

PORT & RESOURCE RECOVERY DEPARTMENT



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DEAN R. HAEN
DIRECTOR

MINUTES OF THE BROWN COUNTY HARBOR COMMISSION

A meeting was held on **Monday, February 14th, 2022**
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 10:32 am.

2) Roll Call:

Present: President Tom Klimek
 Vice President Bryan Hyska
 Commissioner Barb LaMue
 Commissioner Hank Wallace
 Commissioner Mike Vizer
 Commissioner Wes Kornowske
 Commissioner Tim Feldhausen
 Commissioner Pete Diemer

Not Excused: Commissioner Ron Antonneau

Also Present: Dean Haen, Brown County P&RR
 Mark Walter, Brown County P&RR
 Chad Doverspike, Brown County P&RR
 Ken Mika, Tetra Tech
 Panos Andonyadis, Geosyntec
 Jim Loretto, Cedar Corp.
 Melissa Schwiner, GLC Minerals
 Chip McDonald, McDonald Companies

3) Approval/Modification – Meeting Agenda

A motion to modify the agenda to add Item 5a. International Shipmasters Association presentation by Mike Vizer was made by Tim Feldhausen and seconded by Mike Vizer. Unanimously approved.

4) Approval/Modification – Minutes of December 13, 2021 Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2021 meeting was made by Hank Wallace and seconded by Barb LaMue. Unanimously approved.

5) Announcements/Communications

Director Dean Haen welcomed the Commissioners back after the holidays.

A) International Shipmasters Association Presentation by Mike Vizer

Commissioner Mike Vizer gave a presentation about the International Shipmasters Association, whose goal is to be the respected voice of licensed professional mariners. The organization provides input to regulatory agencies, legislative bodies, and industry professionals on matters related to the navigation and safety on waters in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway system. Mr. Vizer explained that the ISMA provides scholarships and operates the NELC (Navigating, Education, and Legislative Committee) to directly affect the maritime community.

The 501(c)8 organization is actively accepting membership through their website and through monthly meetings.

6) WDOT Harbor Assistance Program Resolution & Statement of Intentions

Mr. Haen explained that any potential grant funding applications for projects by the Port terminals require a Statement of Intentions (SOI) for planning purposes. Many of the statements presented have been in development over the years, with updates and additions made by the terminal operators in the Port.

There was a numerical error on the 5th Priority SOI made aware by Commissioner Wes Kornowske. Modification is requested.

For the Port of Green Bay's statements, the Port Development Project at the mouth of the river was part of a grant application in 2021. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation has not yet announced grant awards for the 2021 grant application.

Various projects by the terminal operators are identified such as dredging, loading facilities, conveyance systems, and dock walls. The Port of Green Bay submits the statements of intentions on their behalf and will offer grant application assistance for a fee.

Mr. Kornowske said that it was great to see the intentions and projects and asked if there was a way to quantify the positive economic impact of the projects. Mr. Haen responded that the impact will need to be demonstrated by passing a Cost/Benefit Analysis as part of the grant application process.

Commissioner Tim Feldhausen asked which terminal submitted a SOI for "dock timber replacement" and Mr. Haen answered that it would be LaFargeHolcim.

Mr. Kornowske asked if the improvement to the C. Reiss Company's bulkhead would be at their terminal property or at the Port Development Project site. Mr. Haen answered that it would be at their property on Mason Street.

Commissioner Barb LaMue asked if in the previous three years if Harbor Development Funds were received. Mr. Walter answered that GLC Minerals received funds from a grant that the Port of Green Bay assisted in the application. Mr. Haen listed a number of projects in the area that have been major beneficiaries of the program. Mr. Vizer added that St. Marys Cement received an emergency grant approval three years ago.

A motion to approve the WisDOT Harbor Assistance Program Resolution & Statement of Intentions with modification was made by Tim Feldhausen and seconded by Mike Vizer. Unanimously approved.

7) Port Development Site

Mr. Haen discussed that the property is now owned by the Port Department and will be referred to as the Port Development Site (formerly the Pulliam Plant). Mr. Walter is working on reimbursement from the WEDC for a grant award of \$500,000 used to assist in purchase of the property. GLC Minerals and the Port are actively working on an MOU and property transaction for acreage. The RFP for an engineering consulting firm to plan and design the property was released, with five responses received and in review.

Mr. Kornowske asked if the Commission will be able to look at the MOU before it is finalized and when that would be. Mr. Haen answered that yes, it has not yet been formalized or executed. GLC Minerals wants to do their due diligence and Brown County has work to do before anything is finalized.

Mr. Kornowske questioned that in a hypothetical situation where the property isn't in active use, is there a provision that would allow the Port to take the property back. Mr. Haen confirmed that would be part of the MOU and property transaction agreement.

A discussion about the lease agreements and site improvements happened.

Mr. Walter discussed the grants that are being pursued for the property. Both the Harbor Assistance Program grant and the Neighborhood Investment Funds grant were submitted and being looked over by the Department of Administration. Mr. Haen discussed the \$1.3 million ARPA funding for stormwater from Brown County. A federal Port Improvement Development Program grant will be applied for.

8) Beneficial Reuse Project

Mr. Haen explained Representative Kitchens has backed off from authoring legislation after DNR conversations. GEI estimated the cost of continuing a legislative solution would be \$80,000. Over the last couple of months, GEI has been helpful with working with EPA headquarters on resolving the “remediation waste” label of Fox River dredge material. GEI estimated the cost of continuing the regulatory effort would be \$22,000. The Port has budgeted \$50,000 in general engineering and supports continuing the regulatory effort and forego the legislative effort at this time.

9) Director’s Report

Mr. Haen discussed the annual Port Symposium that will be held on April 14th. The Great Lakes Legislator of the Year Award will be presented, and a slate of speakers has been identified.

10) Tonnage Report

Tonnage reports for the December 2021 and January 2022 were distributed for Commission review. Mr. Haen discussed the tonnage totals received in the 2021 shipping season. Tonnage has greatly diversified with petroleum products, wood pulp and other cargo as coal has significantly declined. A discussion about the upcoming season and trends occurred.

11) Acknowledgement of Bills

A listing of the bills paid in December and January was reviewed by the Commission.

12) Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law

A discussion about Renard Island as a potential NERR location took place.

13) Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the Harbor Commission meeting at 11:38 am was made by Mike Vizer and seconded by Wes Kornowske. Unanimously approved.

Tom Klimek, President
Harbor Commission

Dean R. Haen, Director
Port & Resource Recovery Department