



**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
PORT COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING  
October 07, 2024**

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1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular meeting of the Port Commission was held in the DSJ Lower-Level Conference Room and called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson Mr. Dane Crowley.

Commission members present (Quorum Established):

Mr. Dane Crowley, Chair.  
Mr. Fred Elvsaaas, Vice Chair  
Mr. Bryan Scoresby  
Mr. John Pike  
Mr. Christopher Gerteisen

Staff in attendance were:

Mr. Dave Griffin, Port Operations Manager  
Ms. Corinne Lindfors, Assistant Port Operations  
Manager  
Ms. Valerie Hendrickson, Port Administrative Specialist (via Teams)  
Mr. Joe Metzger, Asset Manager

Assembly Members in attendance:

Bill Gamble

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A. The Port Commission approved the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. The Port Commission approved the minutes from the following meetings:  
Regular Meeting, June 10, 2024

4. AGENCY AND STAFF REPORTS

A. Mr. Dave Griffin, Port Operations Manager  
Staff report: Introduction of the new Assistant Port Operations Manager, Corinne Lindfors.  
Update: Early completion by Western Marine Construction of the Economic Development

Administration (EDA) funded Pile Sleeve Project with cathodic protection.

- The barge business has been good. Four new operators used the port this summer, as well as other repeat operators.
- CIRI brought in a barge with equipment and materials for Fire Island. I had a follow-up meeting to discuss future operations and possible support of Port MacKenzie through "Letters of Support" when the port is seeking grant funding.
- Currently, we have a vessel offloading salt at the deep-water dock as part of the State DOT Winter Road Maintenance contract. The contractor is Northern Gravel & Trucking, and the ship is "Genco Magic." It is going well; the ship arrived on October 1<sup>st</sup> and plans to depart on October 12<sup>th</sup>.
- A site assessment report drafted by Meritage Communities LLC has been completed and will be distributed to Port Commissioners.
- A port update will be provided to the Assembly on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.
- An update on the status of the PIDP, USMHP, & Port Security Grant was provided. Efforts will continue to pursue grant opportunities for equipment and infrastructure improvements necessary for business development.
- Update on the Rough Terrain Crane Grant Award process. We will move forward with research and purchase at the beginning of 2025.
- Thank you to all of the Port Commissioners for serving. Commissioners Dane Crowley and Christopher Gerteisen will have terms ending in December.

B. Mr. Joe Metzger, Asset Manager

- Leases and revenues remain primarily unchanged.
- QAP will be renewing its lease in November.

## 5. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Representative McCabe joined via teams. He commented the Alaska Railroad's grant request through the Federal Railroad Administration is still under review.

Assemblyman Bill Gamble comments on coal field developments and encourages the Port Commission Members to weigh in with a resolution supporting the project to the Borough Assembly.

Discussions expanded to future possible uses for the port and its importance to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Residents and the State of Alaska. Highlighted items included the coal reserves, military usage, road access, rail access, and the West Susitna Access Road project.

Commissioners request a presentation from Flatland Energy and AIDEA at a special work session in early November. Port staff will research and update the commission with available dates.

## 6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

## 7. EXTENSION OF MEETING TIME

The meeting time was extended without opposition.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Define Goals for Port MacKenzie

- 1) 1 Year Goal
- 2) 3 Year Goal
- 3) 5 Year Goal

This agenda item was postponed to the next regular meeting by a unanimous vote of the Port Commission.

- B. MSB Port Commission Draft Resolution Serial No. 24-001, Recommend Staff Initiate a Media Campaign to Promote Port MacKenzie.

Chair Crowley read the resolution on the record.

A motion was made by Commissioner Elvsaaas and seconded by Commissioner Scoresby. Discussion ensued.

An Amendment adding "promoting economic growth and key critical infrastructure for Alaska," to the first whereas on page 2 of the resolution passed unanimously.

Vote: The main motion passes with all commissioners in support.

- C. Anderson lot and dock. A possible real estate opportunity. A privately owned parcel of land and dock (Anderson) that adjoins the port will be coming up for sale. Although an interested party is discussing a purchase with the current landowner, Manager Griffin can speak with the property owner to see if he would be interested in a possible sale to the port if directed by the commission. The Commissioners request a resolution be drafted to provide due diligence in possible land purchase.

- D. Port Infrastructure – Barge Dock Condition Assessment

Dave Griffin, Port Operations Manager: We have a rough draft now. I will provide an update at a future meeting

9. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION  
Review of the Work Session Notes 2.26.24

10. ADMINISTRATION AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner Scoresby commented on enjoying the discussions today.

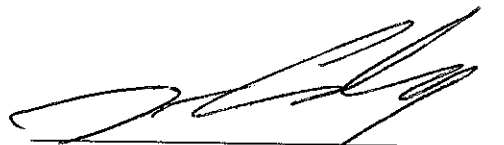
Commissioner Pike commented on appreciating the more businesslike and focused discussions.

Commissioner Crowley commented on the current strike going on at ports around the country. He would like to see the port setting up non-union options for the future.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

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Corinne Lindfors, Assistant Port Operations Manager

  
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Dane Crowley, Chairperson

Minutes Approved 