



## **Commission Meeting Minutes Monday, September 22, 2025**

### **Call to Order – Special Meeting**

Commission Vice President Maggie Sanders called the Commission Special Meeting/Executive Session of September 22, 2025, to order at 4:00 p.m., at the Percival Plaza at 626 Columbia Street NW, Suite 1B, Olympics Room, in Olympia, Washington 98501.

### **Present**

Commissioners: Jasmine Vasavada – President, Maggie Sanders – Vice President, Sarah Montano – Secretary, Amy Harding and Bob Iyall.

### **Executive Session**

At 4:00 p.m., Commission Vice President Maggie Sanders announced that the Commission would recess into a closed Executive Session until 5:05 p.m. to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease (RCW 42.30.110(1)(c)).

### **Call to Order – Commission Meeting**

Commission President Jasmine Vasavada called a regular meeting of the Port of Olympia Board of Commissioners to order and open to the public at 5:30 p.m., Monday, September 22, 2025, at the Percival Plaza at 626 Columbia Street NW, Suite 1B, Olympics Room, in Olympia, Washington 98501.

### **Present**

Commissioners: Jasmine Vasavada – President, Maggie Sanders – Vice President, Sarah Montano – Secretary, Amy Harding and Bob Iyall.

Staff: Mike Reid, Director of Community and Economic Development; Chris Wright-Pierce, General Counsel; Warren Hendrickson, Director of Operations; Shawn Gilbertson, Director of Environmental Planning and Programs; James Sommer, Public Works Program Manager; Tina Champion, Executive Coordinator; and Missy Goodell, Commission Coordinator.

Guest: Ron Thomas, Principal, and Regine Varughis, Architectural Associate, with Thomas Architecture Studios.

Guest Attended Virtually: Amos Callender, Principal, Thomas Architecture Studios.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Harding moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Montano seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Executive Director Report**

None.

## **Public Comment**

Two individuals provided public comments regarding the Olympia airport and transportation alternatives.

## **Consent Calendar**

Commissioner Harding moved to approve the consent agenda as presented; Commissioner Montano seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Pending Issues or Business**

Pending Issues Update. Mike Reid, Director of Community and Economic Development, gave a brief update on Pending Issue items. There was nothing new to report on the Budd Inlet Cleanup or Marine Terminal Warehouse since the last commission meeting. A detailed presentation will be given on the Dancing Goats building renovations at tonight's commission meeting. Regarding the Airport Master Plan Update, the Port is still awaiting the hearing examiner's results; the closing of information was on August 20, 2025. Regarding the Peninsula Master Plan, this was initially scheduled to be presented at the September 15, 2025 Work Session but it was rescheduled to the October 20, 2025 Work Session as more conversations were required to bring the Thurston Regional Planning Council on board in that effort.

Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Update. Mike attended the National Association of Foreign-Trade Zones Conference last week where he made some positive connections both with existing users in Thurston County and some potential new users, and met some peer foreign-trade zone staff, specifically the Port of Everett. The Port of Olympia is in the process of approving their first new user of the FTZ since 2012. The new user is located in Lacey. There is also a new user in process, located in Chehalis (as a reminder, the FTZ covers a four-county region). It was reported that there is a lot of interest and new activity in the FTZ program.

## **Action Calendar**

None.

## **Action/Other Calendar**

None.

## **Advisory Calendar**

Dancing Goats Port Headquarters Conceptual Design. James Sommer, Public Works Program Manager, announced that a contract amendment is sought with the Port's on-call architectural firm, Thomas Architecture Studios. James introduced Ron, Thomas, Principal with Thomas Architecture Studios, who provided a status update on the Ports administrative/HQ project.

Ron Thomas, Principal at Thomas Architecture Studios, shared the Port's mission and Vision 2050 plan, described what was to be accomplished with centralizing staff and moving out of leased space. A concept design was shared and next steps discussed.

### **Commissioner Reports/Discussion**

Commissioner Montano shared that she attended the Thurston County Chamber Forum.

Commissioner Sanders reported that she also attended the Thurston Chamber Forum, a STEDI meeting, a Wolf Haven tour and a Tenino Area Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Commissioner Vasavada communicated that she attended a WPPA industrial symbiosis tour. She requested these items be discussed at a future Commission meeting: 1) would like to discuss/create a policy that supports directing resources to expand the waterfront to provide access and programs to all (sponsorships for those unable to afford programs) and would like to look at access to the community at our airport as well; and 2) would like to see a list of Port land leases with properties and leases with just land.

Commissioner Iyall reported that he attended a Yelm Chamber of Commerce meeting, the Thurston County Chamber Forum, and a Transportation Policy Board meeting.

Commissioner Harding shared that she attended a Real Estate Forum hosted by the Thurston County Economic Development Council; and she attended the Experience Olympia and Beyond Annual Meeting. She shared a quote from Eldridge Cleaver quote: "The price of hating other human beings is loving oneself less."

### **Other Business**

Commissioner Harding requested a Work Session to discuss the Port of Olympia Citizens Advisory Committee (POCAC). She would like to discuss a path forward that aligns with the needs and expectations of how this group works. Clear, shared objectives are needed so that everyone is on the same page. Recruitment of new members also needs to be addressed.

### **Meeting Announcements**

A list of upcoming events was displayed on the screen for viewers to see upcoming Commission and POCAC meetings. The next Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Port of Olympia Board of Commissioners, the Monday, September 22, 2025, regular meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m. by Commissioner Vasavada.

PORT OF OLYMPIA COMMISSION

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Jasmine Vasavada, President

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Maggie Sanders, Vice President

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Sarah Montano, Secretary

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