed. Pazar stated once buoys have been placed, they change the bottom surface forever, even if the buoys are removed. Nixon asked about the normal sand migration caused by winds and how that would be impacted by the new energy designs. Pazar agreed there are lots of issues to deal with but by establishing this Committee people will know that Florence cares and wants to keep its coast healthy.

Lacer stated minutes will be sent out following each meeting, in time to be reviewed before the next meeting, where they will be approved. Lacer noted the Port had agreed to provide support services for the Committee. Lacer stated she would establish file folders for each Committee member at the Port office (in the hallway) if they wished to pick up materials there instead of receiving them electronically. Pazar asked about reimbursement for mileage for members who travel to the meetings. Lacer stated SeaGrant was looking into the possibility of grant funds to cover some Committee expenses, but those funds were not in place yet.

Pazar expressed his appreciation to the Port Commission for supporting and funding the Committee and for their forward thinking on these issues. Xavier stated the decisions made by the group would have broad representation and would be inclusive. Xavier stated it was important that all voices be heard and included, and noted that the Committee members are well representative of the area. Pazar stated that including all sides will result in a win-win for everyone. Xavier stated success will be achieved only through collaboration, and that it would be important to work through the times of contention to achieve collaboration. Pazar noted FOORC also has the benefit of input from similar resource groups up and down the coast. Greene thanked the Committee members for their presence and willingness to work on these resource issues.

Adjourn: Xavier adjourned the meeting at 6:03pm.

Chair