

**PORT OF VANCOUVER USA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
Tuesday, March 26, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commission President LaBrant called a regular meeting of the Port of Vancouver Board of Commissioners to order and open to the public at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at the Port of Vancouver USA Administrative Office, 3103 NW Lower River Road, Vancouver, Washington 98660.

**OPENING REMARKS**

Commissioner LaBrant welcomed everyone to the commission meeting. He announced no executive session was held. He stated this meeting is a hybrid meeting so that along with everyone present in the meeting, anyone who wants to make virtual oral comment can use Zoom. He then invited guests to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting of March 12, 2024**

On motion by Commissioner Orange, seconded by Commissioner Burkman and carried unanimously, the Board of Commissioners approve the minutes of the March 12, 2024, regular meeting.

**OPEN FORUM**

Commissioner LaBrant asked if anyone had signed up to speak during open forum. Executive Services Manager Michelle Allan stated no one signed up in advance to provide virtual oral comments and confirmed that there was no one present who signed up to provide comment.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**E-1 Adopt Resolution 2-2024: Reimbursement Resolution**

Scott Goodrich, Director of Finance presented the action item and discussed it with the Commission.

On motion by Commissioner Burkman, seconded by Commissioner Orange and carried unanimously, the Board of Commissioners approve and Adopt Resolution 2-2024: Reimbursement Resolution.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No unfinished business was considered.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

## **CEO REPORT**

Executive Services Manager Michelle Allan reported that she is stepping in while CEO Marler is out. No CEO report today.

## **COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**

Commissioner Orange stated he attended the following events and provided a brief summary:

- 2024 Legislative Review
- PUD Workshop

Commissioner Burkman stated he attended the following events and provided a brief summary:

- I-5 Replacement
- Bi-State Toll Meeting
- Shaver Transportation Tour
- City of Vancouver State of the City Address
- 2024 Legislative Review

Commissioner LaBrant stated he attended the following events and provided a brief summary:

- Shaver Transportation Tour
- City of Vancouver State of the City Address
- 2024 Legislative Review
- YWCA – Shine Event

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

A list of upcoming events was displayed on the screen for viewers to see staff activities and community meetings. Executive Services Manager Michelle Allan stated the next commission meeting would be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. She also highlighted several other upcoming community events.

In addition, she highlighted all the ways citizens can communicate with the Commission. She stated there is a great deal of information available on the port's website and encouraged everyone to check it out.

## **WORKSHOP**

### **Financial Tools**

Director of Finance and Accounting Scott Goodrich introduced Matt Schoenfeld with PFM Financial Advisors LLC who presented to the Commission a debt financing overview which included port financing tools, revenue tools, and proposed limited tax general obligation bonds for 2024.

Scott Goodrich and Matt Schoenfeld answered questions from the Board.

## **RECESS**

Commissioner LaBrant called a recess from 10:21 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. to prepare for the port's workshop on the Strategic Plan 2023 Annual Report.

## **WORKSHOP CONTINUED**

### **Strategic Plan Update**

Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Elizabeth Gotelli lead the workshop on the Strategic Plan 2023 Annual Report. She stated this is a chance to look back on the past year and report out on the accomplishments and major milestones outlined in the port's Strategic Plan. She noted this 2023 was the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the strategic plan. Presenters will speak about the goal areas and pause for questions after their update.

Casey Bowman, Director of Communications provided an update on community engagement, port tours, the port's community fund, port report and new marketing techniques.

Jonathan Eder, Director of Human Resources provided an update on the Terminal 1 dock demolition and future projects, and funding opportunities.

Mike Bomar, Director of Economic Development provided an update on the port's economic development goals, in particular the Clark County Employment Lands Study, partnerships, tenant outreach, workforce development, and I-5 Bridge replacement advocacy and coordination.

Matt Harding, Environmental Project Manager reported on the environmental goals and highlighted accomplishments pertaining to sustainability, the port's Climate Action Plan, Purple Martin update, and stakeholder partnerships. In addition, he highlighted stormwater innovations, regional stormwater engagement and groundwater cleanup progress.

## **RECESS**

Commissioner LaBrant called a recess from 11:13 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.

Alex Strogon, Chief Commercial Officer provided an update on marine/commercial accomplishments, including the 30-year soda ash agreement, infrastructure improvements, Subaru record numbers, and wind energy. He also discussed current market trends and the focus for 2024.

He then shared the industrial/commercial accomplishments, including new tenants, existing tenant retention and growth, and land use.

Scott Goodrich, Director of Finance and Accounting highlighted the port's achievements in the areas of cargo diversification and revenue streams, use of a variety of financing tools, and information technology systems upgrades.

Casey O'Dell, Director of Facilities shared port accomplishments related to facilities and equipment, highlighting on progress of HVAC electrification, paving projects, investments in maintaining port assets, and new equipment.

Jonathan Eder, Human Resources Director shared the port's organizational goals, including employee turnover and retention, the port's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiative, and cyber security and emergency preparedness.

Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Elizabeth Gotelli concluded the presentation and indicated that this is just a snapshot of the port's 2023 accomplishments, and additional information on all of last year's achievements can be found in the Strategic Plan 2023 Annual Review Supplemental Report. She added that today's presentation and supplemental report can be found on the port's website. She thanked the board for their questions and comments.

## **SIGN DOCUMENTS**

The Board signed documents at 12:06 p.m.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE / WORK SESSION**


No administrative work session was held during this meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Port of Vancouver USA Board of Commissioners, the Tuesday, March 26, 2024, regular meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m. by Commissioner LaBrant.

PORT OF VANCOUVER USA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Karla Hiler, Administrative Assistant,  
March 26, 2024, Regular  
Port of Vancouver USA Board of  
Commission Meeting

  
Eric LaBrant, President

  
Jack Burkman, Vice President

  
Don Orange, Secretary