



Anchorage Port Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: June 26, 2024

Scheduled Time: 12pm – 2pm

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

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| Present | Port Commissioners: | Commissioner Dick Traini, Commissioner Simon Lisiecki, Commissioner Mike Robbins, Commissioner Peggy Jean Rotan, Vice-Chair Aves Thompson, Chair Ron Ward, Commissioner Stephanie Kesler |
| | Staff: | Port Director Steve Ribuffo, Operations and Maintenance Superintendent Ronnie Poole, Port Engineer Mike Rhodes, Finance and Administration Manager Cheryl Beckham, Deputy Director Programs and Security Jim Jager, Port Safety Coordinator Ruthanna Carr, Kathleen King |
| | Guests: | Brite Niezek, PAMP Project Controls Consultant; Jennifer Tungul and Dylan Faber, Matson; Billy Godwin and Lisa Simmons, TOTE; Luke Hassenbank and Brittney Kennington, ALAMAR; Casey Sullivan, Marathon; Bert Mattingly, Menzies; Lev Yampolsky, Petrostar; Cynthia Kirkham |
| Absent | Commissioners and/or Staff | Commissioner Scott Selzer, Commissioner Chris Manculich, PAMP Engineer Manager John Daley |

I. Meeting called to order at 12:02 PM – Commissioners, staff and guest attendance shown above. There was a quorum.

II. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Commission Chair Ward.

III. Safety Minute – Ms. Carr presented on the challenges of working in hot weather, signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke, and preventive measures one can take.

IV. Approval of Agenda – Moved by Commissioner Kesler and seconded by Commissioner Robbins. Passed unanimously.

V. Approval of Minutes of the April 24, 2024, Meeting – Moved for approval by Commissioner Robbins, seconded by Commissioner Traini, and unanimously approved with no edits.



VI. Port Director's Comments – Mr. Ribuffo addressed 6 topics:

- Mr. Ribuffo welcomed the commissioners to the Port's new office building. There was time to tour before and after the meeting; and Mr. Ribuffo suggested that the configuration of the 3rd floor might prove the commissioners a venue for hosting all manner of meetings or receptions.
- He also announced that the three port staff members who are appointed executives (Steve Ribuffo, Jim Jager, and John Daley) and serve at the pleasure of the Mayor were all retained.
- Through advice from legal counsel, the Port has been given approval to excess and sell all the sheetpile left over from the failed intermodal expansion project. Based on advice from the Purchasing Office, the Port has opted to work with an auction company for its sale.
- Mr. Ribuffo also shared that as anxious as we all are for closure, there is no new news on the status of the MARAD settlement since the Federal Court of Appeals heard final oral arguments in March.
- As to the Port and its responsibilities for the Ship Creek Small Boat Launch, the Port was asked by the Assembly to open it for use one more season while they work on a plan for the long term management of it. We made that happen and are assisting one of the principle users who is crafting a plan to present to the Assembly with any data they may need.
- As we have vacated our old offices, Mr. Ribuffo shared that he's contacted both APD and AFD and offered those spaces for any training they might be able to do before demolition begins. So far, we've heard from APD's SWAT team.

After Mr. Ribuffo's comments, commissioners began a rather spirited discussion regarding the possibility of hosting an event at the Port for federal, state, and local political leaders and how that might come together. Commissioner Thompson offered to take the lead on this. More to come.

VII. Staff Reports – No Engineer's report was presented. But Mr. Ribuffo gave an update on the status of hiring actions. He shared that with the approval from HR, the Port would be adding a position to be called "Port Engineering Technician" that would be subordinate to the Port Engineer position and provide staff writing and project management support given that the workload associated with ongoing port maintenance and repair activities has been growing significantly. In his absence, Mr. Daley supplied a written PAMP status report that was distributed to the commissioners and is attached here. Ms. Beckham's financial report, and Mr. Jager's report on open grant applications and their status and pending security activities are also attached. To close out staff reports, Mr. Poole provided additional information regarding the Port's work in support of opening the Ship Creek Small Boat Launch this year, details of the ongoing overnight port call for the *M/S Westendam* cruise ship, and recent past plus near future port support for ongoing military movements.

VIII. Old Business – None



- IX. Correspondence Received by Commission** – None received.
- X. New Business** – None
- XI. Public Comments** – Mr. Casey Sullivan (Marathon) took the opportunity to correct the record on the PCT line soaking purpose, which was earlier in the meeting remarked to be an unnecessary user request that the Port was directed to comply with after the lines were hydrostatically tested and they passed. Mr. Sullivan shared that instead it was a test, identified as American Petroleum Institute Recommended Procedure 1595 that details flushing and soaking protocols for new pipelines, which would serve the purpose of ensuring there weren't any post-construction contaminants in the fuel lines before their actual use. Commission Chair Ward thanked Mr. Sullivan for clarifying the situation.
- XII. Port Director's Closing Comments** – There were no closing comments from Mr. Ribuffo, but he thanked the Commission for such a lively meeting.
- XIII. Commissioners Closing Comments:** Commissioner Thompson thanked the Port for the reception idea and re-stated he would take the lead on planning the first one. Commissioner Robbins offered to assist, and a tentative date of September 11th was set for the first event. Commissioner Lisiecki congratulated the port staff members who were retained by the new Administration and spoke to the importance of continuity in such an important municipal department.
- XIV. Next Meeting Date:** August 7, 2024. Commission Chair Ward requested that we allow any members of the "public" who wished to attend in person to be allowed to do so. Mr. Ribuffo said the Port staff will make that happen.
- XV. Meeting Adjourned at 1:40 PM**