



COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

September 8, 2020 – 9:00 am

Those present were:

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| Commissioner Gary Weaver | Executive Director Chris Faix |
| Commissioner Deena Vietzke | Executive Assistant Carmon Derting |
| Commissioner Kenny Schutte | Doyle Palmer |

Guests:

Dan Blankenship (Came in at 9:49)
Joe Poire, Port of Whitman (Left at 10:47)

Called to order at 9:15 am

G. Weaver made a motion to approve the Agenda, K. Schutte second the motion and it was passed.
G. Weaver made a motion to approve the Minutes for 8/25/2020, K. Schutte second the motion and it was passed.
G. Weaver made a motion to approve Vouchers, K. Schutte second the motion and it was passed.

C. Faix handed a Statement of Cash Flows to each Commissioner. K. Schutte had a question on one of the bank balances and it was explained that it was a banking error from an outside source.

G. Weaver requested that the access to the Commissioner's emails be checked.

There was a question on what the Anotech Labs bill was for and it was explained that the it was for the Lead and Copper testing that needs to be done every three years. The results came back and the all of the levels were in acceptable range. The only detectable lead level was found at Well 3.

J. Poire came and gave a history of how Port of Whitman did their Broadband Project and how the PETRA Corp is involved. They are currently helping Cusick with a grant application. He mentioned that we may be able to do it for about \$3-4m and expect a 10-12-year return on investment. Broadband projects are eligible for LIDs and Ports can do up to 3/10% for levy without a prior vote. The fiber has about a 30 year lifespan. The first step would be to apply for a CERB grant for a feasibility study. We need to ask "How important is it for the community to have urban rate fiber? This would be ½ grant and ½ investment. Then we would need to contract with a locate company. The Port of Whitman would be able to remotely manage the system with Port of Othello acting as a customer for \$10,000 or 15% of the gross income per year. The Port of Whitman has 1.5 full time employees to manage their system. Public meetings are a part of the study.

Summary discussion by Commissioners – There is a question of the possibility of becoming part of PETRA Corp instead of being a customer. Can we do it ourselves and bring in other Ports? Can we contact the company that brought it in for Port of Whitman? The Commissioners would like to invite Adam to a meeting. A discussion needs to be done with providers and find out what contractors are running the fiber. We might hold off with the ad for a short time. There was also a question about the partnership with Adams County on the broadband project. It had been agreed, in the past, that Adams County and Port of Othello would each pay \$12,500 towards the feasibility study in addition to a grant through CERB.

K. Schutte made a motion to prepare a grant request for a feasibility study. G. Weaver second, motion passed.

Jeff is in contact with the company manufacturing the hanger. There is a chance it will be done in about 10 weeks. JUB informed Chris that the CIP money would not be available until July or August of 2021. JUB would like to engineer the taxi lane now so that everything would be ready to break ground in the spring. The Port would be responsible for any costs until the CIP money was available for reimbursement. C. Faix will ask JUB what the estimated cost of the engineering would be.

G. Weaver suggested more gravel be purchased to line part of the area by the tie downs. It would be best to use 5/8 - crushed and washed gravel. CWC may have that available. It was also discussed to rent a vibrating rolling to compact the gravel. G. Weaver has volunteered to run the compactor.

In speaking with the Bureau, it was discovered that due to the Scootney Springs drain and another carrying pipe going across our property, only the first 50-60% of the drain can be vacated this year. The Bureau needs to complete the study to discover if the pipe going across the Reynolds property is being used or not. If it is not being used, then the pipe burial can be completed next year with a secondary pipe running parallel to it next year for the Scootney Springs drain. If the pipe across the property is being used, the remainder of the drain will not be able to be buried.

K. Schutte made a motion to continue having the ECID engineer to bury the 1st half of the pipe, G. Weaver second, motion passed.

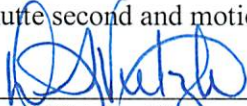
C. Faix read the response received from the Mayor to the letter that was sent to him last month in regards to the Reynolds property.

The meeting dates for October will be changed to the 6th and 20th.

The Commissioners signed the Resolution 20-10 and the contract allowing MRSC to manage the Public Works, Small Works and Vendor Rosters.

G. Weaver requested to have a counter added to the website. He also requested that more pictures and agenda items be added to Facebook.

G. Weaver motioned to adjourn meeting at 12:10, K. Schutte second and motion passed.



Deena Vietzke, Chairperson



Kenny Schutte



Carmon Derting, Executive Assistant



Gary Weaver