

PORT OF GRAYS HARBOR
SPECIAL MEETING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
December 14, 2023

The Port of Grays Harbor Special Commission Meeting for December 14, 2023 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. This meeting was both a virtual meeting conducted using Zoom and an in-person meeting. The public was able to access this virtual meeting using either the Zoom platform or by calling in.

Rob Crawford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those in attendance at the meeting were as follows:

COMMISSION AND STAFF

Tom Quigg	Commissioner
Phil Papac	Commissioner
Stan Pinnick	Commissioner
Gary Nelson	Executive Director
Leonard Barnes	Deputy Executive Director
Mike Folkers	Director of Finance & Administration
Kayla Dunlap	Director of Government and Public Affairs
Aaron Aschim	Contract & Project Manager
Kris Koski	Port Engineer
Alissa Shay	General Manager of Satsop Business Park
Molly Bold	General Manager of Westport Marina
Brittany Miller	Westport Marina Office Assistant
Shannon Anderson	Business & Trade Development Assistant
Janet Blackmun-Johnson	Accounting Specialist
Nolan Wyatt	Marine Terminal Superintendent
Tracy Ewing	Accounting Specialist
Cynthia Crisp	Receptionist
Lisa Benn	Accounting Manager
Jeremy Plummer	Westport Marina Operations Manager
Dan Pullar	Electrician
Chris Hunt	Director of Information Technology

COMMISSION AND STAFF (cont.)

Ross Read	Satsop Business Park Operations Manager
John Fuher	Telecom Technician
Sandra Parks	Utility Operator
Emily Penttila	Satsop Business Park Business & Operations Assistant

VISITORS

Billy Swor	ILWU Local 24
Leland Godfrey	ILWU Local 24
Jason Fleury	ILWU Local 24
Rob Crawford	ILWU Local 24
Tim Ryker	Pasha Stevedoring
Brian Fry	Pasha Stevedoring
Kyle Pauley	Citizen

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Billy Swor, ILWU Local 24, praised the Port on the good work they have done and thanked Executive Director Gary Nelson for his 24 years at the Port.

Gary Nelson, Executive Director, recognized the ILWU for their generosity to the community.

Billy Swor, ILWU Local 24 reported on the ILWU's progress toward the 100 bike challenge.

Items discussed and action taken where required are as follows:

ACTION ITEMS:

Authorization to Amend Resolution 2986 – A Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Partner with the City of Aberdeen and Commit Port Funds as Non-Federal match for the Aberdeen US 12 Highway Rail Grade Separation Grant Applications

Kris Koski, Port Engineer, gave an explanation on how the Port previously passed a resolution committing \$200,000 toward this project. He then reported that the original commitment contained language regarding federal match. He further reported that the project is now entirely funded by non-federal dollars and that the previous resolution needs to be amended.

A motion to adopt Resolution No. 3104: *Updating the Port of Grays Harbor's Funding Commitment to the Aberdeen US12 Highway-Rail Separation Project* was made by Commissioner Papac seconded by Commissioner Pinnick. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0. Resolution adopted.

Commission Selection of the Port of Grays Harbor's Next Executive Director

The Commission discussed the qualifications and experience of the candidates pool that submitted letters of interest.

A motion to offer the position of Executive Director to Deputy Executive Director Leonard Barnes, and pending finalization of negotiation of terms of employment, that a letter of employment be offered making the appointment effective at the close of business March 31, 2024, and direct Mike Folkers and Art Blauvelt to negotiate the terms of the employment with further Commission action at the January 9, 2024 Commission Meeting was made by Commissioner Pinnick seconded by Commissioner Papac. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

Deputy Executive Director Leonard Barnes thanked the Commissioners and stated that he is looking forward to new opportunities and relationships and growing family wage jobs in Grays Harbor.

Executive Director Gary Nelson commended the Commissioners on their diligence through this process and the decision to name Leonard Barnes as Executive Director. He stated that Leonard is committed to the Port and has the capacity and expertise to succeed. He further stated that he knows our customers are excited for the continuity. He concluded by reporting that he is comforted to know that he will take advantage of his bench and the people around him will give him good guidance.

The Port staff congratulated Deputy Executive Director on his promotion.

Billy Swor, ILWU Local 24, stated that he appreciates all that Leonard has done and he knows the transition will be a seamless one because of his great staff.

The Special Meeting adjourned at 10:33 AM.

ATTEST:

President

Secretary