

# **MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH**

## **PORT COMMISSION AGENDA**

**CHAIRPERSON:**  
Dane Crowley

**VICE CHAIR:**  
Christopher Gerteisen



**COMMISSION MEMBERS:**  
John Pike  
Fred Elvsaas  
Andrew Traxler

**ASSEMBLY MEMBER:**  
Bill Gamble

July 13, 2026  
Regular Meeting  
Lower-Level Conference Room, DSJ Building  
3:00 PM  
Microsoft Teams Meeting ID: 244 853 258 369  
Passcode: g5Ms7Sw7

### **AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 20, 2026
4. AGENCY AND STAFF REPORTS:
  - A. Port Director David Griffin
    - i. Business Development and Outreach Updates
      - PMRE
      - Department of Defense
      - AIDEA
      - DOT
      - TERRA Energy
      - Nova Minerals/ARR
      - Crowley Fuels
    - ii. Port Usage

- Northern Gravel & Trucking salt shipment
- Colaska cement shipment
- Barging Activities
- New Terminal Operators
- Crane Rentals

iii. Port Projects Update

- Conveyor Removal
- Crane Storage Building
- Paving
- Barge Haul Out Ramp Bid Packet
- Cargo Handling Equipment

iv. Grant Updates

- Denali Commission Planning Grant
- BUILD Grant (Barge Ramp)
- DOT BUILD Grant
- FEMA Port Security Grant
- New Applications

v. Legislation Updates

B. Land & Resource Mgmt. Div. Manager, Joseph Metzger

i. Lease/Permit Updates

5. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Tariff Update 2026

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

9. ADMINISTRATION AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

10. ADJOURNMENT

## I. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular meeting of the Port Commission was held in the DSJ Lower-Level Conference Room 203 and was called to order at 3:06 p.m. by Vice Chair Christopher Gertiesen. Commissioner Andrew Traxler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Commission members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. Christopher Gertiesen  
Mr. John Pike  
Mr. Andrew Traxler  
Mr. Bill Gamble, Assembly Member (Excused at 4:30)  
Mr. Dane Crowley – Absent and excused  
Mr. Fred Elvsaa – Absent and excused

### Staff and officials in attendance were:

Mr. Dave Griffin, Port Director  
Mr. Greg Snell, Port Building & Maintenance Specialist  
Mr. Joe Metzger, Land & Resource Management Division Manager

Public Present: Representative Kevin McCabe, COS Angela Stephl, Ally Seargent online Susitna River Coalition, Jamie Benson ATA (Alaska Trucking Association).

## II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as amended without objection.

## III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Regular Meeting Minutes of January 19, 2026, were approved without objection.

## IV. AGENCY AND STAFF REPORTS

### A. Mr. Dave Griffin, Port Director

- Director Griffin welcomes Andrew Traxler to the Port Commission.
- Update on outreach trip to Fairbanks and attended the Alaska Mining Association Conference. Met with mining industry folks. Also spoke with Contango Ore representatives and discussed future development of the Lucky Shot Mine and the Johnson tract site.
- Update on the Alaska Infrastructure Partnership (AIP) joint venture to figure out a way to finish the Port MacKenzie Rail Extension (PMRE). The Alaska Industrial Development Export Authority (AIDEA) is now taking an interest and role in this partnership.
- Vessel traffic update. First vessel of the year will arrive on April 27. It is a bulk carrier named Sheila Anne and is bringing 60,000 metric tons of bulk salt for the state DOT contract. First self-unloader to come in.

- The next vessel we are expecting is a cement ship May 22-23. It will discharge 32,000 tons for Colaska/Quality Asphalt & Paving.
- Update on barge activity. Cruz Construction has begun staging items for upcoming barge. Alaska Directional completed a Terminal Operator Permit and will be barging to Tyonek. Expecting an increase in barging due to the typhoon. Also seeing increase in calls due to the anticipated AK LNG project.
- The Department of Defense and other military agencies continue to show interest in utilizing Port MacKenzie.
- Crowley is continuing to move forward with plans for a tank farm at Port MacKenzie
- Alaska Range (Nova) is currently developing a 42-acre site for Antimony processing operation.
- Port project updates: The crane was received in December, and we are building a crane storage building this spring.
- A Request for Proposal went out for the removal of the ship loader apparatus. The removal should take place this summer.
- We are gearing up for the barge haul out ramp construction to begin 2027.
- We won a grant from the Denali Commission for an update to the Port Master Plan.
- We are also submitting a grant application to US DOT MARAD Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) for the design and engineering of the barge dock for repairs or possible replacement.
- Legislation Updates – one draft is for the inquiry of purchasing Carl Anderson's property. The other is for starting discussions with the University of Alaska about their inholdings within the Port District.

Discussions ensue around the salt ship and the LNG project.

B. Mr. Joe Metzger, Land & Resource Management Division Manager

- Permits with Colaska for the two warehouses for the storage of cement.
- Permit with Crowley to do due diligence for the future fuel tank farm.
- Permit with AK Range Resources and they have an application for a lease. Close to having a draft to the Port Commission soon.
- Permit with Terra Energy for 1058 acres to do due diligence. Terra also put requests in for other MSB lands.
- There is also a lease with Vitus. It has been in place since 2011. Nothing has been developed.

Discussion ensues on permits and leases.

Discussion ensues regarding Terra Energy.

V. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD.

- Jamie Benson, Alaska Trucking Association presentation.

Discussion ensued

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Tariff Update: Dave Griffin, Port Director

- Equipment & fuel rates comparisons.

Discussion Ensued regarding port rates, infrastructure, service, and equipment comparisons.

Representative McCabe addresses the commissioners before leaving as to the PMRE and the upcoming CRISI Grant.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Legislation Update: Dave Griffin, Port Director

- Draft Resolution Supporting the Purchase of a Private Property Parcel within the Port District.
- Draft Resolution Supporting a UAA Land Agreement for Parcels within the Port District.

Discussion Ensues

Commissioner Traxler makes a motion for Resolution 26-02 (UAA Lands) to be approved and sent to the Matanuska Susitna Assembly.

Commissioner Pike seconds the motion.

The motion passes unanimously.

Commissioner Traxler makes a motion to approve Resolution 26-01 (private parcel).

Commissioner Pike seconds the motion.

The motion passes unanimously.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

IX. ADMINISTRATION AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner Pike -nothing to add.

Commissioner Traxler – nothing to add.

Dave Griffin Port Director – Informs group of the upcoming Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Meeting

Joe Metzger, Manager MSB Community Development Land & Resource Division - Welcomes Mr. Traxler to the Port Commission.

Commissioner Gerteisen – comments on learning what the chairperson role is.

X. ADJOURNMENT at 17:10.

DRAFT