



# COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

**MARCH 5, 2025**  
**100 E. STREET**  
**COLUMBIA CITY, OREGON 97018**

The Port of Columbia County held a Board meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at the Port office via Zoom (\*) video conferencing with the following people present:

## **Commissioners**

Brian Fawcett	President
Chip Bubl	Vice President
Nancy Ward	2nd Vice President

## **Staff**

Sean P. Clark	Executive Director
Bob Salisbury*	Port General Counsel
Elliot Levin	North County Ops. & Terminal Mgr.
Gina Sisco	Comm. & External Affairs Manager
Miriam House*	Operations Manager
Elizabeth Millager	Property Manager
Lacey Tolles	Airport Manager
Noelle Linden	Administrative Assistant
Christa Burns*	Administrative Assistant II
Brittany Scott*	Finance Assistant

## **Guests**

Natasha Parvey	NXT Clean Fuels
Neil Maunu	PNWA
Patrick Harbison	PNWA
Steve Nelson	Lignetics Plant Manager
KJ Lewis*	
Bob Gadotti*	Scappoose
Alta Lynch*	Scappoose
Annon*	

President Brian Fawcett called the Port of Columbia County Commission Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Commissioners Fawcett, Ward and Bubl were present. Commissioners Keyser and Sorber were absent.

## **Additions To Agenda**

Brian Fawcett asked the Commission if there were any additions to the agenda. There were no additions.

## **Comments From the Public**

There were no public comments.

## **Old Business**

### **Marina Update**

Port Operations Manager Miriam House stated that there was no Marina Update.

### **Airport Update**

Airport Manager Lacey Tolles stated that there was no Airport Update.

## **Lignetics/Neighbors Update**

Port Executive Director Sean P. Clark welcomed Lignetics Plant Manager Steve Nelson to provide an update on the Lignetics cyclone scrubber project. Mr. Nelson stated that the scrubber project is progressing, the equipment has been installed, and the electrical and plumbing connections will be completed this week. He added that the old equipment was structurally unsound and in need of an upgrade. The new system is based on dispersion modeling and is expected to outperform the previous system. Mr. Nelson said he has kept in contact with the City and the neighbors so that they are aware of the progress. He also pointed out that all parties have worked well together and gave credit to the Commission for making this change a priority. The Commission congratulated Mr. Nelson on the new equipment and thanked him for his persistence.



### **Community Giving Policy**

Commissioner Nancy Ward led a discussion on community giving initiatives with a focus on allowing Commissioners to personally donate to local nonprofits in the name of the Port. Ms. Ward explained that this would expand the Port's reach and impact in the community, aligning with organizations outside the Port's usual scope. She stated this policy would look at how to support additional matters in the community that there may not be a budget for. The Commissioners agreed that donations should be unanimous, avoid controversial causes, and utilize Port branding for visibility. They plan to refine the concept further, addressing potential conflicts with existing policies and determining implementation details. The discussion emphasized that this initiative would be Commissioner led and would not require additional Port staff involvement.

### **New Business**

#### **Clatskanie Business Center Discussion**

Mr. Clark discussed a potential transfer of Port ownership of the old school building in Clatskanie to the Clatskanie Rural Fire Protection District. The fire district is interested in acquiring ownership while allowing the Port to maintain the office space and handle tenant agreements. The Commission agreed to have Port staff continue looking into the process of the asset transfer.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Clark reported that he and Gina Sisco, Communications and External Affairs Manager, were in Salem on March 4 to meet with state elected officials Senator Weber, and Representatives Javadi and Edwards. Mr. Clark informed the Commission that the Port received support letters from each of them for grants. He encouraged Commissioners to join him for a future visit. Mr. Clark will be in Washington D.C. from March 9 - 13, however he informed Commissioners that the Special District Association of Oregon (SDAO) Legislative Days in Salem takes place on March 12. Gina Sisco and Port General Counsel Bob Salisbury will be joining Mr. Clark in D.C. for the Mission to Washington. Mr. Clark discussed rescheduling the evening Commission Work Session on March 26 to a morning meeting to accommodate the Budget Committee, with Commissioners expressing flexibility and prioritizing the Budget Committee's convenience.

### **Commissioner Reports**

Chip Bubl reported that he attended the Scappoose Bay Marina Advisory Committee meeting on Monday, March 3 along with Commissioner Fawcett, Miriam House and Elizabeth Millager. He said the Advisory Committee members were in agreement on increasing prices. He also stated that there was a convivial discussion and commented on the great work of Port staff.

Nancy Ward stated that she attended the Wyden, Bonamici and Merkley Town Halls and they were well attended with engaged groups of people. She said there were a lot of people with concerns and questions, and she was impressed by the majority of people who held onto their decorum. Ms. Ward also expressed her appreciation for the differing viewpoints and the fact that people were given an opportunity to share.

Brian Fawcett reported that he virtually attended the Scappoose Bay Marina Advisory Committee meeting where the main topic was marina rates and the willingness to increase them. He also echoed Mr. Bubl's comments about the work of Port staff.



**Executive Session**

There was no Executive Session.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING  
ADJOURNED AT 9:08 A.M.**

  
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President

April 9, 2024  
Date Adopted

  
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Secretary