

**MINUTES
PORT OF PEND OREILLE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
JULY 14, 2009**

Vice Chairman Harkness called the regular meeting of the Port of Pend Oreille Board of Commissioners to order at 1:30 p.m. in the Port office located at 1981 Black Road, Usk, Washington. In attendance: Vice Chairman Harkness, Secretary Shanklin and Port staff.

For purposes of clarification, the minutes are presented as listed on the agenda, not necessarily in the order they were discussed.

MINUTES: A quorum of the Board from the June meeting was not present for today's meeting. Therefore, approval of the June minutes was tabled until the August meeting.

COMMENTS:

None at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION:

A. DISCUSSION: There were 70 passengers for the train ride at lone and a good turnout for the lunch too. Kelly thanked all employees for their hard work in getting the facilities and grounds ready for the celebration. A thank you too to Coleman and Riley Bauer for their work on the grounds and setting up and to Tera and Kaleigh Driver for setting up, serving food and clean up. Commissioner Shanklin stated many Lions Club members complimented POVA employees on the brush cutting work from lone to Metaline Falls.

2. VARIANCE POLICY:

A. DISCUSSION: Kelly presented the rough draft policy and application form to the Board. Both forms met with Board approval. Kelly will bring the final copies to the August meeting for final approval.

B. ACTION: None necessary.

3. INDUSTRIAL PARK:

A. DISCUSSION: There was discussion on the changeover of personnel at the USDA and the progress on obtaining clean up funds. Kelly is working with TEDD on this matter and either the Port or TEDD will be pursuing funds through the Economic Development Fund Board of the PUD to assist with the clean up.

4. OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

A. USE OF FACILITIES:

1. DISCUSSION: Kelly presented the changes as recommended at the June meeting. All changes met with Board approval; the final policy will be brought before the Board at the August meeting.

B. TACOMA CREEK BRIDGE/LIONS CLUB:

1. DISCUSSION: Kelly distributed copies of a letter from the North Pend Oreille Lions Club which informed the railroad of the Club's approval of \$4,900 to assist with repairs to the Tacoma Creek Bridge. Cliff will order materials and work will be completed by October.

C. MENDENHALL PROPERTY:

1. DISCUSSION: Kelly is continuing to work with Mr. Mendenhall and the BNSF on this project. BNSF attorneys have determined that the moving of the tracks is considered an abandonment and

not a relocation so the abandonment process will have to be followed if Mr. Mendenhall wants to proceed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. NINE COMMISSIONER MEETING:

A. DISCUSSION: The meeting was held at the Kalispel Tribe Wellness Center today with WSDOT giving a presentation which included information on a \$65,000 feasibility study for a bus system for Pend Oreille, Stevens and Ferry Counties. There was also a County Leadership survey distributed to see about the need for workshops for County leaders. The next meeting is scheduled for October 13th at the Wellness Center.

2. EMPLOYEE CONCERNS:

A. DISCUSSION: Staff presented information to the Board regarding employee concerns and desires to have the pay reduction reinstated for the remainder of the year due to the fact that there are storage cars on line that were not counted on during the budget process and also with the departure of another POVA employee some employees feel the money should be reinstated. There was discussion. The Board feels that now is not the time to be looking at returning this money however the Board is willing to meet with the employees at the August meeting to discuss their concerns.

3. OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

A. REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT:

1. DISCUSSION: PORTA has requested a letter of support for a grant that they are trying to obtain from Kodak American Greenways to support the Water Trail development.

2. ACTION: The Board directed Kelly to prepare a letter of support and sign it on the Port's behalf.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. ROADMASTER: Cliff reported:

- Crews completed the brush cutting for the Lions rides and returned the brush cutter to the shop where they are completing some maintenance on the machine. It will be going out next week to work on brush removal from Usk to Dover.
- Susan noticed that someone had a campfire on one of the metal deck storage cars during the fireworks display on July 4th. POVA crews as well as the fire department worked to put the fire out and ensure that there were no embers on the grass or in the ties around the cars.
- Crews will be working on the Blueslide Tunnel and will be removing the beaver dam at Lost Creek later this month.

2. MANAGER: Kelly reported:

- FRA Audit policies should be up to date now. Testing on new regulations was completed with employees.
- Centennial Celebration work completed and successful.
- The old copy machine has been replaced.
- A new computer has been ordered for Brad.
- Another 34 storage cars are due to arrive; 12 of the BNSF bulkhead storage cars were taken out on Monday.

3. FINANCIAL OFFICER: The financial information for the month of June was presented for discussion.

4. CHIEF MECHANICAL OFFICER: Brad was at jury duty but left the following report:

- Switcher should ship next week.
- Working on a bid on two (2) GP-35's for Western Rail. If successful on the bid these are big projects and will require another employee to work in the shop.
- Finishing up a de-turbo on GP-40.
- Has another de-turbo job coming.
- Still has an engine swap to work on for Western Rail.
- Has completed some work for the EWG and has more trips planned.

RECORDS FOR APPROVAL:

A. TIME AND EXPENSE SHEETS: Approved as submitted.

B. WARRANTS: 32285-32379 totaling \$105,053.84 approved as submitted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No executive session.

ADJOURN: There being no further business; Vice Chairman Harkness adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Stephen C. Kiss, Chairman

Kelly J. Driver, Manager

Date Approved