



City and Borough of Wrangell
Port Commission
AGENDA

Friday, March 03, 2023
6:00 PM

Location: Borough Assembly Chambers
City Hall

WORK SESSION

Date and Time

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (*MOTION - Move to approve the Minutes, as presented*)
 - a. 2/2/23 Port Commission Minutes
- 4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**
- 5. CORRESPONDENCE**
- 6. PERSONS TO BE HEARD**
- 7. HARBORMASTER'S REPORT**
 - a. Harbormaster Report March 2023
- 8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**
- 9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - a. Financials
- 10. NEW BUSINESS**
- 11. NEXT AGENDA ITEMS**
- 12. ADJOURN**

Minutes of the Regular Wrangell Port Commission Meeting

Held February 2nd, 2023

Chairman John Martin called the Regular Port Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
February 2nd. 2023

PRESENT: Martin, Yeager, Davies, Buness, Morrison

Harbormaster Steve Miller was also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approval minutes from meeting January 5th, 2023

M/S: Yeager/Morrison to approve the minutes, as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA - None.

CORRESPONDENCE/PERSONS TO BE HEARD –

HARBORMASTER'S REPORT

- Administration will be conducting interviews for the Administrative Assistant for the Ports and Harbors in the second week of February, with four applicants and a hiring committee consisting of Mason Villarma, Calleigh Miller, and the Harbormaster.
- Steve and PN&D Engineers are currently working together to complete a plan for a level two condition of steel piling above and below water, the piling caps, and overall condition of concrete panels.
- Another project in the works is with Dude Solutions, with a program to help with preventative maintenance and track costs associated with the maintenance, which is crucial in receiving grants to show these costs.
- The Marine Service Center is staying busy through winter months pulling vessels and maintenance in the yard.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Insurance

NEW BUSINESS

Port Commission Elections

M/S: Morrison/Davies to promote Yeager to Head Chairman. Motion approved unanimously.

M/S: Morrison/Buness to promote Davies to Vice Chairman. Motion approved unanimously.

Yeager voted in to Head Chairman and Davies to Vice Chairman.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS – Insurance.

The next Regular meeting March 2nd, 2023

Regular meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Harbormaster Report March 2023

Administration: The hiring committee for the Harbor Administrative Assistant has made the decision to hire Andrew Eyon. He has been the Temporary Assistant for the last six months. Andrew is learning every day and has done a good job of representing the Harbor in the office. I look forward to working with him for many more years.

I attended the Seattle boat show from February 6th through 8th. The Seattle Boat show hosts 300 exhibitors, more than 800 new and used brokerage boats, and almost 100 boating seminars. This show brings together a variety of boating enthusiasts to one venue, making it the West Coast's largest marine boating event. This year's attendance was close to pre-pandemic numbers, with 34,242 attendees compared to 42,643 pre-pandemic. The numbers are moving in the right direction. We had a lot of interest from customers looking for stalls in Southeast AK. It seems like we should have another good year for transients visiting Wrangell during the coming summer months.

I had the opportunity to join members of the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators in Juneau for the annual Legislative Fly-In. The AAHPA connects 47 member ports and harbors, as well as another 60 corporate members. The Association, with support from its members, offers three \$2500 scholarships for vocational students pursuing a career related to the maritime industry. This year, they have extended the deadline as there were not enough applicants.

The Association hosts this Fly-In yearly to lobby our representatives and senators in the State Legislature for funding for the Harbor Facility Grant Program. The purpose of this grant is to provide financial assistance to municipally-owned harbor facilities. The Alaska Legislature passed this legislation in 2006, establishing a new 50/50 matching grant program called the Harbor Facility Grant Program.

This grant program is funded annually at the discretion of the Alaska Legislature and consists of two tiers, Tier I and Tier II. The first tier has priority and consists of major maintenance and repair of a harbor facility that was previously owned by the state and is now locally owned. The second tier consists of all other harbor facilities and those harbor facilities that have already received a Tier I grant. A harbor facility may only receive one Tier I grant but is eligible for multiple Tier II grants.

Wrangell was one of three recipients of the 2024 grant awards, but the Governor did not include it in his initial budget. This is why it was important for me to attend the Fly-In and lobby with AAHPA. I met with Senator Stedman, Representative Dan Ortiz, Representative Rebecca Himschoot, Majority Leader Cathy Giessel, Senate President Gary Stevens, and Speaker of the House Cathy Tilton. They were all very receptive to funding the Matching

Harbor Grant program. We are optimistic that this program will be funded, and we can get to work rebuilding Meyers Chuck's mooring floats.

Rank	Score	Tier	Project name	Grant Amount Approved	Local Match	2023 ICAP - 6.87%	Total Project Cost
1	187.8	I	City of Wrangell Meyer's Chuck	\$1,092,138.06	\$1,092,138.06	\$150,059.77	\$2,334,335.89
1	117.7	II	City of Whittier Boat Harbor	\$4,500,000.00	\$4,500,000.00	\$618,300.00	\$9,618,300.00
2	85.3	II	City & Borough of Sitka Fisherman's Float	\$2,644,677.00	\$2,644,677.00	\$363,378.62	\$5,652,732.62
TOTAL				\$8,236,815	\$8,236,815	\$1,131,738	\$17,605,369

Harbors: We have received the quote for lumber to repair the Fish and Game dock from the sinking of the Tobica. The price tag just for lumber is \$7k. All additional labor will be billed out hourly to complete the project. Once winter decides to give us a break the crew will be working to make the repairs.

Port: We have entered into an agreement with PN&D for a condition assessment of the Concrete T Dock. This dock is an alternative loading and unloading dock for the barge lines that service Wrangell. This is also Alaska Marine Lines main line barge primary loading and unloading dock for fish processing. As this dock was built 25 years ago it is time to have a full assessment of the condition. They have contracted with Alaska Commercial Divers to conduct the underwater assessment of the steel piling. PN&D will do the concrete structure and above water steel piling assessment. This work is to begin the middle of March and be completed by April 30th, 2023.