

Pioneer Ports Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2018

Clarkston Country Club, 1676 Elm Drive, Clarkston, WA, beginning at 6 p.m.

Attendance: Port of Lewiston--David Doeringsfeld, Jaynie Bentz, Jerry Klemm, Mike Thomason; Port of Clarkston: Beth Larson, Wanda Keefer, Mark Brigham, Marvin Jackson, Wayne Tippet; Port of Whitman: Linda Olson, Bruce Ensley. Other: Dawn Smith--SEWEDA and Laura Jackson

The meeting was opened by Commissioner Mark Brigham at 6:00pm.

There were no citizen comments.

Pioneer Ports Education Efforts: Comments from the attendees on our "story" to educate people within the immediate area and potentially expanding beyond, in partnership with other entities such as NW River Partners and Snake River Advocates, due to outfall from Governor Inslee's task force on southern resident killer whales. The need for more outreach on the four Lower Snake River dams is clear. The specific steps to get there need on-going discussion.

Cruise Boat Economic Impact Study and Needs Assessment: An economic impact study and needs assessment of the passenger vessel industry--in order to demonstrate value of the navigation channel and prepare for future needs--was discussed. A grant is being written, but it requires \$50,000 in match. The information sheet relating to this will be distributed.

Other issues of mutual interest: The Ports of Clarkston and Lewiston expressed their appreciation to the Port of Whitman for on-going administrative support of the telecommunications infrastructure.

Update from Port of Lewiston: David Doeringsfeld reported on having incubator space available. Jerry Klemm reported on efforts to recruit the United Power Trade Organization--the union representing workers on the dams--to join PNWA.

Update from Port of Whitman: Next year's Snake River Family Festival was discussed. Plans to modify the Boyer marina were discussed. The Port of Whitman received a state planning grant for design of dock repairs; however, estimated costs for the construction seem high. In addition, the Port received a CERB grant and loan for Fiber To the Home for five communities in Whitman county.

Updates from Port of Clarkston: Wanda Keefer talked about expanding Riverfest to be a broader forum next year, with potential speakers at the conference. Navigation and berthing area challenges and telecommunications expansion were also discussed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8 p.m.

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Mike Thomason, Secretary