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**Port of Anchorage Commission Meeting**

**Date: March 11, 2020**

**Time: 12:05 – 1:30 pm**

**Location: Port Commission Chambers**

Present	Port Commissioners:	Brad Kroon, Chair; Bob Pawlowski, Vice Chair; Stephanie Kesler; Simon Lisiecki; Andrew MacLeod; Aves Thompson; Ron Ward; Garret Wong
	Staff:	Steve Ribuffo, Port Director; Sharen Walsh, Deputy Port Director; Cheryl Beckham, Finance & Admin Manager; Stuart Greydanus, Operations & Maintenance Superintendent; Jim Jager, Director of External Affairs; Diane Bickford, Executive Assistant
	Guests:	Tom Reuter (Alaska Maritime); Scott Dewandel (ABI); Dylan Faber (Matson); Chris Vernon (NorthStar Stevedoring); Patrick Duffy (PetroStar); Lou Lansangan and Allen Scott (SDDC)
Absent	Port Commissioners:	Moira Bockenstedt
	Staff:	Paul Rotkis, Port Safety Coordinator

- I. **The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm**
  - A. Roll Call of Port Commissioners
  - B. Self-introduction by those present
  
- II. **Safety Minute** - Mr. Rotkis was on leave. Commissioner Kroon called for a COVID-19-related safety moment. Mr. Ribuffo obliged in Mr. Rotkis' absence.
  
- III. **Approval of Agenda**
  - A. Commissioner Wong moved to approve, Commissioner Lisiecki seconded.
  - B. No changes were offered, agenda was approved unanimously as presented.
  
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** - Mr. Ribuffo noted there were three sets of minutes to approve and that we are now caught up. Commissioner Ward made a motion to approve the minutes of October 23<sup>rd</sup>; Commissioner Thompson seconded. The vote was taken and the minutes of October 23, 2019 were approved. As to the minutes of November 13th, 2019 - Commissioner Ward pointed out a correction to be made in the November minutes within the Safety Minute presentation ("...not to dock and cover..", should be "duck") and proposed approval if the minutes with the change; seconded by Commissioner Kesler. The vote was taken and the minutes of November 13, 2019 were unanimously approved with the noted change. As to the minutes of January 22, 2020 - Commissioner Ward noted several typos Mr. Ribuffo concurred. Staff will amend before these go on the website. With those edits and grammatical corrections, Commissioner Wong made a motion to approve the corrected minutes of January 22, 2020; Commissioner Lisiecki seconded. The minutes are approved as corrected.

**V. Informational Items:**

A. Deputy Director - Sharen Walsh updated the Commission on current status of the ongoing Storm Drain repair project, our FEMA/earthquake-related projects, and the four grant applications. She also shared that there was an announcement yesterday that we're ranked number three in the State Homeland Security's list of projects to receive money through FEMA's disaster mitigation grant program. Other ongoing port security grant projects are working with the Fire Department for ship firefighting for land based firefighters, and replacing bad cameras.

B. Operations – Stuart Greydanus informed the Commission about the pending redeployment of JBER's 4/25 Airborne Brigade Combat Team in mid-March, plans for dredging the small boat launch, and the recent mechanic position vacancy that we are working to fill. There was also some discussion about this summer's cruise ship schedule that will require the staff to find out about any pending changes.

C. Finance Director - Cheryl Beckham informed the Commission on the Muni status of getting 2019 closed out. She also remarked that by the next meeting we should be able to have all of our activity for 2020 updated and in a reportable form. Further, we're working on first-quarter budget revisions for 2020. They were due to OMB the 28th of February, so we submitted some revisions for the dockage revenue. Finally, Ms. Beckham reported that the commercial passenger vessel tax, which is our cruise ship tax, came in last week for the ports for the summer of 2019. Our share was \$66,500.

D. Modernization Project Update – Sharen Walsh reported that the petroleum cement terminal construction contract is about to physically get started. We have to get our incidental harassment authorization from NMFS, which will allow the Corps to give us the permit to actually get in that water and start the work. It's a very active situation right now, we seem to be on track for proceeding. As to summer 2021 construction, the good news is there's not as much long-lead material. So even if there's a little delay in the bidding, we're feeling pretty good that the timeline will work out. A short conversation about the two recently-received grant awards took place. Ms. Walsh also remarked about the soon-to-start design conversations on the cargo dock portion of the PAMP; and she thanked TOTE and Matson for their very helpful and enthusiastic participation.

E. Director of External Affairs – Jim Jager discussed upcoming plans for engaging with the Legislature in Juneau this session, our planned aggressive public outreach program, to include speaking engagements outside of Anchorage, and current Port and Muni actions in response to the coronavirus outbreak.

**VI. Old Business** – There was no old business.

**VII. New Business** – There was no new business.

**VIII. Port Director Comments** - Steve Ribuffo discussed his recent testimony to the House Military & Veterans' Affairs Committee on their proposed resolution in support of asking DoD for financial participation in the PAMP. Commissioner Pawlowski then shared his perspective on his recent trip to Juneau and interactions with legislators on this topic, as well as several others. Mr. Ribuffo then informed the Commission that this would be Mr. Greydanus' last meeting as he will be retiring effective April 30<sup>th</sup>. Finally, Mr. Ribuffo informed the Commission that, once approved, there would be some staff duty re-alignments, the details of which he would share at a subsequent Commission meeting.

- IX. **Public Comments** – There were no public comments, aside from those offered during the port staff’s informational reports.
- X. **Commissioners Around the Horn** - Mostly thanks for the Port staff’s work securing the grant awards.
- XI. **Next Meeting:** Scheduled for May 13, 2020
- XII. **Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 pm**