

Port of Columbia
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2022

Chair Crowe opened the meeting at 5:00pm

Present: Commissioners Crowe, Bryan and Watts, Port Staff Jennie Dickinson & Tracy Clark, Community Council presenters Catherine Veninga, Laura Prado and Rachel Elfenbein and 6 members of the public at the port office with 16 attending via zoom.

Presentation: Community Council gave a presentation about affordable housing in Columbia County. It was shown that Columbia County is in need of smaller homes and/or apartments. More information about their study report can be found on their website www.communitycouncil.org.

Public Comment: Chair Crowe asked for any public comments. Joy Smith spoke about the need for affordable housing across the country. Housing is a must for Economic Development work to succeed.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the March meeting were reviewed.

MOTION: Commissioner Bryan moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Watts seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Review Monthly Budget Report & Approve Vouchers: Commissioner Crowe requested clarification regarding the Anderson Perry expense. Commissioner Bryan asked for clarification regarding the Marketing expenses. Dickinson answered both questions to the commissioner's satisfaction. The Railroad lease line-item needs adjusting.

Policy #4-2022: The policy will now read as "Portable Electronic Device Policy". It will include phones and tablets. Jennie will be acquiring a cell phone for herself, to conduct Port Business on, instead of her personal cell with shared cost. The newly acquired tablets are not working. The Port will send them back and purchase new tablets.

MOTION: Commissioner Bryan moved to approve changes made to Policy #4-2022. Commissioner Watts seconded it. Motion carried unanimously.

Rock Hill Industrial Park: Blues Crew volunteers held a Rock Hill Trail workday on May 1st. It was well attended. 3 Pines Bookkeeping will be moving out of one of the Cameron St. Co-Working spaces, and Columbia Pulp has moved out of 521 Cameron. That space is now available. Dickinson secured a spray contract with a new company so the weeds in the area will be taken care of as soon as the weather improves. The USDA building interior needs to be repainted per their lease agreement. There have been complaints from them about the visibility caused by the shrubs along the road. Dickinson suggested removing them. The commissioners had no objection.

Lyons Ferry Marina: An inspection was held at the marina on May 2nd with US Army Corps of Engineers. Only two very minor issues were found. Things are going nicely out there.

Blue Mountain Station: FoodStock preparation is progressing. Two bands and one food vendor have been booked. The soil by the garden was tested for arsenic and came back within the acceptable range. Lead testing was not done. The Commission agreed if the ground is disturbed at a later date, we will do testing for lead at that time.

CWW Railroad: The railroad operator hired a new company to spray the weeds on the railroad right-of-way. Jennie has an arrangement with the city that the Port will purchase the chemicals needed and the city will do the application in a few public spots in town where the weeds are particularly bad. The Lincoln car will be parked behind the Courthouse during All Wheels Weekend and will be open for tours.

Executive Director's Report: WaFd bank is closing, and Bank of Oregon may move into their building. HomeStreet bank has been purchased by Bank of Idaho. The USDA Grant for the value-added project has been submitted. The Port promoted an Export Training Class held on May 11th. Jennie & Tracy are helping with a Reality Fair at the High School May 19th. 2 more start up grants have been received. Geo targeted marketing is being used for business recruitment.

Touchet Valley Trail: Trail design will be completed over the next few months and then shelved. Commission Crowe read a letter she wrote addressing the April meeting.

Broadband: Fiber has been ordered. It is US made and should be in by July, which allows the project to remain on schedule. Jennie is going to do community outreach regarding Broadband.

Housing: Nothing to report. Commissioner Bryan wanted to talk more about the housing in the county. He would like the Port to consider addressing the affordable housing issue with Blue Mountain Station land that is outside the food park footprint. Either selling it or building the infrastructure for it. Jennie will look into it.

Other: Seth mentioned wanting to purchase, build or use a vacant lot downtown for Blue Mountain Station tenants, for retail.

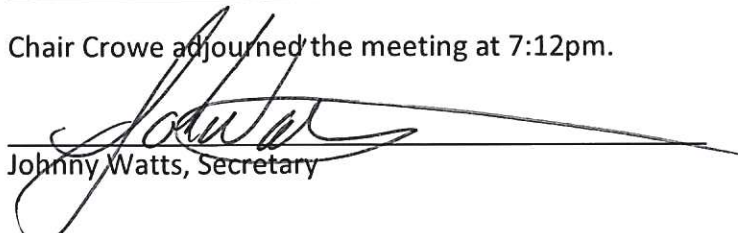
Executive session: An executive session as per RCW 42.30.110 was held to discuss real estate. No action was taken after the executive session.

The executive session began at 7:00pm and was expected to last no more than 20 minutes.

Approval of Vouchers: Commissioners approved regular monthly vouchers in the amount of: \$62,683.15.

11651-11661	Payroll	16,411.41	11677	Columbia iConnect	136.39
11662	Accessible Walla Walla	1,500.00	11678	Dayton Chronicle	76.00
11663	Anderson Perry, Inc.	19,942.17	11679	Dayton Mercantile	30.30
11664	Artmil, Inc.	600.00	11680	Dingle's of Dayton	12.46
11665	Banner Bank - 1585	3,205.27	11681	Ferrellgas	1,134.52
11666	Banner Bank - 1593	1,475.05	11682	Jamestown Networks	188.62
11667	Banner Bank - GO Bond - 3946	2,380.98	11683	LEAF	248.74
11668	Banner Bank IB#2 - 1189	4,216.67	11684	MBG Cleaning Services	1,480.00
11669	Banner Bank BMS #2 Bond - 9342	2,440.84	11685	Pacific Power	1,302.79
11670	Basin Disposal Inc	56.85	11686	Roto Rooter	389.16
11671	Basin Disposal of Walla Walla	118.14	11687	Senske	69.20
11672	Brewer's Bookkeeping & Payroll Services	1,200.00	11688	Touchet Valley Landscape	411.44
11673	Cardmember Service	707.03	11689	US Linen & Uniform	112.64
11674	City Lumber	7.13	11690	Walla Walla Union Bulletin	360.00
11675	City of Dayton	2,019.67	11691	Jennifer S Dickinson{O}	299.68
11676	Columbia County Parks & Recreation	150.00	11644-11650 & 11658 - Voided		0.00

Chair Crowe adjourned the meeting at 7:12pm.


Johnny Watts, Secretary