

MINUTES
PORT OF SIUSLAW COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
 Wednesday, 23 March 2011

Commissioner John Buchanan called the Regular Meeting of the Port of Siuslaw Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Port office conference room located at 1499 Bay Street, Florence, Lane County, Oregon.

ATTENDANCE: Commission: Commissioner John Buchanan (Buchanan); Commissioner Sally Owens (Owens); Commissioner John Scott (Scott); Absent: Commissioner Bud Saulsgiver (Saulsgiver), Commissioner Joshua Greene (Greene), Staff: Port Manager Mark Freeman (Freeman), Recording Secretary Dina McClure (McClure). Audience: Brien Mill, Amy Bartlett of the Siuslaw News, and Alan Campbell of Campbell Productions.

MINUTES: On the MOTION made by Scott, and seconded by Owens, the Minutes of 16 February 2011 were unanimously approved as submitted.

REMARKS FROM CITIZENS/GROUPS: None.

FINANCIALS: Freeman noted that \$791K was the final payment to ODOT to pay off the Maple Street Landing Transient Dock. **On the Motion, made by Scott, and seconded by Owens, the Board unanimously voted to ratify payment of bills listed in the amount of \$838,665.70.**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Discussion of boardwalk property:** Freeman said five years ago a Request For Qualifications (RFQ) was put out to invite real estate developers to lease the boardwalk property for commercial development. Freeman said if the Commissioners want to pursue marketing this property for lease or sale, the RFQ needs to be revised with an updated narrative and current aerial photos. Scott said the Port is supposed to be a self sustaining operation and due to a decrease in revenue and an increase in debt service, the Port needs to consider the sale of the boardwalk property and adjacent parking lot. Owens asked if the Port office property would be included and Scott said it should since it makes more sense to move the Port Office to the Campground. Scott asked Freeman to find out how much it would cost to update the RFQ. There was discussion about selling the 40 acre Industrial Park parcel and the importance of marketing both properties.

2. **Other Items by Commission:** Buchanan asked Brien Mill the status of the Ice Machine. Mill said a lot of work is going on "behind the scenes" and should be operational by the end of April. Scott asked about the status of the Estuary Trail. Owens said a meeting is scheduled end of this month but no decisions have been made. Freeman added that one grant was denied and another grant is under review for Trail funding.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Resolution #03-23-11A, Authorizing Submission of a Lane County Tourism Special Grant Application:** **On the Motion made by Scott, and seconded by Owens, the Board unanimously voted to approve Resolution #03-23-11A.**

2. **Selection of Qualified firms for Wharf Improvement project and issuance of RFP to short list of Qualified firms:** Freeman said the Commissioners need to select a

committee, consisting of himself and two other individuals, to review and score the six submittals. Buchanan suggested the second person should be a Commissioner and the third be a person from the community. Scott said the third person should be someone with structural experience and knowledge. Buchanan asked if either Scott or Owens had a desire to be on the committee and they suggested Greene. Scott asked how soon the committee needed to be selected. Freeman said very soon so the RFP can go out to the three highest scoring firms in the next two to three weeks. **On the Motion made by Owens, and seconded by Scott, the Board unanimously voted for Joshua Greene to be the Commissioner on the Selection of Qualified firms for the Wharf Improvement Project Committee.**

3. Other items by Commission: None.

REPORTS: Owens said the PNWA conference in Washington, DC was very interesting and a learning experience. Freeman explained how complex the budgetary process is and how much can be learned by being there. He talked about "earmarks" and how future funding will become less available. Freeman said many Oregon Ports may not receive money for FY2011-12 but the Port of Siuslaw is listed to receive an appropriation for \$551K. He said there are two Senators from South Carolina who have sponsored a bill that target Oregon Ports as undeserving for maintenance and dredging funds. Freeman said we need to continue to work close with the Corps of Engineers, Congressman Defazio, Senators Merkley and Senator Wyden and their staff. Freeman emphasized the importance of the \$1M the Port has invested, along with the \$3M plus federal money that has gone into the Transient Dock, Turning Basin, and the upcoming Wharf Improvement Project. It makes for an economic case that the Port has made a major investment in our infrastructure and we work hard to maintain it. Owens complimented Freeman on his rapport with other Port Managers, the Congressman and Senators, and said Freemans relationship with these offices and their staff is to the Ports advantage.

Buchanan asked about upcoming projects. Freeman said the ETA for the new restroom is May. Bids are coming in for demolition of the old restroom and the utility work will be subcontracted out.

Scott asked Freeman to look into pouring a concrete slab for port-a-potties in the campground.

Scott said the Port needs to have good communication with the Chamber since a new Director will be coming on board soon.

Freeman said there will be a meeting at the City March 30th to address parking in Old Town. Buchanan encouraged Freeman to attend.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Buchanan adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm.

President