

**PORT OF COLUMBIA**  
Special Meeting Minutes  
August 31, 2020

Chairman Marvin opened the meeting at 6:00 pm

**Present Via Zoom:** Commissioners Earle Marvin, Sean Milligan, and Shawn Brown, Executive Director Jennie Dickinson, Port Intern Lydia Caudill, PocketiNet representatives Giselle Hepker, Wrandoll Brenes, and Todd Brandenburg, Scott Hutsell, Diana Ruchert, Steve Mantle, and approximately 50 community members.

**Broadband Information Meeting:** Commissioner Marvin welcomed the community to our broadband information meeting. Meeting summary includes:

- Dickinson provided an overview of internet service in the community and project background.
- Lincoln County Commissioner and Public Works Board Chair Scott Hutsell spoke about the importance of broadband to rural communities.
- Hepker and Dickinson gave a summary presentation on the broadband feasibility study completed in February that shows Dayton is underserved and that a Port-owned fiber network is financially feasible.
- Diane Ruchert with the Port of Garfield talked about their fiber project currently under construction in Pomeroy.
- Steve Mantle with Innov8 Ag talked about the benefits of Precision Farming and how important broadband is to our agricultural community.
- Lydia Caudill provided a survey for attendees to take.
- Dickinson and presenters answered questions from the community.

**Consider Resolution #2020-04:** Commissioners considered a draft resolution supporting an application for funding for the fiber network.

**MOTION:** Made by Commissioner Brown to adopt Resolution #2020-04 authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Public Works Board for construction of a broadband network in Columbia County. Commissioner Milligan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:28 by Commissioner Marvin. Next regular meeting is September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

  
Sean Milligan, Secretary