

May 19, 2020

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Port District No. Two of Wahkiakum County, Washington was held on the above date with Commissioner Brian O'Connor presiding. Also in attendance were Commissioner Lee Tischer, Manager Jeff Smith and Attorney Timothy Hanigan. Public and secretary attendance were made through Zoom conference.

The meeting commenced at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Wahkiakum Resident Kay Walters mentioned having a question about property owned by the County. Connection was inconsistent and she agreed to contact Manager Smith the following business day to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve April 21, 2020 regular meeting minutes

Commissioner Tischer moved to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2020 regular meeting as submitted and Commissioner O'Connor seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

Approve Vouchers

Commissioner Tischer moved to approve voucher nos. 2020-127—2020-180 in the amount of \$35,817.77 and Commissioner O'Connor seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

Manager Smith clarified that the full amount of the disbursement to DP Construction for the County Line overlook will be reimbursed. He added that Sam Longtain delivered gravel to the park.

Resolution 2020-09 Applicant Authorization Resolution

Manager Smith discussed that this resolution would allow him to apply for a grant through the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office. He intends to put a foot bridge to extend the existing foot trail located on Port property. Currently, the foot trail is 400 yards; adding a foot bridge would increase the length of the trail to approximately one mile. Manager Smith expects the foot bridge to be 4-6 feet wide, 20-30 feet long and about 12 feet off the ground. He added that the deadline for grant applications is June 1, 2020. Manager Smith is prepared to apply, aside from needing a bid. He added that finding companies to come out to the park for bids is difficult due to COVID-19. He is attempting to stick with companies on the MRSC roster and has located a company in Woodland that he intends to work with on this project.

Commissioner Tischer moved to approve Resolution 2020-09 Applicant Authorization Resolution and Commissioner O'Connor seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Park Closure Updates

Manager Smith stated that he intends to open the park for camping on May 28, 2020. Discussion ensued regarding the new reservation system and the benefits of the program. Manager Smith added that the sites are currently far enough apart to meet social distancing standards. The shelters and parks will remain closed and no large gatherings will be permitted until further notice. New sanitization and social distancing practices have been put into place and the employees look forward to reopening for camping. The commissioners supported Manager Smith in reopening on May 28, 2020.

Discussion ensued regarding the progress being made with weeds at the park, the improvements park staff are seeing and plans to maintain the progress as the camping season approaches.

Discussion ensued regarding the status of the watering system, the delay due to COVID-19 and watering plans if the system isn't integrated this year.

Manager Smith discussed that the teepees were sold to a campground in Oregon. Discussion ensued regarding the condition of the teepees and the inability to repair them. Manager Smith stated that he would like to put cabins up where the teepees were before. He added that he has a quote for hickory sheds and electricity. Commissioner O'Connor was curious if the cabins would have running water and Manager Smith was unsure at the moment. Manager Smith said that for the coming year, the Port will be allowing regular, no hook-up camping sites where the teepees were before.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Tischer stated that he is looking forward to opening the park and Manager Smith agreed.

Discussion ensued regarding local businesses and their timeline on reopening.

Commissioner O'Connor asked if next month's meeting will be open to the public or if attendance by Zoom will be offered. Attorney Hanigan stated that next meeting will open to public attendance only via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of May 19, 2020.

Austin Burkhalter, Commissioner

Lee Tischer, Commissioner

Brian O'Connor, Commissioner