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Anchorage Port Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: May 3, 2023

Scheduled Time: 12pm – 2pm

Location: Port of Alaska Conference Room/virtual via Microsoft Teams

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|----------------|----------------------------|--|
| Present | Port Commissioners: | Ron Ward, Chair; Scott Selzer; Kevin Mackey; Chris Manculich; Peggy Rotan; Aves Thompson; Paul Mehler |
| | Staff: | Steve Ribuffo, Port Director; Cheryl Beckham, Finance and Administration Manager; Ronnie Poole, Operations and Maintenance Superintendent; Brian Weigand, Port Engineer; Diane Bickford, Executive Assistant; Kathleen King, Finance Clerk |
| | Guests: | Vic Angoco, Dylan Faber (Matson); Lev Yampolsky (PetroStar); Art Dahlin, Mike Thrasher (TOTE); Bert Mattingly (ASIG); LCDR Hadley Owen (NOAA); David Wigglesworth, Aaron Martin (US Dept F&G); Carolyn Thompson; Christina Salmon; Kris Shippin; Caroline Wilkinson; Craig Valdez; Unknown (Igiugig Village Council) |
| Absent | Port Commissioners: | Garret Wong, Vice Chair; Mike Robbins |
| | Staff: | John Daley; Jim Jager; Paul Rotkis |

- I. **Meeting was called to order at 12:02 PM** – Commissioners, staff, and guest attendance is as shown above. There was a quorum.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Led by Commission Chair Ward
- III. **Safety Minute** – In Mr. Rotkis’ absence, Mr. Ribuffo noted that we are in the “between winter and spring season” when some cars have snow tires, and some do not. Mixed road conditions and tires create interesting driving situations; please be careful.
- IV. **Approval of Agenda** – Commissioner Manculich moved for approval and Commissioner Mehler seconded. Agenda was unanimously approved.
- V. **Approval of April 12, 2023, Meeting Minutes** – Commissioner Thompson moved to approve minutes as presented; Commissioner Manculich seconded. Minutes approved unanimously with no edits.
- VI. **Port Director’s Comments** – Mr. Ribuffo addressed three issues:
 - a. *M/V Key West*, delivering bulk cement, will be the first vessel to call at the new PCT. ETA is May 6, 2023.
 - b. There will be an Assembly Enterprise/Utility Oversight Committee Meeting on May 12 between 10am and 1pm. Subject will be one more discussion about proposed surcharge. Commissioners are invited to attend and participate.
 - c. There is a change in contractors related to construction of cell tower on Tract-J mentioned in past meetings. Atlas Towers is taking over for Vertical Bridge, that opted out of arrangement with GCI.

VII. Informational Items

1. Operations and Maintenance (Ronnie Poole) – Mr. Poole invited all to observe military load out underway with *USNS Fisher* currently at dock. He also said there would be a brief cruise ship visit on May 11, and that maintenance team was focused on spring clean-up operations.
2. Port Engineering (Brian Weigand) – Mr. Weigand gave the Commission updates on the procurement status of new PCT gangway (no one bid on the initial contract), procurement for new sand storage tent, pre-season dredging plans for the Ship Creek Small Boat Launch, and upcoming storm drain repair activities.
3. Port Modernization Program (John Daley) – Mr. Daley was on travel so there was no formal report. Mr. Ribuffo offered the commissioners a “drive around” after the meeting to view the ongoing PAMP activities.
4. Finance Matters (Cheryl Beckham) – Ms. Beckham gave rundown of Port’s financial status and answered commissioner questions. She also discussed status of Port’s annual audit.
5. Security and Business Development (Jim Jager) – Mr. Jager was on PTO. Mr. Ribuffo said Port received \$5 million through Sen. Murkowski’s Congressionally Directed Spending program, which came simply for “Port of Alaska,” and provides broad flexibility for how funds are used. He said Port’s FY24 PIDP grant application was submitted on time for \$100 million for PAMP cargo dock work.

VIII. Old Business – No old business.

IX. Correspondence Received by the Commission – None received.

X. New Business – A presentation titled *Invasive Species and Biosecurity at Alaska Ports of Entry* was presented by David Wigglesworth and Aaron Martin from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Details can be found in the meeting recording.

XI. Public Comments – None offered.

XII. Port Director’s Closing Comments – Mr. Ribuffo Port anticipates proposals from companies interested in constructing a solar farm on the Tract J property. More details would be shared as they become available.

NOTE: Commissioner Mackey left at 1:30pm

XIII. Commissioners Closing Comments –Commissioner Manculich thanked maintenance crew for quickly converting the sand truck for water delivery and responding to Matson request to water down the docks to control dust.

XIV. Next Meeting: July 26, 2023

XV. Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 PM