



2000 Anchorage Port Road
 Anchorage, Alaska 99501
 907-343-6200
 PortOfAnchorage@Muni.org
 PortOfAnc.com

Port of Anchorage Commission Meeting
Date: August 16, 2017
Time: 12:04 – 1:12 pm
Location: Port Commission Chambers

Present	Port Commissioners:	Stephanie Kesler; Simon Lisiecki; Andrew MacLeod; Bob Pawlowski
	Staff:	Steve Ribuffo, Port Director; Sharen Walsh, Deputy Port Director; Cheryl Beckham, Director of Finance; Todd Cowles, Port Engineer; Stuart Greydanus, Port Operations Director; Jim Jager, Director of External Affairs; Paul Rotkis, Port Safety Coordinator; Diane Bickford, Executive Assistant
	Guests:	Scott Dewandel, Alaska Basic Industries; Bart Buesseler, NOAA; Matt Forney, NOAA
Absent	Port Commissioners:	Sue Linford, Chair; Brad Kroon, Vice Chair; Moire Duggan;
	Staff:	

I. The meeting was called to order at 12:04 pm

- A. Roll Call of Port Commissioners
- B. Self-introduction by those present

Matt Forney, NOAA, introduced himself and said he was stationed in Anchorage as the Navigation Manager and is now with the Interagency Department of Defense Liaison in Silver Spring, Maryland. Bart Buesseler introduced himself as the new Navigation Manager for Alaska.

II. Safety Minute (Paul Rotkis)

Mr. Rotkis briefed the subject of hydroplaning. He left handouts on the table.

III. Approval of Agenda

- A. A quorum was not present to approve the Agenda.

IV. Approval of Minutes

- A. A quorum was not present to approve the Minutes.

V. Public Comments

Commissioner Pawlowski asked Mr. Dewandel about ABI's storage dome. Mr. Dewandel said the dome is working well for extra storage and is currently a bit under half full but will be filled before winter. Ms. Walsh asked if there was a maintenance program to wash the outside of the dome; she said she knew Government Hill was concerned. Mr. Dewandel said there wasn't a plan though they have talked about it and will come up with something eventually.

VI. Port Director's Comments

- Mr. Ribuffo said Mr. Jager forwarded an article about the Port published in the Alaska Dispatch News on August 15. He said in his time at the Port it was the best, most

balanced and factual article about the Port he'd seen published and the Port can safely stand behind everything in that article.

Commissioner Liescki said generally the better the article is the better the input the journalist had and he congratulated the staff in educating the writer.

Mr. Jager pointed out that there is a slice of the piling that broke on June 26 displayed in the lobby that sums up the problem.

- Mr. Ribuffo said the staff met with members of the Consular Office of Japan and Alaska Maritime about the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force ships coming to Anchorage, a destroyer and a training vessel in port the 26th through the 29th of September. They plan to open the ships to the public. The Commission will be informed about the ceremonial meetings that will occur.
- Mr. Ribuffo said he would let Mr. Cowles discuss the details about impacts on the Petroleum Cement Terminal construction and the need for transitional dredging. That caused an unanticipated \$13 million to be added to the cost of the project.
- Mr. Ribuffo brought the Commission up to date on the status of the pending land transfer from the Railroad to the Municipality of the acreage where the Petroleum/Cement Terminal will be constructed. Appraisals have been done. The Railroad has made an offer at a very reasonable cost for the property. He would be meeting tomorrow with the Railroad and Real Estate Services to start the process to have the property deeded to the Port.

Commissioner Kesler said it was her understanding that whenever the Railroad sells property it has to go through the Legislature. Mr. Ribuffo said that was true but they've already gotten the Board's approval to enter into the process which will help when we go to the Legislature so we're going to move forward. We have a bit of financial leverage; the size of the check they want us to write is very reasonable but we also have sheet pile that the Railroad is interested in acquiring for some projects. They can either buy it from us or we'll use the value as an offset to the check we write.

VII. Informational Items

A. Deputy Director - Sharen Walsh

- Ms. Walsh said she will be submitting an application for a Ports and Harbors Grant to move the south float. The application is due September first and while it's not mandatory it is very good to have a Resolution from the Port Commission, a letter from the Mayor, or both, supporting the project and stating that the Port has the funds for our 50% part of the construction cost. She said a Resolution has been drafted and will be sent out to the Commission via email requesting an email vote from each member.
- Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant: Ms. Walsh said the Port submitted a FASTLANE grant last year but no decision was made. FASTLANE was migrated to INFRA, infrastructure grants, and this year we are being allowed to update the FASTLANE application and resubmit it by September 2nd. That money will support the Petroleum Cement Terminal portion of the project.
- The power system repairs we started last year are just about done.
- Small Boat Launch: The contractor, Sandstrom & Sons, has gotten most of the rip-rap placed on the north finger and is working on the south finger now. They

have to wait until August 31st to put sheet piling in at the ramp and then finish up the ramp repairs but they said they're good for schedule and expect to finish this year. We're requiring them to keep at least one lane of the launch open at all times for people who still need access.

Under a separate contract are lights and a camera at the launch. They plan to do that work this week, which won't take long, and then we'll have eyes on the small boat launch.

- Wharf Pile Enhancements: We're jacketing 50 piles this year rather than the usual 100, saving money to use on the modernization.

B. Operations – Stuart Greydanus

- Cruise Ships – Cement Ships: We've had six of nine scheduled cruise ships come in and are expecting one in August and two in September. "The World of Residency" arrived and departed with no issues to talk about. We have two more cement ships coming in, one on the 18th of September and one in October.
- Security Plan Audit: We contracted with a former Captain of the Port, Tom Turosivik, to audit our Plan. We forwarded that information to the Coast Guard Captain of the Port.
- Security Plan Revision: We're waiting for Petro Star to officially take over Terminal #1, which they purchased from Tesoro and once they do, we'll write them into our plan.
- Chinese Ship: We have a ship coming from China to deliver about 200 chassis for Matson, arriving in in the middle of September. They'll offload the chassis on a Wednesday after Matson leaves.
- Dredging: Dredging activities are going well; they've been digging everything down to depth and having to tie out on the hook because there's nothing to dredge. Recently we've seen some fill incurring so we're keeping on it every week with the Corps and Manson.
- JMSDF Ships: We're starting preparations for the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force ships that will be coming to Anchorage in September.

C. Finance Director - Cheryl Beckham

- 2017 Progress Report: We are coming along just fine, budget to actuals. Summer is a busy season so after the September report we should see a leveling out for year-end.

MESA: The MESA paid in July. When doing the reconciliation we discovered assets that were purchased with grant funds and were able to exclude them from the calculation. We made the correction and our MESA payment was less than anticipated, which will be an ongoing benefit.

Additionally, in 2017 we had a revenue dividend that was established at \$600,000 to be paid in August and October. On the MESA line we'll come out slightly under budget but pretty much all of that will get transferred to the General Fund.

- SAP Project: The SAP project is moving forward and cut-offs are starting to be implemented. We will be live in SAP on October 2nd.

- Ms. Beckham announced that Linda Combs, Ports Accounts Payable Clerk, is retiring on August 31st. We are in search of her replacement and she agreed to stay on as a contractor to be sure that everything is squared away before she leaves.

D. Modernization Project Update - Todd Cowles

- Mr. Cowles said Kiewit-Manson-JV is doing the progressive design/build work for the North Extension Step 1 and South Backlands Stabilization. We're approaching the 65% design completion level on the South Backlands Stabilization.

On the Petroleum Cement Terminal project, COWI North America, Inc. is onboard as Designer of Record. We are currently procuring a Construction Manager At Risk. Under the Construction Manager At Risk delivery method we will have an entity that will assist during the pre-construction phase, work with the Designer of Record to wring out the risk and costs and negotiate a fixed construction price. If we can agree to that price, we go ahead. If we can't agree to that price, we'll bid the work. We have a Request For Proposal out for that entity which closes at the end of the month. At that point we'll be evaluating proposals and moving forward.

E. Director of External Affairs – Jim Jager

- News Article: Mr. Jager said there was a Dispatch News story that just ran and another story we expect in the near future. We had a Public Radio International and BBC reporter from "The World" here doing an 'Alaska impacts for global warming' story so I suspect our Port and potentially our Port project will be in "The World" in the next couple of weeks. We've had an on-going email exchange in which they keep asking more questions, so we'll see what happens.
- Ship Creek Project: In conjunction with the Ship Creek project, The Downtown Partnership, the Port of Anchorage, the Municipality and the Alaska Railroad are working together to see what other types of development we can do in the Ship Creek Boat Launch area to clean it up and make it a more public-friendly, attractive location. One of the proposals made, putting in an RV camping area for summertime, could also be a fund source for the Railroad. We will probably have some drawings for the next meeting.
- Economic Feasibility Analysis: We're looking at options for developing some Port land in the highest and best use. We'll know more about that in the near future.

VIII. Old Business

A. Maritime History Project Status

Mr. Ribuffo asked what were we going to do about this now that Mr. Saunders isn't championing it anymore. He thought nothing more is going to happen until we are at the point of relocating these offices. As part of the building design, we're going to incorporate something of a maritime memorial though he didn't think any funding has to be raised to accommodate this. He said he and Mr. Jager did a bit of preliminary checking on what an interactive kiosks costs and that may just be what the solution is. We already have plaques listing people in our history affixed to the pony wall at Checkpoint #3 and this might just be as far as we need to take it. He suggested that we wait until the next meeting to discuss this.

Ms. Beckham said the Park Foundation money is set up in a project so when it comes time we want to do anything further, the money is already set aside and ear-marked, all the funds left from the initial fund raising project.

Commissioner Kesler said she had a question that went back to discussions at the beginning of the meeting. When we discovered we were going to have to delay construction for a year because of the dredging I assume Mr. Cowles looked at this and there's nothing we can start, we just wait for the dredging to be done. Mr. Cowles said yes, the dredging has to happen before any marine construction occurs. Commissioner Kesler said she was thinking of other parts of the Modernization Project that's further north or does the dredging impact the entire field of play. Mr. Cowles said it just affects the Petroleum Cement Terminal. The other work is in the design phase right now and wasn't delayed.

Mr. Ribuffo said we're still hoping to armor the south backlands before the end of this season. Mr. Cowles said that is less likely as well because we're still in the design phase of that work.

IX. New Business

A. There was none.

X. Commissioners Around the Horn

Commissioner MacLeod said he had nothing to report.

Commissioner Lisiecki said his contract with Alaska Gas Development Corporation has been extended for the next year and noted there is a high degree of optimism in the company. There have been quite a few delegations from China that they've taken to the North Slope.

Commissioner Pawlowski asked if the Port had ever done a film segment on the military equipment moves that Mr. Greydanus talked about. Mr. Ribuffo said we have some video, though it's not very recent. Commissioner Pawlowski said he thought it was a good story, especially right now with the attention on North Korea. He said he didn't think the public knows the magnitude of moving that amount of equipment for military defense.

Mr. Ribuffo said in the first week of September MARAD is having their Strategic Ports Conference in Baltimore MD, which he will attend. He will report on the trip at the next Port Commission meeting.

Ms. Walsh said something she had asked to have clarified previously is the statement that anchorage is one of 25 Strategic Ports but that number seems to fluctuate. She said she asked exactly how many there are and was told we are one of 17 commercial ports designated as strategic ports. Mr. Jager said we are one of 16 in North America, with the 17th being in Guam.

XI. Next Meeting:

After some discussion the date of the next meeting was scheduled for October 18th.

XII. Meeting Adjourned at 1:12 pm