




WORKSHOP FIVE-MEMBER BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 13, 2018

 Port of Vancouver USA

THE PORT OF / *Possibility*

PORT GOVERNANCE

Washington's ports are municipal corporations of the state and are classified as special purpose districts. Their mission is to build and operate facilities to foster trade and economic development.

Port commissioners set policies that guide the development, growth and operation of the port's facilities and functions. These policies might involve adopting plans, establishing policies, adopting budgets, levying taxes, delegating authority and many others.



PORT GOVERNANCE



The Port of Vancouver USA is governed by a three-person board of commissioners whose members are elected on six-year, staggered terms. Commissioners hold official public meetings twice a month and participate in other meetings and activities in-between.

COMMISSIONER COMPENSATION

On Sept. 10, 2013, the Port of Vancouver USA Board of Commissioners held a public workshop to discuss the current status of their compensation under Resolution No. 10-2011 and potential changes to their compensation authorized under RCW 53.12.260.

The port developed a program similar to other ports where commissioners are eligible for additional compensation as the port meets certain business growth milestones and demands on commissioners' time, talents and expertise increase accordingly.

On Oct. 22, 2013, port commissioners approved Resolution No. 10-2013, which repealed Resolution No. 10-2011 and established the rate of compensation according to the port's gross operating revenues (presented on the following slide).

COMMISSIONER COMPENSATION

Revenue Level	Monthly Commissioner Salary	Adjustment
Less than \$25 Million	\$250	Per RCW 53.12.260
\$25 to \$35 Million	\$635	Per RCW 53.12.260
\$35 to \$50 Million	\$800	Per RCW 53.12.260
\$50 to \$70 Million	\$1,000	Per RCW 53.12.260
\$70 to \$95 Million	\$1,400	Per RCW 53.12.260
\$95 to \$125 Million	\$1,800	Per RCW 53.12.260
\$125 to \$160 Million	\$2,250	Per RCW 53.12.260
\$160 to \$200 Million	\$2,800	Per RCW 53.12.260
Greater than \$200 Million	\$3,500	Per RCW 53.12.260

Currently, commissioners are paid an \$800 monthly stipend and \$114 per day for port-related meetings, up to 120 meetings per year. They are also eligible for benefits and can submit expenses for reimbursement.

RELEVANT STATUTES

- RCW 53.12.010(2) refers to how commissioner districts may be divided.
- RCW 53.12.115 refers to increasing the number of commissioners, needing a resolution, petition and ballot proposition.
- RCW 53.12.120 refers to population requirements (if over 500,000), then there shall be submitted to the voters of the district, a special port election called for the purpose of voting on the proposition of increasing number to five. (Does not apply to POV at this time.)
- RCW 53.12.130 addresses how to elect additional commissioners and commencement of terms of office.

PROCESS TO EXPAND FROM A THREE- TO FIVE-MEMBER BOARD

RCW 53.12 controls the process for changing from three to five commissioners

1. The commission adopts a resolution proposing an increase in the number of commissioners or a petition proposing the increase is submitted to the county auditor with at least 10 percent of voters in the port district who voted in last general election.
2. The ballot proposition is then submitted to the voters of the port district at the next special or general election (RCW 53.12.115).
 - There is a mandatory vote on increasing to five commissioners if the population of the port district reaches 500,000. This appears to be an alternative method of getting to five commissioners (RCW 53.12.120).
3. RCW 53.12.130 sets out the division into districts, the election and the terms of the two new commissioners.

ESTIMATED COST TO EXPAND TO A FIVE-MEMBER BOARD

Port expense type	Cost per commissioner annually	Current annual expense for three commissioners	Annual increase to budget for two additional commissioners
Salary + employer taxes (\$800/mo.)	\$9,600	\$31,004	\$20,670
Per diem + employer tax (\$114/mtg., max 120 mtgs.)	\$13,680	\$44,181	\$29,454
Conferences and travel	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$10,000
Benefits	\$19,830	\$62,155	\$41,437
Elections (2003-2018) If primary is held	\$45,000-\$50,000 \$200,000	\$50,000 \$200,000	\$50,000-\$100,000 \$200,000-\$400,000
Redistricting County fee every 10 yrs.			\$10,000
Administrative support Additional half FTE employee			\$32,000
Technology equipment/support (iPad or laptop w/Microsoft Office Suite and cell phone)	\$1,500	\$4,500	\$3,000
Total		\$206,841	\$246,561

Questions?