

**PORT & RESOURCE RECOVERY DEPARTMENT**



2561 SOUTH BROADWAY  
GREEN BAY, WI 54304

PHONE: (920) 492-4950 | FAX: (920) 492-4957

DEAN R. HAEN  
DIRECTOR

---

---

**MINUTES OF THE BROWN COUNTY HARBOR COMMISSION**

---

---

A meeting was held on **Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
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 Ron Antonneau  
                                 Commissioner Barb LaMue  
                                 Commissioner Tim Feldhausen  
                                 Commissioner Hank Wallace  
                                 Commissioner Pete Diemer

Excused:                    Commissioner Mike Vizer  
                                 Commissioner Wes Kornowske

Also Present:              Dean Haen, Brown County P&RR  
                                 Mark Walter, Brown County P&RR  
                                 Katie Platten, Brown County P&RR  
                                 Chad Doverspike, Brown County P&RR  
                                 Theresa Slavek, Brown County Administration  
                                 Ken Przybyla, GLC Minerals

3) Approval/Modification – Meeting Agenda

**A motion to approve the agenda was made by Barb LaMue and seconded by Tim Feldhausen** Unanimously approved.

4) Approval/Modification – Minutes of August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Meeting

**A motion to approve the minutes of the August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting was made by Hank Wallace and seconded by Bryan Hyska.** Unanimously approved.

5) Announcements/Communications

Director Dean Haen discussed the Wisconsin Commercial Ports Association (WCPA) Annual Meeting which was held in August. Mr. Haen is no longer WCPA President. Bryan Hyska asked if the transfer of the presidency affects the influence that the Port of Green Bay would have in the WCPA, which Mr. Haen answered that in certain ways that is correct, but he remains on several committees and boards. The larger ports like Milwaukee, Green Bay, and Superior help lead the association, but the smaller ports have a considerable influence when called upon for action on legislative issues to speak on behalf of Wisconsin ports.

Mr. Haen also talked about a recent visit to the Soo Locks to meet with the Great Lake Pilots Advisory Committee meeting. At this meeting he addressed the daylight restrictions and navigation issues that the Port of Green Bay faces. Green Bay formally requested meeting with US Coast Guard and Western Great Lakes Pilots to define "routine" vessels calling upon the Port in hopes of removing these vessels from daylight restrictions. Removing certain vessels that visit the Port regularly from daylight restrictions will remove a large amount of operations cost.

A press conference regarding the recent Great Lakes economic impact study results for the Port of Green Bay will be held on September 12<sup>th</sup> at the U.S. Venture terminal.

6) Project #2619 Strategic Public Communications Plan 2023 Draft RFP

Mr. Haen briefly discussed the proposal process with the Harbor Commissioners before speaking about the strategic public communications plan draft RFP. An additional \$5,000 was added to each of the Port and Resource Recovery areas as it was recognized that there was more work needed for public relations due to projects. It was unanimously agreed upon that the current firm, Leonard & Finco has done a tremendous service.

**A motion to approve Project #2619 Strategic Public Communications Plan 2023 Draft RFP was made by Tim Feldhausen and seconded by Bryan Hyska. Unanimously approved.**

7) 2024 Budget

The statement of funds requires further work due to its complexity. This will be presented at the next meeting. The 2024 Port Budget was approved through the Administration and County Executive without changes.

8) EDA Grant Opportunity

A grant opportunity from the Economic Development Administration's rail program was discussed. This grant could potentially be a source to fill in some of the funding gap for the Port Development Site.

9) Port Development Site

Permit application submittals were shared with the Harbor Commission. When original maps were drawn for the Fox River, there was a section identified that was included in the FEMA flood control area that needs to be modified and removed from that flood area and filled.

Federal grants are being sought to close the \$19 million funding gap that was identified. A benefit-cost analysis is required and will be completed through a third party. Additionally, it is under discussion with Brown County Administration to hire a grant administrator externally due to the number of grants that the department is seeing.

10) Bay Port Low Haz Exemption Modification

A public hearing was held in late August for permits for the new Bay Port Low Hazard Exemption. Plan modifications over the years were bundled, and closure/long term care requirements were adjusted from 40 to 10 years. Cell 7 is required to be capped with a more stringent cap in 10 years. Letters of credit will need to be used to meet the new higher financial assurance amount required by the WDNR.

11) Director's Report

A prospectus is being created with the help of Discover Green Bay and other local entities to present to the NERR site selection committee to identify Renard Island as a prime contender for the research facility. Ron Antonneau, Barb LaMue, Tim Feldhausen, and Bryan Hyska commented on the timeline and lack of public informational meetings, and input on the prospectus was given.

12) Tonnage Report

Shipping tonnage continues to trend well. August tonnage was incomplete at the time of the Harbor Commission meeting but will be presented at the next meeting.

13) Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law

None

14) Adjourn

**A motion to adjourn the Harbor Commission meeting at 11:00 am was made by Hank Wallace and seconded by Ron Antonneau. Unanimously approved.**

---

Tom Klimek, President  
Harbor Commission

Dean R. Haen, Director  
Port & Resource Recovery Department