

PORT & RESOURCE RECOVERY DEPARTMENT



2561 SOUTH BROADWAY
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DEAN R. HAEN
DIRECTOR

MINUTES OF THE BROWN COUNTY HARBOR COMMISSION

A meeting was held on **Monday, December 14th, 2020**
at the Port Offices, 2561 S Broadway, Green Bay, WI 54304

1) Call to Order:

The meeting was officially called to order by President Tom Klimek at 10:30 am.

2) Roll Call:

Present: President Tom Klimek
 Vice President Bryan Hyska
 Commissioner Barb LaMue
 Commissioner Pete Diemer
 Commissioner Ron Antonneau
 Commissioner Hank Wallace
 Commissioner Wes Kornowske

Excused: Commissioner Mike Vizer
 Commissioner Tim Feldhausen

Also Present: Dean Haen, Brown County P&RR
 Samantha Cooper, Brown County P&RR
 Chad Doverspike, Brown County P&RR
 Bobbie Webster, Joshua Environmental Justice Task Force
 John Gard

3) Approval/Modification – Meeting Agenda

A motion to approve the Agenda was made by Wes Kornowske and seconded by Bryan Hyska. Unanimously approved.

4) Approval/Modification – Minutes of October 12th, 2020 Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 12th, 2020 meeting was made by Barb LaMue and seconded by Wes Kornowske. Unanimously approved.

5) Announcements/Communications

No announcements

6) Beneficial Reuse of Dredged Material Project

Director Dean Haen announced that the dredged material compost demonstration project would benefit from a legislative approach. GEI has attempted a pilot program, but it was found that a larger scale project would work better to demonstrate the usefulness of classifying dredge material as topsoil.

Mr. Haen explained that Ohio has set a precedent for classifying dredged material as topsoil in order to beneficially reuse it.

Commissioner Bryan Hyska asked who is the audience for the demonstration study to which Mr. Haen replied that the WDNR and regulators are.

A motion to suspend the rules was made by Wes Kornowske and seconded by Ron Antonneau. Unanimously approved.

John Gard suggested that people are open to creative ideas for beneficial reuse, but that a legislative approach to redefine dredged material as topsoil would be a good route to go.

A motion to return to regular session was made by Hank Wallace and seconded by Bryan Hyska. Unanimously approved.

7) NEW Intermodal Study

Mr. Haen explained that there is a plan to put out RFPs to hire someone to study intermodal. The vendor, CPCS was chosen and they have put together a working group. The goal is for the study to be completed in a year.

Commissioner Barb LaMue announced that the firm and working group recently had their first meeting. There is an advisory committee that will continue to guide the consultant and touch base with them. It has not yet been determined where the facility will be but close to the Port would pose many advantages. If an intermodal yard would be build, it makes the most sense for it to be built within a mile of or along the Port to easily included shipping.

8) Great Lakes Pilotage

Mr. Haen reminded the commission that the county engaged in a lawsuit against the Great Lakes pilots for rates in 2016-2017 and beyond. They set their own pay, causing something like a government monopoly. Green Bay is participating in this lawsuit along with the AGLPA, Canadian ship owners and the American Lake Carriers Association. The lawsuit was successful in some ways, but in other ways have been ruled against the county's interest.

The Coast Guard realized that they have overcharged by \$2M, but there does not seem to be a way to get that money back.

9) Tonnage Report

Mr. Haen reported that tonnage is down from this time last year. Cement and petroleum products are up while coal is down due to the transition away from its use. There will be more salt shipments soon.

The 2020 season will still end strong if tonnage is to reach 2M tons by the end of the shipping season.

10) Director's Report

The Port has received another Pacesetter Award. The Port of Green Bay now has received more Pacesetter Awards than any other port.

So far, there are no plans for a 2021 Port Symposium, however; the idea will be tabled for the possibility of the Symposium to be held later in 2021.

Icebreaking notifications are ready to be released in January if/when icebreaking begins to take place.

11) Acknowledgement of Bills

A motion to approve the bills was made by Wes Kornowske and seconded by Hank Wallace. Unanimously approved.

12) Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law

No other matters.

13) Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the Harbor Commission meeting at 11:32 am was made by Hank Wallace and seconded by Wes Kornowske. Unanimously approved.

Tom Klimek, President
Harbor Commission

Dean R. Haen, Director
Port & Resource Recovery Department