

FRIDAY HARBOR PORT DISTRICT
Port Commission *Special Meeting* at San Juan Island Yacht Club
Wednesday, August 26, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes

Port Commissioners Present: Mike Ahrenius
Greg Hertel
Barbara Marrett

Port Staff Present: Marilyn O'Connor, Port Director
Bob Freeauf, Marina Facilities Manager
Tami Hayes, Harbormaster
Phyllis Johnson, Auditor
Dave Ryan, Airport Manager

Others Present: Russell Barsh, KWIAHT
Shann Weston, Beach Watchers
Jack Cory, Island Guardian
Johannes Krieger, San Juan Excursions
Mike Close, San Juan Island Marine Center

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. Mike Ahrenius moved to approve the minutes of the August 12th meeting. Greg Hertel seconded and the motion passed.
2. Citizens Comments/Requests: Russell Brash of Beach Watchers would like to submit a formal proposal to the Port to install an underwater camera and monitor in the SSL building for public viewing of the eel grass and marine life as a step in establishing a monitoring program of the harbor waters.
3. Consent Agenda: None
4. Commission Action Issues:
 - A. Greg Hertel moved to approve the Port Director's signature on the FAA grant #24 for Airport Development and Noise Program Implementation in the amount of \$454,127.00. Barbara Marrett seconded and the motion passed.
 - B. Greg Hertel moved to approve the redesign and call for bids for the SSL roof project. Mike Ahrenius seconded and the motion passed.
5. Commission Discussion Items:
 - A. **Meeting with Customs and Border Patrol (CBP)**: Commissioner Ahrenius and the Port Director met with staff from CBP who were on island last week.

Discussion continues regarding the 5,000 sq. ft. of lease space originally requested in the proposed new customs building. They are also requesting free space for their CBP personnel that would be used for inspections, but still appear interested in obtaining lease space for office functions. Port staff is awaiting a formal request from CBP for free inspection space. The Port Director has contacted other Ports to see how many are offering free lease space to CBP. There appears to be different facilities requirements for airports and marinas. CBP is also seeking a one year extension on their month to month lease in the current location.

- B. Southwest Hangar Configuration:** After reviewing several options for hangar design and visiting the proposed site last week, the Commission has chosen the 16 double-nested hangar design. They feel it would make the best use of the land there and has the least visual impact. The Commissioners feel the Port should have the hangars built and lease them out. Their second choice is the 14 single nested hangars. The Commission would like to see survey work done now in preparation for a 2010 project. Reid Middleton can provide a better projection of excavation costs now that the configuration has been chosen.
- C. RIV Disposition:** The Commissioners agreed to put the entire unit up for sale as staff training costs are prohibitive. The Commissioners would like to see additional 20 lb. fire extinguishers added to all airport vehicles.
- D. NOAA Westside Vessel Exclusion Zone Proposal:** The Commissioners discussed their question regarding the proposed NOAA Vessel Exclusion Zone on the west side. They would like to see scientific data to support the proposal. Johannes Krieger of San Juan Excursions discussed the economic impacts to the tourism sector if the proposal is adopted. The Commission will continue to monitor the situation.

6. Public Hearings: None

7. Staff Reports:

- A. Marina Facilities Manager:** The oil trailer has moved back down to the lower parking lot. The Port now has a receptacle for dirty bilge water, at a disposal cost of \$1.00/gallon. The fuel shack roof has been painted instead of replaced and looks good. The space for the future Laundromat is being cleaned up and will be gutted soon. Staff is working with Pressler Engineering on a proposal to complete the 480V conversion project since Path Engineering is no longer in business. Bob Freeauf has been redesigning the bull rails on Breakwater A.
- B. Airport Manager:** Construction on the airport improvements project is underway with the taxi lane to Westwind Aviation currently under repair. The Port Director signed a \$6,000 change order contract with Lawson construction to move the south gate to a new location to avoid utility lines.

- C. Harbormaster: Eddie Bauer has asked to use Breakwater Charlie to film a photo shoot next week. The Commissioners would like the Harbormaster to try to have the Port sign included in the catalog. The deadline for bids on the impounded vessel is Monday, August 31st. There was discussion about the verbiage in the commercial business policy regarding how businesses are conducted on Port property. The Commissioners would like the Harbormaster to first obtain copies of all complaints on the business in question and then write a letter to the owner notifying him if another complaint is received, and if the boat was not cleaned up his business lease with the Port will be terminated.
- D. Auditor: Greg Hertel moved to approve Vouchers 9583-9609 totaling \$43,498.00. Mike Ahrenius seconded and the motion passed. A list of signed contracts was distributed. A new truck was purchased for the maintenance department from M & W Auto in Friday Harbor.
- E. Executive Director: Commissioner Hertel and the Port Director agreed to meet with a visiting Korean researcher on September 8th at 11:00 a.m. The Port Director will be meeting with Charlie Anderson and Peace Health for an update on the new medical facility. A long-range planning workshop for both the airport and marina has been scheduled for Port staff and Commissioners from 11- 1:00 p.m. on September 9th.

8. Capital Improvement/Acquisition Project Approvals: None

9. Commissioners' reports, comments, correspondence and requests: Commissioner Marrett reported the captain of her vessel being treated poorly by a Customs agent while clearing in Friday Harbor after returning from Canada as well as receiving several complaints from other boaters while in Canada, reporting they will not be returning to Friday Harbor due to being treated impolitely by Customs. Mike Close mentioned there has been concern from several others and there's talk of a Chamber of Commerce committee forming to discuss possible approaches to take with CBP.

10. Agenda items pending future action: None

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Mike Ahrenius, Commissioner

Barbara Marrett, Commissioner

Greg Hertel, Commissioner