PORT OF LEWISTON
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

February 4, 2026

The regular meeting of the Port Commission was held at the Port District Office, 1626 6th Ave. N, Lewiston, ID, at 12:00 p.m. on February 4, 2026.

Present at the meeting were Port Commission President Mike Thomason and Port Commission Secretary/Treasurer Joe Anderson. Administrative staff in attendance were General Manager Scott Corbitt, Finance & Property Manager Preston Comstock, Operations Manager Jen Blood, and Communications Coordinator Mary Iacobelli. Also present were Doug Zenner, Denise Metz, Nez Perce County Commissioner Doug Havens, Michelle Peters and Art McIntosh of Visit Lewis Clark Valley, and Paul Didelius and Marc Entze of Columbia Rail.

The meeting information was advertised as required prior to the meeting.

CONVENE REGULAR MEETING:

At 12:00 p.m. Commission President Mike Thomason convened the Regular Meeting of the Port Commission.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

President Thomason called for review of the agenda. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Thomason. Voting Aye – Commissioners Anderson and Thomason. Voting Nay – None. The motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Paul Didelius of Columbia Rail spoke to the Commission regarding the company's interest in installing a rail spur on property near the office space they currently lease from the Port. He said it would be helpful for the company to park local equipment on the proposed spur line to make it easily accessible for local rail line issues. President Thomason stated he looked forward to hearing more about the proposal as details were finalized.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

President Mike Thomason called for review of the draft minutes. The Commission examined the minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 14, 2026. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; seconded by Commissioner Thomason. Voting Aye – Commissioners Anderson and Thomason. Voting Nay – None. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION:

Michelle Peters, Visit Lewis Clark Valley: Michelle Peters, President & CEO of Visit Lewis Clark Valley, updated the Commission on the organization's activities to enhance tourism in the LC Valley. She stated that the Valley continues to be a sought-after tourist destination, particularly with increased cruising activity and the addition of the Confluence Riverfront dock in the Port. Her organization continues to leverage their social media presence, newsletters, and relationships with tourism-related businesses to encourage more visitors to come to the area.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Active Agenda:

- **Appointment of District 3 Port Commissioner:** President Thomason thanked all those who applied for the Commissioner position to replace Jerry Klemm, who retired as of January 31, 2026. He then made a motion to appoint Denise Metz as the new Commissioner, to serve in the position until the end of Klemm's term on December 31, 2026. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. Voting Aye – Commissioners Anderson and Thomason. Voting Nay – None. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Metz took the oath of office from President Thomason and immediately joined the meeting as a member of the Commission.
- **Port Commission Officer Assignments:** President Thomason stated he would like to step down as President and assume the Vice President role on the Commission. Starting at the next Commission meeting, Commissioner Anderson will be the Commission President, Commissioner Thomason will be the Vice

President, and newly appointed Commissioner Metz will serve as Secretary/Treasurer. President Thomason made a motion to change the officer assignments as stated; seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Voting Aye – Commissioners Anderson, Thomason, and Metz. Voting Nay – None. The motion passed unanimously.

Non-Active Agenda:

- **Goals Table Review:** General Manager Corbitt reviewed various goals, projects and updates for Commissioners.
- **Port Activities Update:** General Manager Corbitt and staff reported on various activities, including grant applications, property and lease updates, stormwater permitting, and efforts to preserve the Lower Snake River Dams.
- **Upcoming Meetings and Events:** The next Port Commission meeting is March 10, 2026. The Commission discussed changing meeting times, so the time for that meeting is currently to be announced. Other events include General Manager Corbitt's "Dam Heroes" advocacy trip the week of February 9, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association Mission to Washington, PNWA's annual summer meeting in June, and the christening of the *American Encore*, American Cruise Lines' new vessel, at the Confluence Riverfront in May.

TERMINAL I, TERMINAL II. TERMINAL III, AND FIBER OPTIC NETWORK:

- **Terminal I (Dock Operations):** The main dock continues to be busy as Lewis-Clark Terminal maximize barge usage ahead of United States Army Corps of Engineer's monthlong maintenance outage, expected to begin February 21, 2026.
- **Terminal II (Warehousing):** Warehousing is also active, particularly with annual testing and maintenance of systems currently in progress.
- **Terminal III (Cruise Passenger Facility):** The American West at the Port of Lewiston dock and the American Pride, currently at the Port of Clarkston dock, will be switching places in the upcoming weeks for maintenance purposes.

- **Fiber Optic Network:** Operations Manager Jen Blood reviewed various fiber/broadband activities. The Middle Mile project is currently on winter shutdown, and the local fiber network continues to have occasional small builds.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Commissioner Anderson/Urban Renewal Agency:** Commissioner Anderson noted that Tim Switzer has been named chair of the Urban Renewal Agency.
- **Commissioner Thomason/Valley Vision/Chamber of Commerce Board:** Commissioner Thomason said the Chamber continues to prepare for the annual Chamber Agriculture banquet. He also noted that new members have been named to Valley Vision's board, including Nez Perce County representative Joe Gish.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

There was no financial report due to the regular meeting taking place early in the month. Both January 2026 and February 2026 financial reports will be acted upon at the next regular Commission meeting.

ACT ON CLAIMS:

The next order of business was review and discussion of claims against the Port as presented by the Check Detail Sheet. A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson to approve and pay Port Vouchers Nos. 26954-26990, transfers and EFTPS for a total amount of $205,435.35; seconded by Commissioner Metz. Voting Aye – Commissioners Thomason, Anderson, and Metz; Voting Nay – None. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 1:22 p.m. President Thomason called to enter Executive Session in accordance with Idaho Code §74-206(1)(d) – *To consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in chapter 1, Title 74, Idaho Code. (Roll Call Vote)* pursuant to *check agenda for any executive session information.* Commissioner Anderson made a motion to enter into Executive Session; seconded by Commissioner

Metz. Voting Aye – Commissioner Thomason, Anderson, and Metz; Voting Nay – None. The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Secretary
Denise Metz