

**PORT OF LEWISTON  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
January 14, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Port Commission was held at the Port District Office at the hour of 1:30 p.m. on January 14, 2015.

Present at the meeting were Port Commission President Mary Hasenoehrl, Port Commission Vice President Jerry Klemm, and Port Commission Secretary/Treasurer Mike Thomason. Administrative staff in attendance were David Doeringsfeld, Port Manager, Jaynie Bentz, Assistant Port Manager, and Kelly Von Lindern, Administrative Assistant. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Port Commission President Mary Hasenoehrl.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:**

Commissioner Hasenoehrl called for review and approval of the agenda. Commissioner Thomason made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Klemm. The motion passed unanimously.

**SLATE OF OFFICERS:**

Commissioner Klemm made a motion to nominate Commissioner Thomason as Commission President. Commissioner Hasenoehrl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Thomason made a motion to nominate Commissioner Hasenoehrl as Commission Secretary/Treasurer. Commissioner Klemm seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Thomason made a motion to nominate Commissioner Klemm as Commission Vice President. Commissioner Hasenoehrl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hasenoehrl turned the meeting over to Commission President Thomason to lead.

**COMMISSION ASSIGNMENTS:**

Commissioners agreed to keep their current committee assignments for 2015.

**CALENDAR REVIEW:**

In December, Commissioners proposed changing regularly scheduled meetings to **noon** on the second Wednesday of the month for 2015 to better accommodate public participation. Manager Doeringsfeld reported the only known conflict was with Lewiston Rotary, which holds its meetings every Wednesday at noon.

Commissioner Klemm made a motion to move the regularly scheduled monthly meetings of the Port Commission for 2015 to noon on the second Wednesday of the month, beginning in February. Commissioner Hasenoehrl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff will post the new time at the front door of the Port Administrative Office, as required by Idaho Code.

The Commission agreed to keep the tentative second meeting of the month as scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month. If a second monthly meeting is held it is noticed as a special meeting in accordance with Idaho Code. Staff noted a special meeting can be scheduled anytime and is not limited to the fourth Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

- No comments were provided.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

Next, the Port Commission examined the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2014 and the Special Meeting of January 8, 2015. A motion was made by Commissioner Klemm to accept the Minutes, respectively, as presented; seconded by Commissioner Hasenoehrl. The motion passed unanimously.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

ACTIVE AGENDA: None

NON-ACTIVE AGENDA: Port Manager, David Doeringsfeld, reported on miscellaneous port projects:

Harry Wall Sanitary Sewer Line – Manager Doeringsfeld reported Keltic Engineering’s design for this project was accepted by the City of Lewiston. The bid opening is February 4 and the Commission should be able to consider awarding the contract at its February meeting.

BTP Plat – Keltic Engineering is revising the plat per City of Lewiston review. The City has accepted mapping for the property provided by Keltic Engineering. Various agencies are now being asked to sign off on “will serve” statements for the plat. Once these signatures are in place, the plat revision will go before the City Council for approval.

Harry Wall Plat – The Port is working with TD&H to amend the plat. Two issues remain outstanding: a 552-square foot encroachment by Westmoreland and an easement needed by Westmoreland for a stormwater line.

Resolving an encroachment issue and easement with Westmoreland will come back before the Commission for action.

REDIFiT Loan – Manager Doeringsfeld reported the Port borrowed approximately \$600,000 through this Idaho Department of Agriculture loan program for the dock expansion project. The Port has made one payment on the loan and is scheduled for the second payment in February 2015 of approximately \$72,000. Manager Doeringsfeld suggested the Port pay the loan off since it has the available capital and would save considerable interest over the remaining eight year term of the loan. Approval will be considered at the February meeting.

Dark Fiber Optic Project – Manager Doeringsfeld reported that Port staff is working on an intergovernmental agreement with the Port of Whitman to construct a dark fiber optic network in Lewiston. The initial phase would serve the Northport area.

Manager Doeringsfeld complimented the Port of Whitman for their assistance as the Port of Lewiston examines the project. The Port of Lewiston dark fiber project would follow the business model established by the Port of Whitman - The Port of Lewiston

would provide the infrastructure while private sector companies would “light” the fiber and provide service to customers.

Allen Schmook, director of IT at Lewis-Clark State College, provided comments regarding the college’s interest in the project.

Valley Vision Executive Director Doug Mattoon spoke to the benefit of the project for Lewiston and urged the project move forward.

Rail Car Tariff – Discussion was had regarding a \$25/car tariff. Port customers and tenants have been contacted to solicit their opinions of the rail tariff. Pacific Steel and Inland 465 have expressed concerns regarding the tariff charge.

As proposed, Great Northwest Railroad would report the number of cars and distribution within Northport. The Port would handle billing for the tariff.

Manager Doeringsfeld said other Ports have similar tariffs. He will continue researching an appropriate rate. Any proposed tariff change will come before the Commission for a vote.

Community Outreach – Manager Doeringsfeld reported on efforts to educate and inform the public about the Port and Port activities including but not limited to: an updated website, e-news and development of print materials.

Upcoming meetings/events – Commissioner Thomason reported he would attend the Chamber Awards Banquet on Jan. 14. Manager Doeringsfeld said he planned to attend the Capitol for a Day even in Kamiah on Jan. 16 and encouraged commissioners to attend as well if they were available. Commissioner Hasenoehrl reported the URA would not meet on February 10; the next meeting is February 24 at 5:30 p.m.

## **TERMINAL II & DOCK OPERATIONS REPORT:**

Manager Doeringsfeld said there were no issues to report at Terminal II.

He reported Container Shipping was strong in December with 441 outgoing containers. Container shipments and wheat shipments for the month of December, as compared to the same month last year, reflect a decrease of -1% in container shipments

and a decrease of -49% in wheat/barley shipments. Year to Date container shipments are down -27.01%. Wheat and barley are near the same as 2013, down -6.76%. A copy of the shipping report with Year to Date and December shipping summary of statistics was presented.

Manager Doeringsfeld noted the Lewis-Clark Terminal has experienced record grain shipment in the last three years.

He said several extraneous factors contributed to the decline in container shipping. For several years, the Port has faced challenges with ICTSI, the private operator of Terminal 6 (container terminal) at the Port of Portland. Particularly, minimum and maximum parameters the company sets for when crews are called out to work a barge has presented significant challenges. Recently, this has been compounded by labor issues/negotiations between the ILWU and PMA. As a result, all West Coast ports are now experiencing slowdowns.

The Port of Lewiston's greatest constraint is the inability to receive the number of containers ordered from ICTSI in Portland. Twice in December the Port ran out of containers due to inadequate supply. The Port is currently out of containers and Hapag Lloyd will truck containers from Salt Lake City to accommodate outgoing commodities. Manager Doeringsfeld estimated that 2014 container shipments would have been approximately 75% higher without these issues.

Manager Doeringsfeld discussed other factors contributing to decline in container shipments since 2007, including the Great Recession, the 3.5 month lock closure in 2010 and on-going management/labor issues since 2011.

A federal mediator is now involved to resolve the labor contract issue between ILWU and PMA. Hopefully, this will in turn resolve some of the issues between ICTSI and ILWU, said Manager Doeringsfeld.

Port Manager, David Doeringsfeld, introduced Dean Brocke of George Brocke and Sons, one of the region's major shippers of peas and lentils. Mr. Brocke stated the main problem was container service issues at the Port of Portland. Mr. Brocke complimented service at the Port of Lewiston and expressed his support.

"I think when the labor issues are settled on the coast you'll see your numbers rebound significantly," he told Port Commissioners.

Manager Doeringsfeld also reported on the crane maintenance scheduled for the upcoming March lock closure. Right now, it doesn't look like the engine will need replacement, which could result in a significant savings for the Port.

### **COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Commissioner Thomason/Valley Vision – Reported he planned to attend the Chamber Awards Banquet on Jan. 14, 2015.

Commissioner Hasenoehrl/Chamber Ag Committee, Urban Renewal Agency – She reported the URA voted on Jan. 13, 2015 to adopt reconstruction of 18<sup>th</sup> Street N. as its top Northport priority. The project was also identified as a top road project in the Northport Transportation Study, which involved extensive input from stakeholders and the public. Commissioner Hasenoehrl also reported Joe Hulett was elected to serve as the new URA Chairman and Bob Blakey will remain as the vice chairman.

Commissioner Klemm/LC Valley Chamber Government Affairs Committee (GAC), Chamber Natural Resource Committee (NRC), PNWA Board of Directors – He reported the last NRC meeting was well attended. Manager Doeringsfeld and Port of Clarkston Manager Wanda Keefer presented on the viability and economic benefits of local ports.

Manager Doeringsfeld reported he and Manager Keefer are giving similar presentations at upcoming meetings of the Lewiston Rotary and CEDA Board of Directors.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

As the next order of business, the Port Manager presented a Financial Statement prepared by the Port Auditors for six months ending December 31, 2014. After review and discussion, Commissioner Klemm made a motion to approve the Financial Statement as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hasenoehrl; the motion passed unanimously. A copy of such Financial Statement was presented.

The Port Manager next presented a Port Financial Report concerning the status of Port funds on December 31, 2014.

**ACT ON CLAIMS:**

The next order of business was a review and discussion of claims against the Port reflected by the Check Detail Sheet. A motion was made by Commissioner Hasenoehrl to approve and pay Port vouchers Nos. 17362 through 17471, transfers and EFTPS for a total amount of \$179,719.63; seconded by Commissioner Klemm. The motion passed unanimously.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

After entertaining questions from Reporter Elaine Williams, at 3:20 p.m., Commissioner Klemm made a motion to convene into Executive Session as allowed by Idaho Code §67-2345 (e) *To consider preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce in which the governing body is in competition with governing bodies in other states or nations;* and (f) *To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation , or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated;* seconded by Commissioner Hasenoehrl. Roll call vote:

Commissioner Thomason – Aye

Commissioner Klemm – Aye

Commissioner Hasenoehrl – Aye

Voting Nay – none; the motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Port commission entered into Executive Session at 3:20 p.m. for such purposes allowed by Idaho Code §67-2345 (e) and (f). During Executive Session, discussion was had relating to (e) the consideration of preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade and commerce in which the governing body is in competition with governing bodies of other states; and, (f) to communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for controversies not yet being litigated by imminently likely to be litigated. The Port Commission reconvened the open meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

  
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Mary Hasenlehrl  
Secretary