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**Regular Commission Meeting**  
**April 12, 2023 – 1:30 pm**  
**2 Marine Drive, Boardman, Oregon 97818**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Joe Taylor called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

**Commissioners Present:** Rick Stokoe, Marv Padberg, Joe Taylor, Jerry Healy and John Murray

**Staff Present:** Lisa Mittelsdorf, Eileen Hendricks, Mark Patton, Miff Devin Jason Hendricks, Anna Browne, Erika Lasater, Brandy Warburton

**Visitors Present:** Aaron Moss, Torrie Griggs, Craig Reeder, Karen Pettigrew, Kelly Doherty, Stuart Dick, Patrick Collins

**By Zoom Meeting:** (Staff) Marcine Brangham, Tim Patton  
(Guests) Tami Sinor, Debbie Pedro, Matt Willkes, Wes Killion, Debbie Radie, Dawson Quinton, David Sykes, Kirby Garrett, Emily Collins, Ryan DeGrofft, Mary Killion, Ed Rollins

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. March 8, 2023 Regular Commission Meeting Minutes**

Rick made the motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Jerry seconded the motion. No further discussion was had. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

**A. Federal** – Kirby gave a recap of the recent meetings that were arranged while Lisa, Jerry and Joe were at PNWA with EPA, Congressman Cliff Bentz, and staff of Senators Wyden and Merkley. The meetings went well. The Port of Morrow would be the first recipient of the WIFIA loan to assist with wastewater infrastructure, if approved. Joe thanked Kirby for his assistance while they were visiting Washington DC.

**B. State** – Dawson provided an update for the state legislature. Last week was the first chamber deadline for the ways and means committee. May 18 will be the revenue forecast.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. CDA Update** – Joe stated that they were able to go to the Pentagon while they were in DC for the ceremonial signing of the Depot land over to local control. It was the fourth largest

transfer in BRAC history.

Debbie said they are currently working on the transfer of the wildlife habitat land transfer to CTUIR.

Lisa asked about the next steps for master planning. Debbie replied that the next steps are site visits with Business Oregon on May 15-17. The visits will help with infrastructure development.

**B. Policy Update – New Public Comment Policy**

The new policy is in the packet. Joe stated that he'd like the 48 hours' notice changed. Discussion was had on the notice requirements and Brandy confirmed that she got the information from SDAO. Rick requested a form be available for someone to complete if they would like to give a comment.

**C. Membership Liaison – Board Position Appointments**

John noted that appointments should be made as soon as possible to rectify the missed appointments in January 2023 per POM Bylaws. Joe requested the appointments be added to next month's agenda in case there are additional appointments they aren't remembering right now.

**D. Broadband – Aaron Moss**

Jerry read the following statement, *“Marv and I are minority owners of a construction company providing fiber optic connectivity. We're one of many similar companies with comparable services in the area. Because there is such demand for fiber optic installation, there is the potential that our company could get work from the Rural Broadband project we're discussing today. However, it is also possible that any of the other companies that provide these services will get work. This is not a bad thing. After all, the purpose of the project is to provide an economic and educational benefit to all people and businesses in Morrow County, even those who serve the public. With that, Marv and I will declare a potential conflict of interest.”*

Aaron Moss gave an update, summary, and status report of formalizing the IGA between the county and port regarding broadband. He said that they have a draft of the agreement in the packet today that is approximately 90 percent complete. Lisa asked Aaron to highlight the issues discussed this morning. He responded with a list of changes from the morning's meeting. There were further questions and discussion.

**Other**

John requested time to read a comment regarding the news reporting recent leak. His written statement is included, as provided, below:

*“Last week I communicated to our commission president and to our executive director my concerns.*

*I am an independent businessperson in Morrow County with a 65-year-old service-driven company founded and based in Morrow County. It is not possible to have a service-driven company for six decades, in small communities, without being forthright at all times with the patients my staff and I serve.*

*Therefore, I cannot, not speak up, when, as I believe, we as a port do what we have done, which is to break faith with the public, the people we serve.*

*We have a \$2 million fine pending for wastewater violations, and we didn't address a leak as soon as we knew it was there.*

*As a port commissioner, I am ultimately responsible for the actions and operations of this port. I apologize for it happening on my watch, it will not happen again. This leak has been repaired and I assured that any such leaks in the future will be quickly reported and repaired."*

John finished reading his statement and added, "I had multiple calls."

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. New Leases** – Lisa said that Garrett Electric has made an inquiry about land to lease, and DB Schenker has requested a renewal. Tidewater has a quarterly lease.

### **B. PNWA Mission to Washington – recap**

Joe said that he, Jerry, and Lisa attended the PNWA Trip to Washington DC. He said it was a good visit with useful updates on a lot of different topics. The meetings with northwest legislators/senators were good. Jerry and Lisa agreed.

### **C. Other**

Joe said he Zoomed in for the industry meeting on Monday. He missed the meeting with the farmers. Lisa said that meetings with industries and farmers will be held monthly now. Craig Reeder said they appreciated outreach to stakeholders. He said they have a couple of suggestions and ideas they'd like to share when appropriate.

## **VI. STAFF REPORTS**

### **A. Project Updates**

- SAGE Center Expansion – Hoping to break ground by the end of the month. Bids will be opened on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May.
- BUILD is moving forward. Marine Drive is currently closed. Contractors are trying to speed up the schedule.
- Digester is set to be commissioned in May.

- Secondary treatment is at 30% design, and we hope to have a meeting with DEQ in May to keep them informed.
- Winter storage lagoons have not received any responses. We were able to sign contractors during the mandatory meeting. Farm 3 is about 30% done. A preliminary design report is due to DEQ by May 30.
- Farm 4 is about 30% complete. We have 90,000 feet of pipe total that will be installed.
- South Lift station design has been submitted to DEQ.

**B. Maintenance Update**

Tim talked about project updates while Erika showed photos.

**C. Financial Update**

Jason presented the financial update and commissioners reviewed information in the packets.

**D. Workforce Update**

Anna gave an update regarding Workforce Development. It was a busy month partnering with the SAGE Center to provide tours for FFA students traveling through the region for the state conference. She also talked about high school internships, career/job fairs, a new video about the high school internship, a monthly podcast and other projects. Torrie said they will be doing a presentation on May 12 for PNWA.

Marv said that it's really cool to see the SAGE Center being used as a teaching tool.

Lisa said we've asked Anna to develop training for our own staff. They're also planning industry tours for Morrow County teachers.

**E. Usage Reports**

**F. Other**

Joe asked Craig if he'd like to schedule a time to talk about his suggestions. Craig replied yes and he'll coordinate with Lisa.

**VII. OTHER REPORTS**

**A. Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group / Heppner Chamber**

None Present

**B. Boardman Chamber Update / BCDA**

Torrie referred commissioners to the packet for the bulk of her updates. The Chamber will

be hosting candidate updates in the near future. They will be hiring a company to provide translation.

**C. ICABO** – Ed Rollins gave an update for ICABO. At their last meeting, they heard from the Ione Community School who had just installed their AR welder and are shopping for additional teaching packs. Engineers are surveying the community sewer systems for joining to the city-wide system that is in development. He said the city will be looking to install cameras. The old gas station the county owns will be remediated. MCGG will be installing above ground fuel tanks.

**D. City Updates**

Karen Pettigrew gave an update for the City of Boardman. They've appointed Richard Rockwell to the open seat on the city council. They had around 15 candidates apply for the city manager position. They will be holding a meet and greet at the SAGE Center. The traffic study has been completed. She asked for clarification regarding the EPA meetings in Washington versus the bad press we get through EPA locally. Lisa explained the grant processes and said she was surprised about the local visit. No one had reached out to the port during their local visit.

**E. County Updates**

David Sykes gave an update for the county. They've been working on broadband. They had a work session with Aaron this morning. They completed a SIP agreement with AWS. They're also working on the ASA to get it resolved soon. There was also a meeting with water representatives from the state regarding the nitrate water issues. He moderated the town hall with Senator Wyden recently. The potential circuit court sites are being evaluated.

**F. Other**

**VIII. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**IX. UPCOMING EVENTS:**

April 12th	3:30pm POM Budget Committee Meeting
May 10th	1:30pm POM Regular Commission Meeting
May 10th	3:30pm POM Budget Committee Meeting
May 16th	District Elections
June 14th	POM Budget Hearing

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Port will hold an executive session meeting for the permissible reason(s) stated below under ORS 192.660(2). Representatives of the news media and designated staff and other persons shall be allowed to attend the executive session in-person. All other members of the audience will be asked to leave the room. The public virtual Zoom Meeting link will

be closed during the executive session as permissible executive session meetings are not subject to HB2560. Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on any of the deliberations during the executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No decision will be made in this executive session. At the end of the executive session, we will not return to open session.

- A. For the Purpose of Consideration of Deliberations with the Port's Executive Director and Other Staff Members Who Have Been Designated by the Port to Negotiate Transactions Related to the Sale or Lease of Real Property – ORS 192.660 (2)(e)**
- B. For the Purpose of Consultation with Counsel Concerning the Legal Rights and Duties of a Public Body with Regard to Current Litigation or Litigation Likely to be Filed – ORS 192.660 (2)(h)**

Joe adjourned the regular meeting at 3:10 PM and the executive session started at approximately 3:15 pm. There being no further business, the Commission meeting adjourned at approximately 3:40 pm.

Submitted by:



Joe Taylor, Commission President



Lisa Mittelsdorf, Executive Director

# PORT OF MORROW

## Regular Commission Meeting

### April 12, 2023

### SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME <b>PLEASE PRINT</b>	COMPANY REPRESENTING	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS (If we don't have it)
Anna Browne	POM		
Karee Pettigrew	City		
Kelly Schubert	Citizen	541-481-2846	
Stuart Dick	Citizen	541-377-5454	juliedick263@gmail.com
Patrick Collins	VEC	541-256-0730	