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Port of Anchorage Commission Meeting
Date: March 24, 2021
Scheduled Time: 12:00 – 1:30 pm
Location: Port Commission Chambers

Present	Port Commissioners:	Brad Kroon, Chair; Bob Pawlowski, Vice Chair; Paul Mehler; Kevin Mackey; Simon Lisiecki; Andrew MacLeod; 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; Roy Blain, Engineering Manager; Jim Jager, Director of Security and Business Development; Paul Rotkis, Safety Coordinator; Diane Bickford, Executive Assistant; Kathleen King, POA Accounts Receivable Clerk
	Guests:	Dylan Faber & Tony Davenport of Matson; Eugene C. Haberman; Luke Hasenbank & Tom Reuter, Alaska Maritime; Ryan Zins, ABI; Lev Yampolsky, Petrostar; Mike Thrasher, TOTE Maritime; Casey Sullivan, Marathon; Alex Slivka, Municipality of Anchorage; Bert Mattingly, Menzies Aviation
Absent	Port Commissioners:	
	Staff:	

- I. **The meeting was called to order at 12:03 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. Rotkis gave all present a reminder to be cautious of un-seeable road ice because of the current freeze-thaw temperatures conditions, particularly in light if the forecast new snowfall.

- III. **Approval of Agenda**
 - A. It was moved for approval by Commissioner Kroon and seconded by Commissioner Ward.

- IV. **Approval of Minutes of February 3, 2021**
 - A. It was moved for approval by Commissioner Kroon and seconded by Commissioner Ward.
 - B. The Agenda was approved, to include requested changes from Commissioners Kroon and Ward regarding a more detailed accounting of answers to questions made of Ms. Walsh regarding the condition of POL2.

- V. **Port Director’s Comments** – Mr. Ribuffo shared the wire service story regarding the container shipped that went aground in the Suez Canal, with as much of an update as was available at the time. Mr. Ribuffo also provided an update on the status of the lawsuit against the Maritime Administration, a lead-in to upcoming staff reports on the status of the earthquake-related reimbursements coming from FEMA, and a pending RFP for a rate setting consultant to help with the Plan of Finance for the cargo docks.

Commissioner Kroon asked about any new information regarding adding petroleum infrastructure to the PAMP cargo dock design, and how the cost would be covered. Mr. Ribuffo suggested—and Commissioner Kroon agreed—to wait for the answer when Ms. Walsh talks about overall PAMP design status.

VI. Informational Items

- A. Operations and Maintenance (Shannon Martindale) – Ms. Martindale briefed the Commission on the ongoing maintenance efforts to recover from winter operations, the cancellation of the last cruise ship port call that was on the 2021 calendar, and two pending military deployments. She also expressed her thanks to all for diligently working to de-conflict POL2 for the coming PCT construction season.
- B. Engineering Matters (Roy Blain) – Mr. Blain briefed the details on 4 projects: completion of the previous year’s pile jacketing program, needed repairs to the Ship Creek Small Boat Launch, POAVY flow device replacements, the terminal structural analysis just completed, and a pending anode sled replacement project. Mr. Blain then fielded questions regarding the report, which had also previously been e-mailed to the Commissioners, and provided more specific details on the anode sled project.
- C. Port Modernization Program (Sharen Walsh) – Ms. Walsh started by ~~provided~~ ~~providing~~ some additional detail to the prior discussion about anode sleds and cathodic protection. She provided an update to the status of the prep work for PCT construction year #2, for which material fabrication and some early mobilization is already under way. She also discussed the need for some re-accomplishing of dredging activities as a result of noticeable over-the-winter infill at the construction site. Ms. Walsh also talked about the modification work done to the ~~PAOVY-POAVY~~ and POL1 to permit ULSD to be off-loaded at POL1 during the planned POL2 shut down periods, the start of planning for the administration building replacement, and the finalizing of plans for holding the final design meeting for the cargo docks in mid-May.
- D. Finance Matters (Cheryl Beckham) – Ms. Beckham provided a thorough review of the Port’s finances, as of end of February 2021. She then answered commissioner questions regarding debt service and how it was being addressed. Commissioner Mehler brought up again the suggestion of taking a long-term plan view and creating a set aside for future infrastructure needs. Ms. Beckham remarked that we on the Port staff have the same point of view. Mr. Ribuffo concurred, and remarked that this would need to be a policy call that the Administration and Assembly would have to make, as there will likely be some code changes required to codify it.
- E. Security & Business Development (Jim Jager) – Mr. Jager presented on the Port’s efforts in support of the Administration’s funding ask of the state legislature in support of the PAMP, as well as our efforts pursuing federal grants for additional PAMP and non-PAMP funding. He also updated the Commission on changes coming to TWIC as mandated by the Coast Guard and talked about working with the Alaska Railroad towards establishing a flat-car loading operation on the Port. Item last was an introduction into our power resiliency initiative; more details to be shared at the next commission meeting. Commissioner Thompson remarked about how the trucking community would benefit from the pending TWIC improvements, as they will simplify the lives of the truck driving community.

VII. Old Business – There was no old business.

- VIII. New Business** – There was no new business or anything that required Commission action. The agenda item regarding tariff changes in support of cargo dock design is being deferred to the next meeting because some additional work was needed to ensure what we elect to do does not conflict with the greater PAMP plan of finance.
- IX. Public Comments** – Mr. Haberman wanted to thank all for supplying both audio and visual access to the meetings. There were no other public comments.
- X. Port Director’s Closing Comments** – Mr. Ribuffo apologized and again reiterated that he would make the appropriate amendments to the pervious meeting’s minutes and send them back out as soon as possible.
- XI. Commissioners Around the Horn** - Commissioner Pawlowski shared about his conversations with Rep. Zack Fields and the desire of the House Military and Veteran’s Affairs Committee to draft a joint resolution in support of asking the DoD to contribute to the PAMP because of the Port’s Commercial Strategic Seaport designation [Recorded earlier as he had to leave]. Commissioner Mehler wished to thank the Port staff for working with the petroleum users on the POL2 availability issues; Commissioner Thompson echoed Commissioner Mehler’s comments and also endorsed the concept of finding a way to financially prepare for future infrastructure costs; Commissioner Lisiecki expressed similar sentiments and also congratulated the staff on their efforts to get 100 percent reimbursements from FEMA for all the earthquake damage; Commissioner Wong commented that we need to engage with elected officials to make a case for a portion of the federal COVID-19 relief dollars for the port. He also suggested that, with the coming change in administrations at the city, this might be a good time to investigate the state taking over operations and ownership of the Port, particularly to potentially reduce the amount of politics that’s always associated with Muni outreach to the Legislature for financial support. In closing, Commissioner Wong also thanked Mr. Haberman for his earlier comments. There were no other Commissioner comments.
- XII. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, May 26th at Noon
- XIII. Meeting Adjourned at 1:45pm**