**Regular Commission Meeting**

**M I N U T E S**

**Port of Arlington**

**November 10, 2020**

**5 p.m.**

**Port Office – 100 Port Island Rd.**

**Arlington, OR**

**1. The Port of Arlington Commission meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by President Wilson.**

**Those Present:** President Wilson; Commissioner Shaffer; Commissioner McGuire; Port Manager / Economic Development Officer, Peter Mitchell; Admin. Asst. Kelly Margheim; Attorney Ruben Cleaveland;

**Absent:** Vice President Kennedy; Commissioner Hunking

**Audience: None**

**2. Public Comment on non-agenda items- None**

**3. Consent Agenda:**

* Approval of October 13, 2020 Commission Meeting Minutes
* Approval of October 2020 Payables and Financials

Commissioner Shaffer moved to approve the consent agenda and Commissioner McGuire seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

**4. Chairman’s Report:**

**Christmas Bonus for Staff –** Commissioner Shaffer moved to give $150

Christmas Bonus to staff and Commissioner McGuire seconded. Motion carried 3-0

**5. Commissioner Reports**: Commissioner McGuire said the Octoberfest went really

well. He did not do a lot of advertising because of COVID-19. It was a low profile

event, but the event went well.

Commissioner Shaffer congratulated Pat Shannon as the new County

Commissioner elect.

Commissioner Shaffer invited Judge Mike McArthur to speak via Facetime about Frontier Advocates and CREA organization.

**6**. Discussion about moderator choice for the Willow Creek IGA between the

County and the Port. Judge McArthur is the founding father of Six Rivers, but he recommends Judge Grasty with Frontier Advocates for moderating the two governing bodies. Judge McArthur state Judge Grasty will be a good, neutral, and fair moderator with eighteen plus years’ experience in government. The consensus is the Port recommend Judge Grasty as moderator for the joint Port/Court meeting. The meeting does not need a mediator just a moderator to run the meeting. Attorney Cleaveland and President Wilson will write an email to the County Court suggesting Judge Steve Grasty with Frontier Advocates. The cost for Judge Grasty to moderate will be $250.00 per day plus travel. The Port board suggest the cost be split between Gilliam County Court and the Port of Arlington.

**7.** Judge McArthur said that Community Renewal Energy Association was

started by Paul Wooden who was the engineer behind Klondike One, himself and a few others. CREA is interested in Special Districts joining the organization. The energy market is quickly changing. CREA helps to keep Developers, County and City leaders, Special Districts and the public informed. CREA brings expertise and advocacy to rural communities to help install renewable energy. One example Judge McArthur gave was if the Port wanted to set up a windmill to offset energy costs that is where CREA could help with its expertise and advocacy. Judge McArthur says energy storage is so important so energy produced can be efficiently stored and put into the grid when the demand is there. CREA is forward thinking in that they are looking for ways for Cities to lessen dependencies on the grid and to more independent.

EDO Mitchell asked if there were any Special Districts involved in CREA at this time. Judge McArthur stated that there are many irrigation districts that are involved. There are around forty Special Districts involved. EDO Mitchell asked what the cost would be to join and Judge MacArthur said it would be about $100 a year at this time.

Commissioner Shaffer moved to approve Resolution 2020-147 authorizing the Port of Arlington to enter into an Intergovernmental agreement under ORS Chapter 190 Creating an association to promote, foster, and advance community based renewable energy, to be known as Community based Renewable Energy Association (CREA). Commissioner McGuire seconded. The motion carried 3-0

**8.0 EDO**

8.1 EDO Mitchell handed out a map for Bathroom Project and Island Park showing the latest subtle changes in the site plan including where pea gravel will placed at the old ferry landing. Engineering documents should be available for the next Port meeting.

EDO Mitchell explained to the Board that Bill Rosenbalm talked with him about hosting a bass fishing tournament in the spring. The tournament organizers were looking for funding to cover some of the cost of producing the event. The tournament is filmed and shown on several TV channels. The budget officer indicated that the Port has extremely limited discretionary funding at this time. EDO Mitchell suggested that Bill go to the County Court for funding. The tournament would bring a lot of business to local economy.

EDO Mitchell sent a proposal into Business Oregon for a substantial plant facility. The project would create approximately one hundred jobs. The Port is working with the City of Arlington as the company might need more acreage than the Port has to offer or want to purchase industrial property.

EDO Mitchell applied for an aviation grant for engineering for the Arlington Municipal Airport for the City.

EDO Mitchell has been in discussions with American Cruise lines about putting in a dock west of the grain elevator. The vessel is 300’ and cannot make it into the Port marina and seek a terminal on the river side of Island Park. At this time the Port can accommodate up to a 150’ vessel in the marina. American Cruise lines have their staff engineers working on a drawing.

EDO Mitchell has been working with a manufacturer and the Army on test a site for a landing craft. The testing will be in the spring of 2021. The vessel will need to dock for a couple of weeks during test and will need services for the vessel.

Break for dinner at 6:00 pm

Reconvene to Regular Session at 6:26 pm

EDO Mitchell sent an email to the County Court stating his concerns over the RRED ZONE (Tax Exempt Zone) for solar projects. EDO Mitchell asked the County Court to reconsider allowing the RRED ZONE in Gilliam County at their November 18, 2020 meeting. EDO Mitchells’ understanding is that Avangrid Renewables will need a decision by the end of this year if it is to build the project in Gilliam County. If the economics do not work, Avangrid Renewables will pull the project. and the County will receive zero taxes ever The RRED zone allows for tax abatement for the first three years of the project and then a negotiated tax for years 4 and 5 before the solar project is taxed as a utility.

**9.0** Administration

9.1 Commissioner Shaffer moved to approve the Port’s Audit Plan of Action, the GAS Report and findings, and the Summary of Revenues and Expenditures submitted by Solutions Certified Public Accountants. Commissioner McGuire seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned 6:47 pm

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President Ron Wilson Commissioner Shaffer