



## COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

August 10th, 2021 – 9:00 am

Those present were:

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

Guests:

Dan Blankenship, Adams County Commissioner  
Shawn Logan, City of Othello Mayor  
Ann Henning, Community Development Director  
John Lallas, City of Othello Council  
Genna Dorow, City of Othello Council  
Charles Featherstone, Columbia Basin Herald  
Pat Simmons

Called to order at 9:00 am.

G. Weaver made a motion to approve the Agenda, D. Vietzke second the motion.

D. Vietzke made a motion to approve the Minutes from 7/27/21, G. Weaver second the motion and it was passed.

D. Vietzke made a motion to approve Vouchers, G. Weaver second the motion and it was passed.

There was an explanation as to what the Sackmann invoice was.

### Hangar 4 Project

The bifold doors and trim are installed. C. Faix was able to see one of the bifold doors in motion. The project is estimated to take another couple of weeks. The electrician is getting close to being finished. He is coordinating with Big Bend Electric. The new 40-foot power pole has been installed, but is not lit up at this time.

### Taxi Lane Project

The concrete project will need to wait until JR Massie is finished. C. Faix has asked if a pipe can be installed into the existing drain line. JR Massie will remove the exit near Connor's spray site. There will be a slight dip left behind. JR Massie has agreed to fix the pothole in the exit near the gas pumps. C. Faix reminded them to get water using the hydrants located in Bruce. The Taxi Lane Project is in line to be finished by the end of the month.

### Redo Well

It was recommended to upgrade the existing 2" pipe to something larger. It needs to be determined if there is already a larger pipe near Flite Level Zero. K. Schutte recommended VFD.

#### Fuel System Update

C. Faix has coordinated with A1 Petroleum to deliver fuel to the Airport. It was received in less than 1 week from the order date and \$0.60 less than the other company.

#### Update on Wells

The last sample has been taken from Well 2. C. Faix will be meeting with Tyson from LAD to put a plan together for completing the recommended repairs from the sanitary audit. It was suggested that Well 1 be decommissioned. The water rights would then need to be transferred to another well. There was an inquiry made on if Well 1 could be designated for fire suppression only and if it can be recased.

#### Water Storage Funding Information

C. Faix shared the information and ideas that have been received from Martin Nelson and Company.

#### Highway 26 & Reynolds

C. Faix has done more site visits with potential buyers. The escrow check from a previous potential buyer was returned. Freeman has voiced his intent to Re-lease the land per the contract. He will be providing a written intention to the Port.

S. Logan discussed the idea of cost sharing the water and sewer that is needed to develop the property at Highway 26 and Reynolds. The original plans had been put off due to the cost to the Port. The City has acquired grant funding that could be used on the project. It was mentioned the City could fund the sewer without the use of grants. The Port is still working on completing the Quit Claim Deed which is pending at the next ECID meeting. It was mentioned that one of the drains, DE68V11, cannot be abandoned as it does extend under the highway to the other side of the roadway. The water and sewer would run from Moon to Reynolds. It was confirmed that the Irrigation District will bury the pipe once it has been purchased by the Port. There is a sleeve near Hampton's and Highway 26 that was put in by the Port. The Port would like to see retail, motels and the soccer fields on that site as shown in the engineered drawing. There was an additional suggestion of changing the fields to housing and a park. The County is concerned about the access off of Highway 26. There was also discussion about exchanging land with East Columbia Irrigation District that owns 4 blocks in the center of town. It would be a good centralized place for community events, hotels, retail, etc. C. Faix will contact the Irrigation District. It is believed that it would be beneficial to all if the City/County/Port joined forces for development. The Taggares Park history and plans for City involved were discussed. The City will be working on the numbers for the cost of the water/sewer project. Then will bring that to the Port and discussions can start on the cost sharing. Then a planning grant from CERB could be applied for.

#### Potential Tenant

C. Faix presented the document received from B's Rubs as to the request to lease property, either an incubator bay or a place that has been built to suit. He was given a couple of places to look at and let the Port know if they would work. It was mentioned that there is a current tenant that continually needs to be reminded to pay rent. It was decided that it was time to be looking for more property. C. Faix will be asking about a rail spur that is in Bruce to see if it is still certified and if the switch is up to the Railroad standards. C. Faix will also find out more information on the availability of the Western Cold Store and the Corteva buildings.



C. Faix presented the Cash Flow report for July.

C. Faix spoke with J. Poire. J. Poire will draw up a Broadband program that could be completed with grants and give it to the Port. This will be done at no charge to the Port.

Guests were excused and an Executive Session began at 11am for 15 minutes to discuss Personnel Issues. The session ended at 11:15am.

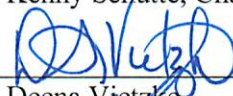
D. Vietzke made a motion to change C. Derting from an hourly employee to a salary and increase the wage from \$22.50 per hour to \$48,000 per year. G. Weaver second and motion passed.

D. Vietzke made a motion to increase the wage for C. Faix from \$66,500 per year to \$70,000 per year. G. Weaver second and motion passed.

With no further business coming before the Port of Othello Commissioners, the meeting adjourned at 10:52am.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kenny Schutte", written over a horizontal line.

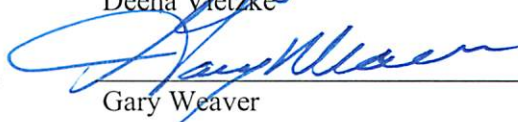
Kenny Schutte, Chairperson

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deena Vietzke", written over a horizontal line.

Deena Vietzke

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carmon Derting", written over a horizontal line.

Carmon Derting, Executive Assistant

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary Weaver", written over a horizontal line.

Gary Weaver