

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

September 26, 2023 – 9:00 am

Those present were:

Commissioner Gary Weaver

Commissioner Deena Vietzke (Via Phone)

Commissioner Kenny Schutte

Executive Director Chris Faix

Executive Assistant Carmon Derting

Guests: Gabe Davis, Columbia Basin Herald

Called to order at 9:02 am.

G. Weaver made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a discussion of the Airport water, K. Schutte second, motion passed

G. Weaver made a motion to approve minutes from previous meeting, K. Schutte second, motion passed

G. Weaver made a motion to approve vouchers, K. Schutte second, motion passed.

Airport

The airport has been mowed, but the heavy weed spots may need to be redone. There was a discussion about the best chemicals to use to sterilize the ground this fall. D. Evans will provide a list of chemicals that Adams County uses. A discussion was started about buying a tractor with a mower and sprayer so that someone from the Port can mow instead of relying on outside help.

C. Faix spoke with M. Conner to remove the people who were staying at the hangar. The people were removed. A legal letter was drawn up and sent to the sublease to reiterate that no one is to stay at the hangar and that no further warning will be given. If it happens again the water will be turned off, a default letter will be given and the contract cancelled.

C. Faix provided a breakdown of the last 4 years of water usage for Flight Level Zero.

G. Weaver presented pictures of a Pilot's Lounge in another small airport.

Bruce

SEV has reached back out to inquire on the purchase price of the property in Bruce.

Highway 26/Reynolds

The next installment by Meritage was paid and is nonrefundable.

Incubator

Insurance paid for the full replacement of the roof and damage to bay 3. The Port paid to redo the Portico with metal rather than the netting, damage in bay 2 and purchase and installation of new parking stops.

Other

It was mentioned the hole from last year in the parking lot appears to be coming back.

We are switching to Vyve Broadband High-Speed Internet at the office building.

The floor downstairs in the Chamber office has been replaced.

The meeting schedule for the rest of the year is as follows; October 10, October 31, November 14, November 28 and December 12th.

The Attorney for the Hood Lawsuit contacted us about emails for the Commissioners. We will be setting up a general email for the Commissioners with the address of BoardofCommissioners@portofothello.com. The email will be monitored by the staff and emails will be forwarded as needed. Any replies from the Commissioners will be forwarded to that email and then forwarded to the necessary address.

The 3-year audit is scheduled for November/December.

Executive Session

Guests were excused and an Executive Session began at 9:55am for 10 minutes to discuss Personnel Issues per RCW Code 42.30.100(g). The session ended at 10:05am.

K. Schutte made a motion to increase the wage for C. Derting from \$55,000 per year to \$57,200 per year with a merit bonus of \$5,000.00. G. Weaver second and motion passed.

K. Schutte made a motion to increase the wage for C. Faix from \$80,000 per year to \$83,200 per year with a merit bonus of \$5,000.00. G. Weaver second and motion passed.

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

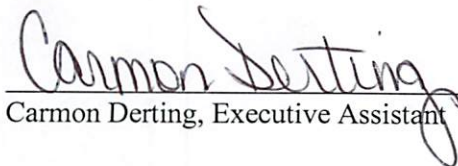
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deena Vietzke", written over a horizontal line.

Deena Vietzke, Chairperson

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

Gary Weaver

Kenny Schutte

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

Carmon Derting, Executive Assistant