

PORT OF ORCAS
REGULAR MEEETING MINUTES

May 20,2024

Commissioners Present: Robert Hamilton, Annalies Schuh , Michael Triplett ,Jason Laursen

Commissioners Present by ZOOM; Mia Kartiganer

Staff Present: Chip Long, Kim Kimple

CALL TO ORDER; At 5:00 Chair Robert Hamilton called the meeting to order and asked for any amendments to the agenda. Michael asked to have the update on contact with ESWD before the final vote on rescinding Resolution 2018-12-18c (which was the tariff for ESWD vehicles to transit airport property) Kim felt that since the first vote to rescind had already passed, there was no need for the ESWD update before final vote to rescind. There seemed to be consensus among the Commission to accept Michael's minor change to the agenda. Chip wanted to add two items to the New Business—one a report on Dept of Defense staging at our airport, and two an agreement with the State Auditor's office and consensus was given. Michael also asked to skip approval of the 4-22-24 minutes as he (Michael) was not able to prepare the minutes since staff did not post the recording of those minutes until one or two days prior to this meeting. Consensus given.

Robert outlined the general agenda of the meeting informing the public that soon the Port would break for executive session to discuss qualifications of Executive Director candidates for about an hour before resuming the public part of the meeting to do the regular monthly business. Next Robert asked for public comments.

PUBLIC ACCESS: (09:50)

Eric Gourley : Concerns were expressed on the following topics: The Port needs to find a long-term leader---the Commissioners need to make more effort to be present in person at ALL meetings—meetings are unstructured and there is much wasted time—Managers (due to their short stay) tend to be reactionary Managers and not proactive Managers---Runway-Taxiway maintenance has been deferred, we need to take care of the airport we already have—Vierthaler house can be useful to the Port so don't tear it down—There seems to be money mismanagement by the Port, the costs to tear down the biplane hangar, new PAPI costs, some of this may be due to FAA rules but the Port should do better.

Rick Fant: (17:14) Port has come to an inflection point—he is hoping the Port hires an extremely efficient Manager and hopes the Commission sees that they need to do more. Commissioners aren't getting the work done and they spend a lot of time on small stuff.

A member of the public : (18:55) He stated that he looked at the Manager position available and he decided not to apply because there is no vision or direction from the Commission. He believes the Commission should have Committees that report at each meeting. His perception is that the lack of leadership and vision from the Commission sets the future Manager up to be a scapegoat.

Executive Session; (20:18)

RCW 42.30,110e To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee.

General Session resumes: 01:35:44)

Robert stated that Prothman wanted the Commission to identify the top Manager prospects. Prothman will contact them to see if they have interest in coming to Orcas to interview. Dates of the evening of June 2 for a Community reception and separate interviews on June 3 with both the Commission and a set of Stakeholders were discussed.

Robert asked Prothman to move forward with candidates 2,4,5,7 with candidates 3 and 1 as alternates . Michael asked if that was a motion and Kim stated it was not necessary as it was consensus of the Commission. The Commission stated they were prepared to offer up to \$1500 reimbursement for each prospect (based on their receipts) for travel, lodging, food as they attend the interviews.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

Approval of April minutes tabled until next regular meeting.

Vouchers: a. 04/23/2024 payroll \$6,956.14

b. 05/07/2024 a-aofe \$2,314.23

c. 05/07/2024 b-aofe \$2,862.99

d. 05/07/2024 c-cfe \$9,973.76

e. 05/21/2024 d-aofe \$TBD

f. 05/21/2024 e-aofe \$TBD

g. 05/21/2024 f-cfe \$TBD

Michael moved that we accept vouchers b,c,d as stated. Annalies second. Passed 5-0

Michael then questioned why the staff were paid on voucher a but the Commissioners were excluded. Michael then asked Kim if voucher a was for March 2024 payroll. Kim stated the Commissioners were already paid for March---Michael felt that was inaccurate and so he recommended that voucher a be tabled until the next regular meeting. Consensus was to table voucher a.

Kim stated that vouchers e,f,g represent recent payments made too late to provide timely details as to their purpose and amounts. Michael moved that we table vouchers e,f,g until the Commission has more time to look at them--- passed by consensus.

Ed Addicks (01;50;00) At this time in the meeting Ed Addicks from PAE (consultant) arrived on ZOOM and the Commission decided to respect his time and move his part of the agenda forward.

The Capital Improvement Program Plan, BIL funding, and Westside Development Update were discussed. Westside Development was being held up by Peter at San Juan County. It was suggested that Chip and Robert continue to urge Peter to come to a decision on the wetland buffer as every other step hinges on Peter and the County. Unless Westside development can be timely approved, the Port needs to identify another project by Oct 2024 or risk losing our promised 2022 \$1,005,969.00. It was suggested that while the legislation on the BIL funding gives the Port until September 2025 to identify the project, the FAA year starts Oct 2024 and the FAA wants us to identify where 2022 BIL monies will be spent by October 2024. An alternative project for BIL money is for Drainage mitigation for the Port. Ed worries that an Environmental Assessment may be required to do that project which would delay that project several years. Frustration was expressed that every project the Commission identifies as a BIL project seems to be blocked by County and Federal agencies—which could cause Orcas to lose that 2022 BIL money. Ed identified resurfacing the runway as a possible project that wouldn't be blocked by those agencies IF the current runway condition is deemed to need resurfacing. Developing the SE corner was mentioned by Ed but Robert had doubts the SE could be developed quickly. Michael mentioned the memorandum by Agnes Fisher from the FAA dated 1/11/24. It outlines their understanding of our CIP, AIP funding, planned usage of BIL money in the next 5-years. Michael cautioned the Commission that this memorandum shows us widening the runway from 60 to 75 feet by the end of 2027. Michael further stated that the Community does not wish to widen the runway because of their perception (false or true) that a wider runway encourages larger aircraft. Robert suggested the Commission come prepared at next meeting to commit the BIL money.

MANAGER UPDATE; (02:09:55) Chip received permission to quit updating us on the biplane slab until there is something to report. The PAPI update is that it is still not operational. Our AWOS machine is due to be recertified. Many different subjects were presented.

OLD BUSINESS (02:17:00)

1. Annual contact with neighbors: Annalies stated Michael and she went on a field trip around the airport and shared their knowledge on our airport neighbors and the perceived impacts they have on the airport and impacts the airport has on them. Final draft of the airport's letter to our neighbors is finished and will be shared with Commission and staff before it is sent.
2. Hangar drainage: Chip covered this item in his Managers Report (see 02:09:55)
3. TTF report: Michael stated the Port has received a letter from their legal team that was written in response to a letter from a neighbor's legal representative. The summary from the Port's legal team is that the Port is justified to increase the TTF user fee in a fair and reasonable manner and need not itemize actual expenses. Michael would like to draw up a resolution that ties the TTF user fee to the rate of inflation, consumer price index—some tangible formula that will enable the Port to adjust future TTF user fees annually. This will free up future Commissions from needing to revisit this subject and enable the TTF users to be assured of the Port's method of determining future adjustments. Robert commissioned Michael to create a Resolution on TTF user fee.
4. ESWD Use of road and property: Chip had covered the update on ESWD (see 02:09:55) Michael encouraged the Commission to form a policy to guide Chip as he deals with ESWD. A great debate ensued between Michael and Robert with Michael stating no policy had

been voted on and Robert arguing that since we had talked about this for months that Chip knows what to do. Chip stated he has adequate guidance and a clear direction to create an interlocal agreement. Robert wanted Resolution 2018-12-18c tabled as “ we are running out of time” consensus was perceived.

(02:31:10) Robert called for the Port to schedule a special meeting for June 2,3 for the Port to have the reception and interviews for the Candidates for Manager.

PUBLIC ACCESS;

Bob Wanch said that CPI has nothing to do with the Port’s costs to maintain TTF users.

NEW BUSINESS;

MOTION: Robert moved to rescind the contract with T-O/ Ardurra Engineering. Michael seconded. Motion passed 5-0

PUBLIC ACCESS;

Rick Fant; wants to know the actual costs to the Port to maintain the TTF users. Rick further stated that Chip should write down his plan as to what he understands the Commission wants in the interlocal agreement with ESWD and confirm with the Commission that this is what they want.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33

Respectfully submitted

Michael Triplett, Secretary