

**PORT OF ORCAS
SPECIAL MEETING SUMMARY NOTES
JULY 17, 2023**

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Commissioners Present: Robert Hamilton, Michael Triplett, Jason Laursen, Mia Kartiganer (zoom), Bea vonTobel

Staff Present: Kim Kimple

Guests Present: Lora York, Anna (?), Roni, Bob Phalen, Rick Fant, Eric Gourley, Richard Clark, et al not verified

CALL TO ORDER; CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Chair Robert Hamilton called the special meeting to order at 4:33pm, noting a quorum.

PLANNING SESSION

Chair Hamilton presented a 6-slide Powerpoint presentation which outlined the purpose, assumptions, meeting structure and public input parameters for the meeting, which is attached to these notes.

He summarized the presentation to emphasize that the meeting is predominately a listening session to gather from commissioners their assignment of bringing forward individual ideas of the port's needs and priorities as seen by each commissioner. These ideas would begin to constitute short and long-term strategies and budgets for the coming terms. Further, as the port has been through administrative changes several times in the past several years, the port needs to go from a reactive status to a stable path forward.

He then asked each commissioner in turn to speak of their short- and long-term goals, constraints, funding, community input solicited, etc.

The airport manager was also asked to provide input, as she would be the person to execute any future plans, procedures and goals.

The pages following are a compilation of those contributions, noted in brief form and without additional comments.

It is noted that these are ideas and comments which the commissioners have considered important to the future of the Port of Orcas, that some may have priority over others, but that no decisions in the form of action or motionable statements were made at this meeting.

No business as such was conducted at this meeting.

The chair noted that each commissioner can be contacted via email, phone or in person by members of the public, and were encouraged to do so.

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is the regular monthly meeting, scheduled for in-person and zoom on Monday, July 24, 2023 at 5:00pm in the port conference room.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bea vonTobel, Secretary

NOTICE: These notes are individual ideas, not official airport plans

NOTES SHORT TERM

To respond to list of questions from the LWV Candidate Forum. Be proactive on community issues and questions.

- Regular Press Releases
- Generate additional revenue stream
 - But limited by space
- Storm water mitigation
 - We are dumping ground, both for quantity and quality of water
 - We know where the water is coming from 200-500 acres (county has map)
 - Must be County+Port solution
 - Possibility of ecological oversight (Dep of Ecology and/or EPA and/or Corp of Engineers and/or Fish and Wildlife)
- We have Port documents that need updating
 - Operations Manual
 - Emergencies
 - Fuel
 - Grounds
 - Airport Aid (lights, PAPI, etc.) maintenance
- Should be looking for additional property that serves the public
 - Economy of the island
 - Airport revenue
 - Business incubators
 - Industrial and retail
 - Encourage commerce on the island
- ORCAS sign for the roof (99 style marking on the roof)
- Make sure our buildings have needed maintenance and re-construction
- Update noise abatement procedures
- More parking spaces
- Need a schematic layout of the area South of the terminal (fences, power stations, etc.) to make sure we build with continuity
- Truck with a plow
- Parking fee collection system for both cars and airplanes
- Electric golf cart
- Build hangars
- Why we want to build hangars
- Participate in helping build housing. Help build good economy.
- Participate in GMA. Advocate small houses ADUs.
- Similar to Port Townsend
- Build additional revenue streams
- New terminal
- Access to marine sites, marine ports, help with island transportation, both inter-island and intra-island
- Multimodal transportation, with additional public or private parking

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- Conversations between the Port and Department of County Works
- Increase revenue sources
- New hangars should focus on commercial, including maintenance hangars
- New pilot lounge
 - Couches and chairs
 - Books and resources
 - Kitchen maybe
- Switch all runway lights to LED
- Make sure we are using bi-partisan infrastructure funds well and efficiently.
 - Others doing fencing and tarmac projects
 - Not what is in current Plan
 - \$2M is available now, \$5M total
 - Need a plan!!
 - We have many projects, let's get them planned
- Continue wastewater study
- Continue to reach out to purchase nearby properties
- Long term Management of airport, takes time to learn, housing would help
- Resolve water drainage issues for future 20 years
- Add hangars, adding revenue
- Determine other revenue sources for the airport for long term viability
- Turn former Vierthaler property into long staff housing
- Purchase Brandts Landing (and Smugglers?) and consolidate marine and airports.
 - Include turning waterfront park
- Develop NW corner into solar farm. FAA will fund with grant.
- Develop old dog park as car parking for airport and general use. Revenue source.

ISSUES

- School District is losing students
- Density in the Overlay
- Runway should be longer, extending into the north end.
- Raising north end of runway will increase the berm at the north end.
- We have an FAA Plan that is not feasible.
- Is an Airport Special Designation still possible?
- Airplanes crossing runways for west side hangars. Is SE corner better?
- Housing is a direct problem for the airport in hiring.
- Reactive nature of running airport. Manager needs time to get organized and effective.
 - Maybe help on operational staffing

DISCUSSION

- How do get plans organized to spend BIL
 - Do we need to use more consultants?

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- We will need to worry about contractor availability
- We could target, for now, smaller obvious projects like fencing
 - Putting in new parking
 - Does truck qualify?
 - Maintenance shed
- If any hangars become available, we may want to buy
- We will probably have 5% expenses for grants? 5% and 20% Matching

IDEAS TO CONTINUE

- Match items with budget
- Focus on one top priority at a time
- Can we hire a local Planning Person?
- Would an Admin Assistant help?
- Kim would like to focus on understanding these sources.
- We could build airport housing on “Larson” property

AIRPORT MANAGER INPUT

- Start looking at 2024 budget so we’re not rushed. Maybe form a budget committee. Due first Monday in October.
 - Suggest committee of Robert and Mia
- Perhaps do a budget adjustment? But probably too late.
- Need someone to understand the AIP and BIL money.
- We should seek more community input
- Budget for an administrative assistant, so Kim can plan
- Is there room in the budget?

FUNDING SOURCES

- \$1M FAA yearly
- BIL Money, \$1M per year for five years
- FAA.GOV/BIL/FAQ has details and what awards are