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Port of Anchorage Commission Meeting
Date: May 26, 2021
Scheduled Time: 12pm – 1:30pm
Location: Port Commission Chambers

Present	Port Commissioners:	Brad Kroon, Chair; Bob Pawlowski, Vice Chair; Paul Mehler; Simon Lisiecki; Aves Thompson; Ron Ward; Garret Wong
	Staff:	Steve Ribuffo, Port Director; Sharen Walsh, Port of Alaska Modernization Program Director; Cheryl Beckham, Finance and Administration Manager; Shannon Martindale, Operations & Maintenance Superintendent; Jim Jager, Director of Security and Business Development; Diane Bickford, Executive Assistant
	Guests:	Jeff Bool, Jacobs Engineering; Patrick Duffy & Lev Yampolsky, Petrostar; Dylan Faber, Matson; Brittney Kennington & Tom Reuter, ALMAR; Bert Mattingly, Menzies; LT Hadley Owen, NOAA; Mike Thrasher, TOTE; Tou Yang, Delta-Western
Absent	Port Commissioners:	Andrew MacLeod, Kevin Mackey
	Staff:	Paul Rotkis, Safety Coordinator

- I. **The meeting was called to order at 12:15 pm**
 - A. Roll Call of Port Commissioners – Attendance shown above. There was a quorum.
 - B. Self-introductions by those present – See “Guests” above

- II. **Safety Minute** – Mr. Ribuffo shared a thought about the ABC’s of Safety...**Always Be Careful!**

- III. **Approval of Agenda**
 - A. It was moved for approval by Commissioner Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Mehler.
 - B. The Agenda was approved without amendments.

- IV. **Approval of Minutes of March 24, 2021**
 - A. Commissioner Pawlowski moved to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Commissioner Lisiecki. The minutes were approved with minor grammatical edits requested by Commission Chair Kroon.

- V. **Port Director’s Comments** – Mr. Ribuffo opened his comments with announcing that Mr. Paul Rotkis was not present because of health-related issues that resulted in his being hospitalized out of state for the foreseeable future. All wished him well for a speedy recovery and return to work. Mr. Ribuffo also shared that the staff lost Engineering Manager Roy Blain to a short notice relocation to the Lower 48 for a family matter. Mr. Ribuffo also shared that our first attempt to re-fill the position did not result in a new hire, but that a second attempt will be made shortly.

VI. Informational Items

A. Operations and Maintenance – Shannon Martindale. Ms. Martindale presented on the ongoing post-winter port clean-up activities, the latest status of our weekly port user/construction team meetings to de-conflict POL2 operations, and the upcoming Army deployment planned for next month.

B. Engineering Matters – Sharen Walsh. Ms. Walsh, who is pulling double duty as we search for a new Port Engineering Manager, presented on plans for completing the last of the port-2018 earthquake fender repairs, successful permitting for the 5-year overall fender repair effort and completing the associated grant paperwork with FEMA, the upcoming Ship Creek Boat Launch ramp repairs, the upcoming 5-year storm management plan review with ADEC, and our ongoing Section 214 agreement negotiations with the Corps of Engineers. Commissioner Kroon asked a question as to the status of the USD “jumper” line planned for install in POL 1. Ms. Walsh reported that it is in place and operational. Commissioner Kroon then asked for a POL 2 status update. Ms. Walsh reported that PCT in-water construction progress is such that the planned re-opening of POL 2 at the end of June was still on schedule.

C. Port Modernization Program – Sharen Walsh. Continuing, Ms. Walsh showed several site photos of all the ongoing PCT construction activities. Highlighted was the dredging activities necessary because of unanticipated in-fill at the construction site, post-winter “touch up” work on some of the PCT piling and on the deck surfaces, and an unexpected delay to the start of planned in-water work due to MARAD’s desire to do their own permit-related due diligence vs. accepting that which was done and approved by other federal agencies. Commissioner Mehler expressed his concern for how these delays may impact the re-opening/availability of POL 2 for tanker operations. Ms. Walsh then briefed on the results of the program roundtable that was held on May 20th to validate the concept for the cargo docks. She presented that there was unanimous agreement among the users for the “modified” concept; and that the next step was for the PAMP Design Advisory Board to meet and approve it, appeal to the Mayor to agree and to present that recommendation to the Assembly for their approval. Commissioners then discussed whether they would present a letter of support to the Mayor and/or Assembly as well, and whether they would go into executive session to make that decision. That point was not finalized, nor was an executive session held, but discussion offline would occur to determine if a letter would be written and submitted.

D. Finance Matters – Cheryl Beckham. Ms. Beckham presented on the status of our 2020 audit activities, and then walked the Commission through our year-to-date financials. There were several Commissioner questions on the activity associated with the numbers that Ms. Beckham capably answered to the satisfaction of the commissioners. Mr. Yampolsky asked a question about the petroleum volumes as they related to what was forecast when the new tariff rates were set. Discussion then ensued regarding rate adjustments as a result of actual revenues vs. revenue rates necessary to cover PCT debt service. Ms. Beckham reminded the group that we are required to re-look at the rate behavior every year and would do so again later this summer. She also reminded all that the question would be asked as to whether a rate reduction be enacted or if the delta would be set aside and fenced for future petroleum-related capital requirements.

E. Security & Business Development – Jim Jager. Mr. Jager’s report included an

update on the status of the MARAD litigation, details of our on-going port security and port infrastructure development grant application efforts, and the ongoing PAMP presentations to state legislators. Then there was discussion on DoD support for PAMP and the status of the state legislature's actions to write a joint letter to the DoD urging their investment in the PAMP.

Old Business – There was no old business

- VII. New Business** – Mr. Jager made a presentation to the group on the Port's Power Resiliency Plan. Contents are available for download on the Port's web site.
- IX. Commission Actions for Introduction and Consideration** – There were no actions for either consideration or introduction. There was some discussion regarding going into executive session to discuss writing a letter of support from the Commission to the Anchorage Assembly on their support for the results of the recent roundtable covered by Ms. Walsh in her comments.
- X. Public Comments** – Mr. Haberman suggested to the Commissioners to proceed cautiously with efforts for executive sessions if/when the substance of the discussion has not been previously announced in a public forum. He also complimented the Commission on how hard they've been working to maintain transparency in the public process. There were no other public comments.
- XI. Port Director's Closing Comments** – Mr. Ribuffo had no closing comments.
- XII. Commissioners Around the Horn** – Commissioner Lisiecki thanked the staff for the resiliency plan presentation. Commissioner Mehler wanted to inform the staff and the Commission about the work ALMAR was doing securing COVID-19 vaccinations for any interested tanker crew members during their port calls. Commissioner Ward also thanks the staff for what he felt were excellent presentations at this meeting. Additionally, commissioners asked the staff to pass along well wishes to Mr. Rotkis as he recovered from his health issues.
- XIII. Next Meeting:** July 28, 2021
- XIV. Meeting Adjourned at 1:28 pm**