Port of Skamania County
Minutes of the
Board of Commissioners
Regular Second Monthly Meeting
August 27, 2002

Call to Order: Commissioner Judy Teitzel called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

Attendance: Commissioner Judy Teitzel, Commissioner Doug McKenzie, Commissioner Dave Prosser, Executive Director Anita Gahimer, Port Attorney Ken Woodrich, Facilities Specialist Keith Chamberlain, and Business and Project Development Manager John McSherry. Public in attendance were Humaira Falkenberg, Peggy Bryan, Theresa Lusty, Mary Ann Duncan-Cole, and Matt Masco.

County Auditor Mike Garvison was unavailable to attend today's meeting to swear in new Port Commissioner Dave Prosser. As a result Dave did not participate in any decisions or motions during this meeting. Dave will get together with Mike prior to our next meeting to be sworn in.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Doug McKenzie made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2002 meeting. Commissioner Judy Teitzel stepped down and seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Commissioner Doug McKenzie made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2002 meeting with a hand written correction on page 2. Commissioner Judy Teitzel stepped down and seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Public Comment: Humaira Falkenberg from the EDC gave a presentation on the Fiber Optic Project. Humaira would like to get the Port Commissioners viewpoint and concerns on the community-wide project. Humaira emphasized how very important fiber is for growth in our community and how fiber has helped other communities like the Port of Hood River. There is one particular business she has used as an example in the past, demonstrating how fiber has made it a huge success. Ninety-five percent of their business is done via the Internet and if they did not have fiber their business would not be as successful as it is today.

The EDC and the City of Stevenson would like the Port to partner with them on this project. It is going to be very important for the Community in the near future for fiber to be in place. The application needs to be done and in place by November 5, 2002.

The Commissioner expressed interest in moving forward with this project, especially if they have a bird in hand tenant. The Commissioners directed Anita to move forward with the fiber project, beginning with obtaining the necessary approvals from BNSF to cross the railroad on Russell Street with a fiber cable.

The Commissioners wanted to know if the City of North Bonneville is involved. They are involved verbally responded Mary Ann.

Commissioner Doug McKenzie made a motion to move forward in a partnership with the other public entities to seek possible funds for the Fiber Project. Commissioner Judy Teitzel stepped down and seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Vouchers: Commissioner Doug McKenzie made a motion to approve General Fund Vouchers Numbered 13683 through 13707 in the amount of $24,275.22. Commissioner Judy Teitzel stepped down and seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Other: Anita gave a mid-month update on current port activities:

- Wind River Mines move-out
- Contingency Agreement with Innovative Cooling for the WR Mines Building
- GHC Contract close-out
- Discovery Building construction Sales Tax Audit
- Gorge Delights move-in
- IAC grant application for the Cascade Avenue Boat Launch Site

Anita gave a current cash-on-hand report. Jan will present a full financial report for the month of August at our first meeting in September.

Anita presented Resolution Number 10-2002, confirming the acceptance of the completion and correction of all punch-list items and the construction of the Discovery Building. A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution Number 10-2002 as presented. The motion passed.

Following on discussion in our meeting of August 13th, Anita passed out the design sketches for our long-time project with the City of Stevenson to upgrade and improve the Cascade Avenue and Russell Street intersection area along the railroad tracks. After two years or more of work, BNSF has agreed to sign a Letter of Agreement with the City for an easement to allow for this work to be done. However, BNSF is charging a $2,000 administrative and transaction fee. The City and the Port have partnered on the project with the City providing doing the project and the Port providing the follow-on maintenance. Anita asked the Commissioners to approve sharing the cost of the easement with the City 50-50. The Commissioners agreed. A motion was made and seconded to share in the cost 50-50 with the City by funding $1,000. The motion passed.

Anita passed out two recent newspaper articles on the Gorge Delights lease, and her press release regarding the BRCG RFP action taken during the August 13th meeting.

Anita presented a design for a new security gate on Stevenson Landing which Keith has had developed. The new gate will provide improved security for access to the ship gang way, docking ships, and the gang way control box. The design is intended to be visually friendly while also prohibiting access.

Executive Session: The commissioners announced a short Executive Session of five minutes or less for the purposes of discussing the LifeTek Lease Default.

The commissioners went into Executive Session at 6:06 pm, and came out of Executive Session at 6:09 p.m., with no decisions being made.

Next Meeting: The next regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, September 10, 2002, at 4:00 pm.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.

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Commissioner Doug McKenzie

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Commissioner Judy Teitzel

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Commissioner Dave Prosser

ATTEST:

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Deana Midland, Administrative Assistant