

Port of Umpqua

Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at 7 p.m.
Port of Umpqua Annex
1841 Winchester Ave
Reedsport, OR

THESE MINUTES ARE FINAL and APPROVED.

Commissioners Present:

President Steve Reese
Vice President Keith Tymchuk
Secretary Barry Nelson
Treasurer Donna Train
Asst. Secretary Jessica Terra

Port Staff Present:

Port Manager Charmaine Vitek
Administrative Assistant Karen Halstead

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Steve Reese.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

No additions or changes were made so the agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The draft version of the minutes for February 20, 2013 was presented for approval.

Commissioner Tymchuk made a motion, 2nd by Commissioner Terra to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Commissioner questions regarding bills:

While signing checks Commissioner Nelson asked what all was painted by Ron Kaufmann that we were paying for in this month's checks. Explained the quads to be used by Marketron and some other painting in the Annex had been approved and done.

Commissioner Nelson moved to approve payment of checks in the amount of \$ **8241.94** to be paid out of the General Fund, 2nd by Commissioner Train. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Carla Hedgepath 12479 Wildwood Drive, North Bend Oregon stepped forward and addressed the commission.

She said she didn't know if anything could be done about the docks in the East Basin in Winchester Bay, but when she moved to the area 20 years ago this area was thriving with docks, boats & businesses. It was the place to go. Now they want to take out the docks and any tourist driving down Highway 101 and pulling into Winchester Bay will see nothing like we had then.

About 3 years ago she made a petition which she got almost 1,200 signatures on within a matter of months. The people signing all wanted to keep the docks in the bay. The main concern is that when they get rid of the docks no tourist will want to stop there anymore.

The current plan is to pull those docks out this month and she wants to know what could be done to prevent that.

Commissioner Reese thanked her for sharing her feelings on the issue. He directed her to address the Salmon Harbor Management Committee. Even though she has already spoken to them he advised her to stay on it because there is going to be a manager change soon and her concerns could possibly influence the selection of the new manager.

Commissioner Train said she is on that committee now and explained the logistics of removing the docks vs. keeping them. She too strongly encouraged Carla to bring her concerns to the Salmon Harbor Management Committee.

Carla also asked who she should talk to about getting an ice machine in Salmon Harbor. Commissioner Tymchuk said that had recently been discussed and after many feasibility studies over the years it's been determined that you can't get a return on the money that is invested to get them put in.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Annual STEP Donation – Doug Buck

Doug Buck, representing the S.T.E.P. program was introduced. He thanked the commission for all of their support and annual donations. Doug explained where the money gets spent. S.T.E.P. recently spent \$27,000 on a filtration system because the lake they draw from is so polluted with algae and it's caused a big loss of eggs. The new system has improved that a lot. High school and elementary kids have been helping clip and spawn the fish, there is some restoration going on at Camp Creek for improving the salmon habitat, and there is a new trap that is now up & running in Winchester Creek.

Commissioner Tymchuk made a motion to approve a donation of \$2,000.00 which has been budgeted for the Salmon Trout Enhancement Project to be paid from the General Fund. Commissioner Nelson 2nd the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

2. Lower Umpqua Enterprise Zone

Charmaine said The Port is the first of the sponsors to approve the resolution since our meeting came up first on the calendar. The county and the city will both be voting to approve this as well.

Keith reminded everyone that this is not just for new business but also applies to existing businesses that want to expand. There was discussion on the specifics of who could take advantage of the enterprise zone and what some of the compensation requirements were.

Commissioner Tymchuk made a motion to adopt Resolution 13-01 to authorize submission of the application for re-designation of the lower Umpqua Enterprise Zone. Commissioner Terra 2nd the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

REPORTS:

PORT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Dock Report:

The Port Commercial Dock in Winchester Bay Brought in \$8,308 for the Month of February. Steve asked where we are for what was budgeted to go across the dock. Right now we are about \$1,000 over last year.

Centennial update: Centennial committee will meet tomorrow at 1:30 in the conference room.

Please note the Thank you Letter from the STEP folks for the annual membership fee.

Dredging update:

I attended the Corps of Engineers annual dredging and Resource Agency Coordination Meeting held last Thursday in Portland. The basic, resounding message was the continued lament of scarce available funding, the huge unknown factor of what the Federal Government is going to do and how projects will be affected. This was reiterated over and over again. One of the statistics I jotted down is, they have one hundred million dollars in O&M projects and only enough funds to do 234 of those projects, and they didn't say how much of the one hundred million those 234 projects would take up.

I found it amusing though, is an annual meeting where state and federal agencies get together and report on what they've been working on and need to accomplish. This year they all talked about how 'now' they need to work together to get rid of redundancies and implement cost saving measures and combine resources. Why could they not have done these years ago, from the start? Why only when funding is short for the government should they become good stewards of the taxpayer's money?

IGA: I have been working with Dave Harlan and Paul Nolte to prepare the Intergovernmental Agreement the Port will enter into with the state. It will be ready for Commissioner Review and comment within the next week. I will notify each of you and work out how you want to receive the document. Dave Harlan will attend one of our meetings if you find you want him to clarify points or be available for questions. It might be next month however, next month is our budget committee meeting and may be a pretty full agenda. More to come

Facilities update:

The work from All Weather Heating has been completed. Bill says he thinks we should have our heat pumps checked annually.

SALMON HARBOR MANAGER:

Jeff wasn't able to be at the meeting so he had asked Donna to pass along a couple of things.

The Coast Guard has installed a new reader board near the East Basin Ramp that will be able to report the bar conditions as they occur.

The recruitment for the new harbor manager is scheduled to go out this week. The position description has been revised to reflect the current needs of the harbor and supplemental questions have been added to ensure the applicants have a strong financial background, computer skills, and the ability to lead and communicate effectively. The screening process will last about a month and that will be followed by interviews.

There is going to be a need to continue the current infrastructure but there is also a need for some major cutbacks.

COMMISSIONERS:

Barry: Recently spent a week in Tacoma at the federal salmon meetings and for the first time in years there was no arguing and everyone seems to be reasonably happy both the commercial and sport fishermen. Commercial season opens April 1st and will run through the end of October from Falcon all the way down to Humbug with just a couple of days in there scheduled to be closed.

Steve: Keith, Charmaine and Steve recently met with State Senators Roblan, Verger and Johnson, four representatives from International Paper Company, Caddy McKeown and others for what turned out to be a decent conversation regarding the marketability and global marketability of the IP Site. There are more meetings coming up and there is an actual person that has been assigned for us to contact. This is a great improvement from how things with IP have gone in the past. The plan now is to get some issues resolved and make more progress. Keith added he was very pleased with how the meeting had turned out. There was honest and open communication with IP, and they do have a new person assigned as the governmental liaison in the west which gives us someone to talk to. The goal has always been that the IP property remains industrial which will create jobs.

The meeting was then adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

The next Port of Umpqua Regular Meeting will be held April 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. with the annual budget meeting scheduled before starting at 6 p.m. Both will be at the Port of Umpqua Annex building, 1841 Winchester Ave., Reedsport, Oregon 97467.

Steve Reese, President

Karen Halstead, Admin. Assistant