



PORT OF NEHALEM

P. O. Box 476
Nehalem, OR 97131-0476

PORT OF NEHALEM BOARD MEETING September 27th, 2017

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Lindy Scovell called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call – Commissioners present: Terry Fullan, Loren Remy, & Steve Huber.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Present: Sheila Weichal, Jan Christopherson, Joe Hull, Carl Whiting, Geoff Wullschlager, Mark Tellhed, Michael Glouh, Gerry Bullard, Bob Forster, Jack Thayer, Ray Steele, Des Kahrs, Joe Hayes, Darrell Winegar.

Secretary: Karrie Purdom.

1. ADMINISTRATION:

- A. Minutes of August 23rd, 2017 Board Meeting – Approved 4-0
- B. Financial Statement for August 2017 – Approved 4-0
- C. Bills for August 2017 – Approved 4-0
- D. Channel Crew:
 1. **Gregory:**
 2. **River:** Joe Hayes shared that he has cleaned out the gutters, power washed the rental, and has finished the chain link fencing.

2. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Commissioner Terry Fullan gave a detailed task and cost update on the progress of the rental house. He noted that it has been over nine years since any work has been done on the house. Therefore we have replaced all appliances, flooring, and window blinds. Joe will possibly be refinishing the cabinets and countertop trim. The Commission decided to defer to the next board meeting to vote on a monthly rental amount, security deposit amount, pets, etc. due to community suggestions of contacting a local realtor to advise on the current rental value.

3. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Commissioner Terry Fullan shared with the board that he attended an informational meeting regarding the Oregon Scenic Waterways. He shared that 17 miles of the Nehalem River is being considered for a state designated scenic waterway. He asked the Commissioners to consider writing their individual comments on the matter by the deadline of October 13th. He noted that this would have an effect on our river and feels it would behoove the Port to make an effort to have a voice in the matter. At this point there will be no decisions made, but rather they are attempting to gain input from the community.

4. MAIL OF INTEREST: None

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Several community members were in attendance and brought up the topic of the USGS sedimentation study. Questioning why the Port of Nehalem is not in favor of contributing to the study, noting that the Ports Mission Statement reads “Enhance the health, habitat and navigability” is precisely in line with the study as well as, the Port has the available funds to commit to the project. A point was made that the Port has the opportunity to be a part of something that would impact the entire community, and it has to start somewhere. It was mentioned that it seemed unreasonable to not invest twenty to forty thousand dollars in the community and the river the Port is responsible for. There was strong opposition as well, from the public and the discussion was at great length. There was some confusion among the public as to the overall expense of the study and what it would result in. Commissioner Loren Remy explained that there were four phases of the entire project. The Port had agreed to fund \$20k to Phase 1 & 2 of the \$61,500.00 needed. Phase 1 & 2 would provide a summary report of the location and rates of sedimentation provided by researchers. He further explained the USGS had made a commitment to add an additional \$10k for a total of \$30k to get the study started. This was in hope that once we showed our spearhead commitment to the study, other outside interested entities might follow suit. Commissioner Loren Remy noted there has not been any commitment or any discussion regarding any further financial responsibility towards phases 3 & 4. Opposition to the Port contributing to the study was based on the unknown of what the study would provide, noting the strong belief that any dredging would not be allowed to address the problem, and therefore a study would be done without any means of rectifying the siltation. It was also noted that the Nehalem River covers a number of counties; other counties should be involved as well. In closing, it was noted by community members that this is a problem that is not going to go away, and is really important to many of us, and is in the best interest of the surrounding communities to address this issue. Given this was not a listed agenda item; no action was taken during the discussion.

6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Commissioner Lindy Scovell commented that the Ports mission statement is clear in what we’d like to do, but unfortunately not in line with the government agencies mission statements, and they are the ones who have the final say in any work that can be done. Commissioner Loren Remy commented that in being able to move forward he can make a motion to have the Board of Commissioners to reinstate the \$40k

originally designated to the study without the requirement of it needing to be matched from other sources, and let the Ports board of commissioners decide if they are willing to do that. Commissioner Terry Fullan commented that in his mind he keeps referring to the Ports Mission Statement and what that represents.

7. ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION: 8:50 pm

Attest _____

Approved _____

KP 10/17/17 (tablet)