

**PORT & RESOURCE RECOVERY DEPARTMENT**



2561 SOUTH BROADWAY  
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DEAN R. HAEN  
DIRECTOR

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**MINUTES OF THE BROWN COUNTY HARBOR COMMISSION**

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A meeting was held on **Monday, March 13<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 10:33 am without a quorum.

2) Roll Call:

Present:                   President Tom Klimek  
                                  Commissioner Barb LaMue  
                                  Commissioner Mike Vizer  
                                  Commissioner Ron Antonneau  
                                  Commissioner Wes Kornowske  
                                  Commissioner Pete Diemer

Excused:                   Vice President Bryan Hyska  
                                  Commissioner Tim Feldhausen  
                                  Commissioner Hank Wallace

Also Present:             Dean Haen, Brown County P&RR  
                                  Mark Walter, Brown County P&RR  
                                  Chad Doverspike, Brown County P&RR  
                                  Katie Platten, Brown County P&RR  
                                  Melissa Schwiner, GLC Minerals

3) Approval/Modification – Meeting Agenda

**A motion to approve the revised agenda was made by Ron Antonneau and seconded by Wes Kornowske.** Unanimously approved.

4) Approval/Modification – Minutes of February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Meeting

**A motion to approve the minutes of the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting was made by Ron Antonneau seconded by Barb LaMue.** Unanimously approved.

5) Announcements/Communications

Director Dean Haen discussed an article written about the Port of Green Bay in The Business News, the opening of the 2023 shipping season later in the week, and the upcoming Port Symposium on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Haen also commented on his recent travel to Washington D.C. and his meetings with U.S. Senator Baldwin, U.S. Representative Gallagher, and U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Buttigieg. There is interest by Secretary Buttigieg in visiting the Port Development Site.

6) Port Department Annual Report

The Brown County Port Department's annual report has been compiled and Mr. Haen and Mark Walter discussed its contents and requested changes and revisions from the Harbor Commission. The document provides a recap of the 2022 shipping season, mission statement, economic impact and financial picture, as well as goals for the department.

The Port Department Goals was a large discussion point, with accomplished goals finished in 2022, goals that were deferred to 2023, and the established goals for 2023. Barb LaMue asked if there was any further discussion regarding the USS Beloit commissioning, which Mr. Haen responded that there has been no discussion in the past 6 months. The ship commissioning is a goal for 2024.

Mike Vizer questioned if the tonnage reported reflected an upward trend in shipped cargo, which Mr. Haen responded that the trend seems to be that for two or three years, tonnage will increase and then will decline the next year. Mr. Vizer considered that while decreased tonnage is concerning, the markets are still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Walter added that the diversification of materials entering the Port is considered as well and reflected in the cycling tonnage over time.

The 217 Agreement amendment with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was discussed at Pete Diemer's request. Firstly, dredge materials are transported to the Cat Island Chain instead of the Port Department's Bayport facility. Secondly, in recent years Corps' responsibility has shifted from the Detroit District to the from Detroit to Chicago and a new relationship with Corps personnel had to be established. Numerous factors delayed the amendment, but the amendment is a priority for the Port Department. A new agreement would take more time to create than to simply amend the existing agreement.

Revisions to goals and work areas that the Harbor Commissioners wish to see reflected in the Annual Report including working with the City of Green Bay on Renard Island Easement to determine project progress and future planning and

also to include an economic snapshot of the changing commodity market (i.e. moving away from coal and an increase in limestone and cement). There was a brief discussion on the commodity market and number of ships travelling to the Port of Green Bay.

**A motion to approve the Port Department Annual Report with changes discussed was made by Mike Vizer and seconded by Barb LaMue.**

Unanimously approved.

7) GEI 2023 Beneficial Reuse Proposal

GEI Consultants was initially hired in 2020 to work on beneficial reuse of dredge material through 2022 for \$180,000. Looking forward into 2023 there is continuing engineering needed at Bayport in the amount of \$21,000.

There was a discussion regarding verbiage in the document regarding why dredge materials are named by terminal and if that implies a retained liability for the material. Mr. Haen explained that as users of our facility, the terminals are covered under the County's liability umbrella. Every application for disposal is a project and is carefully identified and placement is mapped. Names of users are used not to highlight but to historically document volume and location and that the materials are to be or not to be used for beneficial reuse.

Also discussed was the benefit to have a three-dimensional model provided as part of the proposal.

**A motion to approve the GEI 2023 Beneficial Reuse Proposal for \$21,000.00 was made by Ron Antonneau and seconded by Wes Kornowske.** Unanimously approved.

8) Harbor Assistance Program Grant Agreement for Project #0495-22-05

Mr. Walter talked about the 2022 Harbor Assistance Program (HAP) Grant Agreement that was awarded for \$1 Million and will be received in 2023. This amount will cover any unknown costs that the Project requires.

**A motion to approve the Harbor Assistance Grant Agreement for Project #0495-22-05 was made by Mike Vizer and seconded by Barb LaMue.**

Unanimously approved.

9) FTZ Subzone F Operating Agreement

Mr. Haen briefly explained the operating agreement of FTZ Subzone F. Previously a resolution to create the subzone was approved and included was the ability to

administratively execute an operating agreement that details the \$250 per month payment by tenants.

10) Port Development Site

The GLC Minerals property transaction continues and is actively being worked on in earnest as GLC Minerals has capital and investment and development plans for the property. Egress plans to the site will be through Brown County owned property, resulting in less acreage sold to GLC Minerals with a new easement granted to GLC for use of the road. Easements are also needed for drainage and temporary construction access. The rail easement is no longer needed as this area will be retained by Brown County. The rail easement with WPS and ½ acre property purchase on the northern side of the property are currently progressing.

Interest in sharing of stormwater needs was recently expressed by GLC Minerals. With this new consideration, more work and engineering will be necessary. Wes Kornowske suggested that GLC Minerals consider handling the stormwater management separate from the County to expedite the transaction. Mr. Haen expressed that due diligence is still required now that the option is on the table.

11) Director's Report

No further discussion on items in the Director's Report was necessary as they had been discussed in detail during previous line items.

12) Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law

Mr. Vizer requested any suggestions from the Harbor Commission in regard to Green Bay as a potential host city for the International Shipmasters Association's Annual Meeting. This will occur in the next few years. Ron Antonneau suggested Mr. Vizer discuss initial plans with Discover Green Bay and the Visitor's Bureau.

13) Adjourn

**A motion to adjourn the Harbor Commission meeting at 11:37 am was made by Mike Vizer and seconded by Ron Antonneau. Unanimously approved.**

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Tom Klimek, President  
Harbor Commission

Dean R. Haen, Director  
Port & Resource Recovery Department