

**FRIDAY HARBOR PORT DISTRICT**  
Port Commission Regular Meeting at the San Juan Island Yacht Club  
Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

**Minutes**

**Port Commissioners Present:**

Mike Ahrenius, Greg Hertel, Barbara Marrett

**Port Staff Present:** Marilyn O'Connor, Executive Director

Tami Hayes, Harbormaster

Dave Ryan, Airport Manager

Phyllis Johnson, Port Auditor

**Also Present:** Mike Close, San Juan Island Marine Ctr.

Andy Peters, Bartlett Development

George Selfridge, Maritime Services

Tom Barnes, Customs & Border Patrol

The meeting began at 4:03 p.m.

1. Barbara Marrett moved to approve minutes of the January 14th Port Commission meeting. Greg Hertel seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Citizens Comments/requests: Mike Close reported the Town's sign ordinance is being reviewed and may change.
3. Consent Agenda: None
4. Commission Action Issues:
  - A. Mike Ahrenius moved to approve Reid Middleton's change order for the Emergency gates project. Barbara Marrett seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
  - B. Greg Hertel moved to approve the airport lease addendum for Gary Card. Barbara Marrett seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
  - C. Mike Ahrenius moved to approve **Resolution #09-003**, approving the lease assignment to Aeronautical Services. Barbara Marrett seconded and motion passed.
5. Commission Discussion items:
  - A. George Selfridge and Andy Peters of Bartlett Development gave a presentation to the Commission about the passenger ferry service between Friday Harbor and Bellingham. They would like to partner with the Port of Friday Harbor on the purchase of a vessel(s) they would operate. Some of the options discussed were size/type of vessel, possible

sleeping berths, additional destinations, Friday Harbor being home port for the boat, carrying freight in addition to passengers, and an exploration of ways to offset cost of service. The Commission expressed concerns about the success of this project in the current economy. They discussed the possibility of grant funding, subsidization, the proposed Federal stimulus package and agreed to talk further once they receive a formal proposal, specifically outlining what is expected of the Port. The Commission is doubtful that ridership would support the cost of the project. A special meeting may be held to discuss this further.

B. Airport Rules and Regulation: Dave Ryan handed out copies of proposed changes in the airport rules and regulations. The Commissioners will review and bring suggested changes to the next meeting, at which time a date for a public hearing will be scheduled.

C. Delegation of Authority: Marilyn handed out proposed changes to the delegation of authority resolution which is updated biannually. The Commissioners agreed to review, submit any changes to her and a resolution will be brought to the next Port Commission meeting.

6. Public Hearings: None

8. Staff Reports:

A. Auditor: Mike Ahrenius moved to approve payment of 2008 General Fund vouchers G8857– G8871 for \$71,125.93 and 2009 General Fund vouchers G9016-G8041 for \$7,425.30, 2008 Construction vouchers C8155-C8158 for \$29,080.36 and 2009 Construction vouchers totaling \$13,533.07. Greg Hertel seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Airport Director: Dave shared 2008 airport figures. Total aircraft operations are 51,002, down 17% from 2007 figures. Total passenger enplanements 16,656 are up 19% and transient aircraft parking 501, is down 56% from 2007.

C. Harbormaster: Tami reported that Mike Close has asked permission to add additional signage to the north end of the Spring Street Landing building enabling him to use that as the main entrance for his business. He would also like to have a vending cart during the summer season outside the building on the south side. Mike reported the Town doesn't have a problem with it as it is on Port property. Tami will be working with Mike on the new signage. The last derelict vessel being handled by the County is currently in the marina. Tami is considering reinstating the promotion offering a free night of moorage with the purchase of 4 nights, in hopes of boosting marina business, particularly during the shoulder season. Mac Douglas donated a nice digital weather station to the marina last week. Puget Sound Keeper Alliance has a grant to install 5 bilge water recycling units and would like the marina to be one of the five participating marinas. Tami is investigating the cost of having the waste removed.

D. Executive Director: Marilyn has been working on the FAA grant for airport projects. Obtaining this grant will enable the Port to use \$1.5 Million in AIP funds this year. The Town has asked for an easement for the placement of the sewer pump which is on the edge of the upper parking lot. The Legion covenant is now complete. Jim Cole, with Emergency Services has expressed his appreciation to the Port for providing easy access to the Sheriff's boat and is pleased about plans for the new ramp as it will enable them to easily load patients. Contaminated soil was unearthed by the Town crew north of Downrigger's and will be removed under the guidance of Chevron's environmental consultant. Marilyn still has not had a response from Customs regarding the lease for the new building. Their current lease will expire in June, 2009.

9. Capital Improvement: None

10. Commissioner's Reports: Barbara Marrett would like the Port Commission to sign a letter requesting legislature to fund a rescue Tug at Neah Bay. Mike Ahrenius said he will not support state funding of the vessel, and feels it needs to be paid by the industry users. The Commission directed Marilyn to draft a letter. Greg Hertel said he will write a letter to the editor saying attempts are being made to rid the airport of geese so the public will know the Port is aware of the problem and is doing something about it.

11. Agenda items pending future action: None

The regular meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

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Mike Ahrenius, Commissioner

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Greg Hertel, Commissioner

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Barbara Marrett, Commissioner