



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

Port of Anchorage Commission Meeting
Date: November 13, 2019
Time: 12:00 – 1:30 pm
Location: Port Commission Chambers

Present	Port Commissioners:	Brad Kroon, Chair; Bob Pawlowski, Vice Chair; Moire Duggan (teleconference) Stephanie Kesler; Simon Lisiecki (teleconference); Andrew MacLeod; Aves Thompson;
	Staff:	Steve Ribuffo, Port Director; Sharen Walsh, Deputy Port Director; Cheryl Beckham, Director of Finance; Jim Jager, Director of External Affairs; Paul Rotkis, Port Safety Coordinator; Diane Bickford, Executive Assistant; Stuart Greydanus, Port Operations Director
	Guests:	Jeff Bool, Jacobs Engineering; Chris Vernon, North Star; Elwood Brehmer, Alaska Journal of Commerce; Allen Scott, SDDC; Lev Yampolski, PetroStar; Scott Dewandel, ABI; Paul Mehler, Marathon; Tom Rueter, Alaska Maritime; Eugene Haberman; Mike Thrasher, TOTE; Jeremy Gottshall, SDDC; James Eide, Muni IT; Bill Falsey, Municipal Manager
Absent	Port Commissioners:	Ron Ward, Garret Wong
	Staff:	

I. The meeting was called to order at 12:08 pm

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

II. Safety Minute (Paul Rotkis)

Mr. Rotkis reminded all in attendance that in the event of an earthquake while on the Port, the action is to evacuate the building as quickly as possible—and not to duck and cover. We are on the oldest part of the dock and, therefore, the part most vulnerable to damage.

III. Approval of Agenda

- A. Commissioner Kesler moved to approve the Agenda as submitted; seconded by Commissioner Thompson.
- B. The Agenda was approved unanimously as presented.

IV. Approval of Minutes - There were no previous meeting minutes ready for approval.

V. Information Items

- A. Deputy Director - Sharen Walsh presented on completed 2019 facility maintenance activities, the status of FEMA-funded earthquake repairs, and the upcoming Assembly vote to accept our recent FEMA Port Security Grant award.
- B. Operations – Stuart Greydanus presented on recent berthing activity and status of the upcoming Facility Security Plan re-write.

- C. Director of External Affairs – Jim Jager presented on the status of congoing port tours and outreach presentations, and the planning activities for the upcoming legislative session in Juneau. There was discussion about a possible general obligation bond and how all present could help with influence on that effort.
- D. Modernization Project Update – Sharen Walsh informed the Commission about the Port’s success in acquiring a \$25 million USDOT construction grant through the BUILD Program. Additionally, she informed the Commission about other pending low-interest loan and grant program applications in the works...namely TIFIA and MARAD’s Port Infrastructure Development Program. Commission Q&A on the details followed. In addition, she informed the Commission on the status of the recently completed PAMP PCT constructions efforts—shoreline stabilization and transitional dredging—and that we came in slightly under budget. Also mentioned was that re-location of the South Floating Dock was deferred a season.
- E. Finance Director - Cheryl Beckham presented that the Port is on pace for revenues to be slightly higher than forecast and expenses to be slightly lower by year’s end. She will send out the Commission’s financial statement shortly.
- VI. Old Business** – Chair Kroon requested an explanation on the tariff approval process. Mr. Falsey presented that the related Assembly documents would be on the Assembly’s web site shortly and we will let the Commission know when they are. The approval schedule would be introduction for public hearing at their November 19 meeting, with public hearing and voting at their December 3 meeting. Vice-Chair Pawlowski asked about the timeline for the debt financing effort, assuming the Assembly approved the tariff. Mr. Ribuffo stated that the CFO’s office would begin actions in the spring of 2020 to ensure the financing vehicle would be in place for the 2021 construction season—when it is needed. Further “what if TIFIA/what if lower bid/higher bid than expected, etc.” questions, as well as questions regarding timelines for bid opening and tariff re-looks were asked. Mr. Ribuffo stated that the Port and the Muni would stay flexible to adjusting the approved tariff structure if opportunity presented itself to do so. Mr. Falsey presented on the Muni’s recent meetings with AIDEA, and how it was their recommendation to us that TIFIA would be a cheaper source of financing than they would be and that it was best if we pursued that solution. As a consequence, the Commission requested the flexibility to reword their resolution to the Assembly to not reference AIDEA as a direct financing source, but to instead say “attractive financing” with the understanding that that could come from anywhere. Then discussion ensued on what, if any, additional petroleum infrastructure replacement would be undertaken after cargo dock construction. The consensus was that given how far into the future that would be, no constructive discussion could be undertaken now. That said, a petroleum solution within the new cargo dock design would be investigated; and no existing petroleum facilities would be taken out of service until structural and/or safety problems made it necessary to do so.
- VII. New Business** – The Commission was asked by Mr. Ribuffo to consider nominees for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions, as terms were nearing an end, for formal action at the next Commission meeting. A short update on the status of the MARAD lawsuit followed.

- VIII. **Port Director's Comments** – Mr. Ribuffo elaborated briefly on the effort made in support of the \$25 million BUILD grant effort. Particularly appreciated were the letters of support that, we believe, went a long way to securing the award.
- IX. **Public Comments** – Mr. Haberman took the opportunity to critique the Port's performance with respect to the public process. Mr. Mehler added his congratulations on a successful BUILD grant application.
- X. **Commissioners Around the Horn** – Nothing from the Commissioners
- XI. **Next Meeting:** January 22, 2020
- XII. **Meeting Adjourned at 1:16 pm**