

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

May 30th, 2023 – 9:00 am

Those present were: Commissioner Gary Weaver Commissioner Deena Vietzke Commissioner Kenny Schutte

Executive Director Chris Faix Executive Assistant Carmon Derting

Guests:

Called to order at 9:00 am.

- K. Schutte made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of an Executive Session to discuss qualifications of candidates for appointment to elective office, G. Weaver second, motion passed
- G. Weaver made a motion to approve minutes from May 9th, 2023 meeting with clarification on the damage to the French Drain at the incubator and the water damage to Unit 3 at the Incubator Building, K. Schutte second, motion passed
- G. Weaver made a motion to approve vouchers with the clarification on the travel checks for D. Vietzke, K. Schutte second, motion passed.

Airport

The new FuelMaster upgrade will be completed soon. There has been paperwork emailed over that needs to be completed.

There have been 2 more hangars leased. There is 1 open in Building #4. A door in Building #3 needed to have the limiting switch repaired, which was done by Farmers Electric.

It has been confirmed that the Conner Hangar sale is not happening. Mr. Conner has been given the name of someone else interested.

There was an issue discovered with a possible leak at the Conner Spray Site. After investigation, it was discovered the toilet in the office is continually running. Until that is done, the water was turned off at the toilet.

Bruce

C. Faix explained the new CERB Loan/Grant. On May 18th, we were awarded a \$5 Million for the Bruce Water Tower Project. This included \$3.75 Million in a 2% over 20-year loan that begins payback in 2026 and a \$1.25 Million grant. The loan will be used before the grant. There was a 15-person board that also included Senator Warnick. K. Niehenke and JUB were very helpful at the meeting. There is further paperwork for the final contract that will need to be completed by November. We will also need proof from Progreso that they can obtain the \$20 Million for their investment. It was suggested to check on their website to see if the information could be gleaned from there. It was mentioned that Bauman might have plans for a processing center so it might be helpful to get in touch with him. C. Faix will be contacted Janea about the additional information needed.

The Hutterites have repaired the plugged-up drain from their building to behind Well 3 and it is flowing very well.

Waste Management has installed a backflow device and a meter on the hydrant by Well 2. They did two weeks of just getting water by the load (5500 gallons trucks), but are now being metered by the cubic feet.

Highway 26/Reynolds

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Meritage has done an environmental Study. They also requested the original purchase information from us. C. Faix did pass on names and numbers of interested business to them. B. Clark had a meeting with Freeman and may be interested in working on a potential purchase of the land on Bench and Reynolds.

Incubator

The contractor has been working on the damage in Unit 3. It is currently believed the problem may have started due to the holes done for the wiring that have lost their seal.

Other

There was a reminder of the OPMA and PRA classes scheduled for June 13th from 10am-1pm.

C. Faix presented a letter from the Attorney suggesting further search parameter for the Commissioners' email. He also presented the letter to K. Schutte in 2020 to help assist in finding the email he was sent. D. Vietzke will have C. Derting assist her to search in her emails.

It has come to C. Faix's attention that redistricting of the Port Districts need to be done since the County did some redistricting. This needs to be done between certification of the next election and 2 weeks prior to election sign ups. This will be tabled until the end of the year.

Executive Session

The Commissioners called for an Executive Session at 9:55am for 10 minutes. The Executive Session was to discuss qualifications of candidates for appointment to elective office (RCW $\underline{42.30.110}$ – H). The Executive Meeting closed at 10:05am. No motion was made.

With no further business coming before the Port of Othello Commissioners, the meeting adjourned at 10:06 am with a motion made by G. Weaver and seconded by K. Schutte.

Deena Vietzke, Chairperson

Gary Weaver

Carmon Derting, Executive Assistant Kenny Schutte

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