

Friday Harbor Port District

Port Commission Meeting
San Juan Island Yacht Club
Friday May 23th at 10:00 AM
Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Graham Black
Barbara Marrett
Richard Goodhart

Port Staff Present: Todd Nicholson, Executive Director
Kyle Gropp, Deputy Director (via ZOOM)
Mike Roling, IT Administrator

Public Present: Jill Belcovson, LWVSJ
Mike Byrne

Citizen comments/requests: Citizens can make a brief comment or may ask the Commission to schedule a topic for further discussion at a future meeting.
None

Consent Agenda:

A. Approval of Payroll & Vouchers

Commissioner Marrett moved to approve the Payroll, Commissioner Black Seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

B. Approval of Minutes: May 9, 2025, Meeting

Commissioner Marrett moved to approve the minutes from May 9, 2025. Commissioner Black seconded. Barbara noted a misspelling that will be corrected before posting. Motion approved unanimously.

Action Items:

A. Approve Resolution 25-005 – Public Art Policy

Commissioner Black moved to approve Resolution 25-005, public art policy. Commissioner Marrett seconded the motion. Commissioner Marrett noted that the policy assumes the Town's art committee would allow a non-voting member for any items sent that way and recommended sending the policy to Julie Greene at the town after it is approved. Resolution 25-005 approved unanimously.

B. Approve Resolution 25-006 – RCO Grant Application and Acceptance

Commissioner Black moved to approve Resolution 25-006, Commissioner Marrett seconded. Executive Director Nicholson explained this will be to apply for a grant to electrify Breakwater A.

Commissioner Marrett asked about an RCO grant for Jackson Beach related to an additional vault toilet. That project doesn't qualify for this year's grant cycle. A discussion topic for additional Jackson Beach improvements will be added later in this meeting. Resolution 25-006 approved unanimously.

C. Approve Resolution 25-007 – Port Electrification Grant Contracting

Commissioner Marrett moved to approve Resolution 25-007, Commissioner Black seconded. Executive Director Nicholson explained this will allow executing the contracts as described in the grant without bringing each individual item to the commission. Deviations from the contracts as described would be brought to the commission for approval.

Commissioner Marrett asked to be reminded of what each of the boats in the grant were for. Executive Director Nicholson explained the current plan for each of the electric boats. He also explained that the grant will also compensate for the Port's administrative time to execute the grant. Motion approved unanimously.

D. Approve Transfer of Sublease for K-6 to Loren DeShon

Commissioner Black moved to approve the transfer of the sublease. Commissioner Marrett seconded. Executive Director Nicholson explained that since this is a sublease it doesn't trigger any changes to the underlying lease by the condo association. Commissioner Goodhart noted a possible typo for correction.

Motion approved unanimously.

Discussion Items:

A. Future Jackson Beach improvements

A discussion of possible improvements at Jackson Beach was discussed. Adding louvers and a short wall to the shelter for a wind block to make it more enjoyable was discussed. Executive Director Nicholson will work on a design and investigate permitting for a future meeting.

Executive Director Report:

Executive Director Nicholson noted that the Governor approved the budget that included the Port's electrification grant money in it. He also noted that PFFAP grant reviews will be starting in June. The Port submitted two grants, one for the Travelift pier at Jensen/Shipyard Cove and one for improvements for Hangar 80 for an aircraft repair facility. Commission Marrett suggested that both Blake Marine and Island Air should be present at the meeting.

Port Commissioner and Committee Reports:

Commissioner Black asked for a status update on Hangar 80. Executive Director Nicholson gave a status update mentioning that the steel was going to be showing up next week and the construction crew was going to be working 7 days a week to erect the building and noted that there was still some planning to be done for the ramp design, but everything is still on track for August completion.

Commissioner Marrett asked how Blake Marine was doing at the boatyard and if she could get a photo of the interior of the store for the newsletter. Executive Director Nicholson said he could get an interior photo and that they were doing great. They are excited about the future 75-ton Travelift, they believe that the new Travelift will allow them to change the nature of work done on the island.

Commissioner Marrett mentioned that our laundromat was significantly busier than the other one in town. She noted that ours are lower priced and that we should look at possibly adjusting the pricing.

Commissioner Black reported that he was a customer at the boatyard the other day. Everything went smoothly.

Commissioner Marrett mentioned attending the county's Climate Sustainability Committee meeting. There is a new section in the county comprehensive plan about climate and sustainability. She wondered if there was any mechanism that the Port could use to help.

Executive Director Nicholson noted that we are already doing a lot to reduce the Port's carbon footprint including the planned solar canopy, electric boat charging stations, and electric Travelift. Also, the upcoming electric hook-up for the cruise ships will allow them to stay in port overnight and not run their diesel generators which will also help reduce the carbon footprint.

New Business: Commissioners May Share Information or Introduce Topics for Discussion at a Future Meeting.

None

Citizen comments/requests: Citizens can make a brief comment or may ask the Commission to schedule a topic for further discussion at a future meeting.

Citizen Mike Byrne noted that the cruise ship offloaded several bags of garbage in the compactor. Executive Director Nicholson responded that the Port is aware of the situation, it was caused by a scheduling issue on American Cruise Line's end, and they have been asked to coordinate with Port staff if the issue comes up in the future.

Next Mike asked with the new concessionaire at the boatyard if self-work would be allowed still. Executive Director Nicholson responded that the commission has committed to allowing self-work to continue for the foreseeable future.

Mike Byrne asked about some wi-fi work he saw being done in the marina and asked how that went. IT Administrator Roling responded that some broken cables on E-Dock were being repaired and that a future system wide upgrade was being planned potentially for next year.

Mike Byrne then mentioned that the laundromat is a hub for the community and voiced opposition to raising the price.

Adjourn: 11:06am



Barbara Marrett, Commissioner

Graham Black

Graham Black, Commissioner

Rich Goodhart

Rich Goodhart, Commissioner