

PORT & RESOURCE RECOVERY DEPARTMENT



2561 SOUTH BROADWAY
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DEAN R. HAEN
DIRECTOR

MINUTES OF THE BROWN COUNTY HARBOR COMMISSION

A meeting was held on **Monday, August 14th, 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 Mike Vizer
 Commissioner Ron Antonneau
 Commissioner Wes Kornowske
 Commissioner Barb LaMue
 Commissioner Tim Feldhausen
 Commissioner Hank Wallace

Excused: Commissioner Pete Diemer

Also Present: Dean Haen, Brown County P&RR
 Mark Walter, Brown County P&RR
 Katie Platten, Brown County P&RR
 Holly Bellmund, GLC Minerals
 Chad Doverspike, Brown County P&RR
 Chris Christenson, Leonard & Finco Public Relations, Inc.

3) Approval/Modification – Meeting Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Ron Antonneau and seconded by Bryan Hyska Unanimously approved.

4) Approval/Modification – Minutes of June 19th, 2023 Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 19th meeting with modification to show that Mike Vizer was not in attendance was made by Ron Antonneau and seconded by Bryan Hyska. Unanimously approved.

5) Announcements/Communications

Director Dean Haen briefly discussed the Wisconsin Commercial Ports Association annual meeting that was hosted by the Port of Green Bay on August 10th and 11th at the Neville Public Museum.

6) Resolution Authorizing Entering into Port Related Contracts

Mr. Haen gave an overview of the resolution documents, which were brought to the attention of the Harbor Commission at the previous June meeting and placed on file. The original agreement was for the sale of 9.74 acres to GLC Minerals. Due to changes in access and further discussions with GLC, the property to be sold has been reduced to 7.38 acres. Ron Antonneau asked if the sale to GLC Minerals was agreed upon prior to Brown County acquiring the property from Wisconsin Public Service (WPS). Mr. Haen confirmed that it was part of the original purchase agreement and resolution between Brown County and WPS approved by the County Board

A motion to suspend the rules was made by Tim Feldhausen and seconded by Mike Vizer. Unanimously approved.

Holly Bellmund, 3672 Kendlewood Court, De Pere 54115 with GLC Minerals confirmed that WPS would not sell the land to GLC until the sale to Brown County was complete.

A motion to return to regular session was made by Tim Feldhausen and seconded by Hank Wallace. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Haen further explained the nature of the parcel changes and subsequent changes in easements between GLC and Brown County that effected the property sale as agreed in Items 1a-1d.

e. Surface Lease Agreement

A modification was brought to the attention of the Harbor Commission, to correct the term date of rent & lease to September 1, 2023 thru August 31, 2024. There was a discussion about an upcoming special PD&T Meeting where the resolutions will be brought forward.

f. Environmental Indemnity Agreement

A new document introduced was the Environmental Indemnity Agreement which was requested by GLC Minerals in case of environmental issues found after the property sale. There was a discussion about any previous indemnity agreements with WPS prior to the initial sale.

A motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing Entering into Port Related Contracts as modified (Items e – Rent & Lease term) was made by Mike Vizer and seconded by Ron Antonneau. Unanimously approved.

7) Harbor Assistance Program Grant Resolution

Mr. Haen noted that the State of Wisconsin Budget provided additional funding for Wisconsin DOT's Harbor Assistance Program for the next two years. The Port Development Site engineering cost estimate was substantially more than what was originally estimated, the Port has submitted a grant application for additional funding from the Harbor Assistance Program Grant.

A motion to approve the Harbor Assistance Program Grant Resolution was made by Ron Antonneau and seconded by Hank Wallace. Unanimously approved.

8) 2024 Budget

The 2024 Budget for the Brown County Port Department was presented to the Harbor Commission by Mr. Haen. Mr. Haen mentioned the mission, program description, and statistical charts.

The 2023 initiatives for the Department were the continuation of work on the Port Development Site and grants secured, securing a low hazard waste exemption for Bayport, and the pursuit of Renard Island as a possible NERR site.

Mr. Antonneau requested a status update on the NERR site selection. Bryan Hyska shared with the Harbor Commission about his opportunity to visit the NERR Facility in Alpena, MI. Mr. Hyska described that while the facility was in an area that was not a destination spot, the tour and infrastructure was remarkable. He recommended that a sales pitch be made to show the benefits and value to the NERR site with the heavily visited area near Renard Island.

Mr. Haen continued discussing the 2024 budget items such as grants, dredging rates with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Statement of Funds. There was a brief discussion and clarification on the remaining budget worksheets.

A motion to approve the 2024 Budget was made by Barb LaMue and seconded by Tim Feldhausen. Unanimously approved.

9) Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Seaway Economic Impact Study

The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway system had an economic impact study completed, and results were posted in August 2023. Significant numbers were reported at 135 million metric tons of cargo moved on the Great Lakes in 2022. There is an estimated \$36 billion per year economic impact and 241,000 jobs in the Great Lakes region.

The Port of Green Bay showed an increase in economic impact from 2017 of \$147 million to \$217 million in 2022. A total of 1,600 jobs are attributed to Port of Green Bay activity. A press conference will be held within the next month to highlight the results of the study and the impact the Port has to the Green Bay area. There was a discussion on where the press conference is to be held based on previous events. Barb LaMue, Mike Vizer, and Mr. Antonneau suggested a Port terminal operator hold the event, as well as to tie in and highlight Renard Island as a location for the NERR.

10) Director's Report

Mr. Haen and Mark Walter spoke on a project that the Port Department has begun researching which is to have a managed grazing herd of goats, sheep, and donkeys on Renard Island. This would be a unique opportunity for a media event, as well as a natural way to mow on the island. The project will most likely begin in 2024.

11) Tonnage Report

Both the June 2023 and July 2023 tonnage reports were presented and discussed. Tonnage continues to track upwards.

12) Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law

None

13) Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the Harbor Commission meeting at 11:28 am was made by Mike Vizer and seconded by Ron Antonneau. Unanimously approved.

Tom Klimek, President
Harbor Commission

Dean R. Haen, Director
Port & Resource Recovery Department