

## COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES

December 18, 2025 – 9:30 am

Those present were:

Commissioner Gary Weaver

Commissioner Deena Vietzke

Commissioner Homer Montemayor

Executive Director Chris Faix

Executive Assistant Carmon Derting

**Guest:** Ben Hoppe, JUB Engineering  
Sulema Martinez

Called to order at 9:31 am.

G. Weaver made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition to Grant Updates; H. Montemayor seconded; the motion passed.

H. Montemayor made a motion to approve the minutes; G. Weaver seconded; the motion passed.

G. Weaver made a motion to approve the vouchers with questions that were asked and answered; H. Montemayor seconded; motion passed.

### **SULEMA MARTINEZ**

Introduced herself and her organization. She is asking for office space rental.

### **BEN HOPPE**

C. Faix and B. Hoppe spoke about the potential new land possibility. G. Weaver is suggesting a shipment center with Fedex, UPS and Amazon. There was discussion about access and size of the possibilities on the size of the building. B. Hoppe will refine the drawing and then the next step would be to talk to City of Othello to see if it would work and request variances if necessary. B. Hoppe with request a title report to note any easements.

### **AIRPORT**

C. Faix has been speaking with OHS to begin an AOPA STEM flight school. He took P. Perez and another person for a tour and the interest was good. The possibilities will be looked into further. C. Faix would still look for a mechanic so that they could share the building.

C. Faix just did a Port Spotlight with WPPA and will be published in the WPPA Manifest.

### **BRUCE**

C. Faix did a quick update on the Water Tower and the Commissioners were given the notes from the Preconstruction meeting held on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Any change orders under \$100,000 can be approved by C. Faix, anything higher needs Commissioner vote.

### **HIGHWAY 26/REYNOLDS**

C. Faix gave an update on the conversation he had with Mayor Elect on the need for the roundabout. D. Vietzke suggested that someone from the Port be at each City Council meeting. It was agreed. An update would be given at the next Commissioner meeting. The idea would be to have the City and the Port each pay half for a consultant, for example, \$25,000 each.

### **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

G. Weaver spoke about the potential purchase of the land and possibility putting earnest money down. It was mentioned that it is imperative that the seller does not know that it is the Port looking at the land. C. Faix spoke about the other option for a building. It was decided to continue looking at both options that were discussed.

C. Faix put a sign up for "Build to Suit" on the Highway 24 property. There have already been 3 phone calls from potential businesses.

The Commissioners discussed what market rate would be for the Incubator. The Commissioners agreed to have C. Faix make the decision. C. Faix also updated him on the other possibilities for tenants for the incubator.

G. Weaver made a motion to hire Dave Peperd as the Commercial Real Estate Agent. H. Montemayor seconded the motion, D. Vietzke voted no and requested someone local as a real estate agent, specifically B. Gentry. Motion passed.

C. Faix brought up renting an office to ACDC. Letters of support to have him located at the Port of Othello.

D. Vietzke made a motion to ACDC and give a contribution of \$3900. H. Montemayor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### OTHER

G. Weaver was sworn in for new term.

C. Faix spoke with people from Port of Moses Lake about grant possibilities. Their suggestion was to hire a lobbyist. The Port of Moses Lake also watches the Department of Commerce website for grant possibilities. G. Weaver suggested the Commissioners speak with the State Representative and attend Legislative sessions, if possible. G. Weaver suggested potential grants be presented at each meeting.

C. Faix reminded each Commissioners to file their Annual F1 Forms.

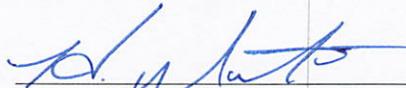
C. Faix is still looking for information for the .09 money. E. Fitch emailed over some information specific to Adams County. C. Derting filed for a Records Request to Adams County about the .09 money. The Commissioners requested to request \$400,000 from Adams County for the .09 money.

The Commissioners signed an update to Resolution 25-3, Resolution 25-4-2026 Budget to recognize new levy rate.

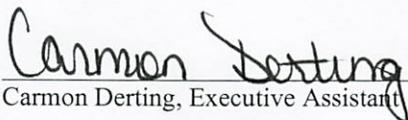
With no further business coming before the Port of Othello Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 am.

Handwritten signature of Deena Vietzke in black ink.

Deena Vietzke, Commissioner

Handwritten signature of Homer Montemayor in blue ink.

Homer Montemayor, Commissioner

Handwritten signature of Carmon Derting in black ink.

Carmon Derting, Executive Assistant

Gary Weaver, Commissioner