Port Report

Port Commission Vacancy

The Port would like to thank Scot Sullenger for his term of service as a Port Commissioner. Following Sullenger's recent resignation, there is one vacant seat on the Port Commission. The Commission is seeking letters from residents of the Port District interested in being appointed to fill the vacant seat until the next general election in May, 2015.

The purpose of the Port Commission is to guide the operations of the Port district by setting policy direction, approving Port budgets, and authorizing real estate transactions. The Port Commission composed of five at-large representatives, elected by the residents of the Port district. Commission seats are unpaid volunteer positions. In addition to preparation and attendance of two regular meetings each month, Commissioners may be asked to sit on sub-committees, or attend a number of other special meetings and site visits.

The deadline for letters of interest is Friday, May 30st, 2014. Letters of interest will be reviewed by the Commission and interviews will be held in late May.

Letters should address motivation to be on the commission, identify the top five Port priorities, demonstrate an understanding of the Port's vision and mission, and indicate how much time an interested person would be able to provide in serving. This is an exciting time at the Port and there is a lot of work to be done. Anyone interested in applying for the vacant seat should contact the Port at 541-374-8619 or P.O. Box 307 Cascade Locks, OR 97014.

IGM Paul Koch Contract Extended

Months of applications, interviews, and background searches narrowed the field of 24 applicants to two finalists for a new Port General Manager. The Port Commission held interviews for the two finalists on Wednesday, April 30th. During their regularly scheduled Commission meeting on Thursday, May 1st, the Port Commission decided not to make an offer to either of the candidates. The Port Commission declared that this is the most important decision that will be made for years to come, and that with such important projects occurring in the Industrial Park, this is not the time to make a team change. Interim General Manager Paul Koch has committed to stay on as IGM until a new GM is hired. His contract will be extended through June of 2015. A new GM search is tentatively set to be initiated in Fall of 2014.

New Economic Development Leader

The Port would like to thank former Economic Development Manager Gary Rains for his service to the Port and Cascade Locks Community. During his time on staff, Mr. Rains was instrumental in the production of an Industrial Park Infrastructure Master Plan. He also generated numerous business leads for available Port property. In an effort to replace Rains in a time of much real estate activity, the Port was fortunate to contract with Don Mann to serve as an interim part time contractor. Mr. Mann recently retired as General Manager for the Port of Newport, after nearly four decades of experience in Oregon public Ports. His experience will be invaluable to the Gorge region.



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Public meetings are held at 6 pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month in Cascade Locks City Hall Council Chambers.

The mission of the Port of Cascade Locks is to:

- Operate in a fiscally prudent manner to ensure its continuity
- Facilitate effective infrastructure and transportation solutions
- Recruit new businesses to create family wage jobs and economic growth within the Port District and region
- Create economic growth opportunities for existing businesses within the Port District
- Enhance tourism and recreation for the Columbia River Gorge region
- Provide leadership and create partnerships within the region for economic development
- Utilize our natural resources

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Community Member 97014

Five Ports Advocacy Group

The Port of Cascade Locks continues to provide leadership for the development of a regional economic development group. The purpose of the group is to advocate for the development of family living wage jobs in the Gorge. The five Ports and other interested parties will meet with legislators from both Oregon and Washington on May 16th to communicate the needs of local communities in the National Scenic Area. The Bridge of The Gods and the Hood River Bridge are both on the list of priorities, along with other infrastructure and transportation projects. In addition to the public ports, local cities, counties, private businesses and two Chambers of Commerce have signed on to participate in this discussion.

Port Budget for FY 2014-15

The Port Budget Committee will begin a series of meetings on May 8th at 6 PM at City Hall. There is one vacancy on the Port Budget Committee. Anyone interested should file a letter of interest with the Port: 541-374-8619.

Cascade Locks Community Garden

There are garden beds available in the Cascade Locks Community Garden. Contact 541-374-8619.



Above: A Port contractor replaces nine old wooden pilings with five new metal pilings on the Sternwheeler dock. Collectively the pilings are referred to as a "dolphin." The marina was also dredged this spring to maintain a 10 foot depth.