

PORT OF BENTON
SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
October 22, 2019

- A. CALL TO ORDER:** The Special Commission Meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. at the Port of Benton Commission Meeting Room, 3250 Port of Benton Boulevard, Richland, Washington. Present were Commissioners Jane F. Hagarty, Roy D. Keck and Robert D. Larson. Staff members present included Port Counsel, David Billetdeaux; Interim Executive Director, Diahann Howard PPM®; Director of Finance, Stuart Dezember, CPA, PPM®, Director of Real Estate, Teresa Hancock; and Administrative Assistant, Kelly Thompson. Also present were John Hodgson, Brian Dansel and Clif Dyer.
- B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Robert Larson led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The regular Commission Meeting was recessed at 8:31 a.m. and an Executive Session was convened pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g) to interview and interact with candidates Brian Dansel, Stuart Dezember and Wade Farris who are being considered for the Executive Director position. The Commission announced the Executive Session would last no longer than three hours (180 minutes). Each candidate was interviewed for approximately sixty (60) minutes.
- The Executive Session was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. and the regular Commission Meeting was reconvened with a lunch for the candidates, Commission, staff, stakeholders and public took place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- D. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The regular Commission Meeting was recessed at 1:00 p.m. and an Executive Session convened pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g) to interview and interact with candidate Diahann Howard. The Commission announced the Executive Session would last no longer than one hour (sixty minutes). At 2:00 p.m., Diahann Howard was dismissed from the Executive Session and the Commission announced the Executive Session would last an additional twenty (20) minutes. At 2:20 p.m. Port Counsel announced the Executive Session would last an additional twenty-five (25) minutes.
- The Executive Session was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. and the regular Commission Meeting was reconvened.
- E.** Port Counsel stated no action will be taken. The Commission plans to make a final decision no later than at the next regularly scheduled commission meeting on November 13, 2019. In the meantime, Prothman Services has been directed to gather some additional background on the four final candidates.
- F. ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, the Special Commission meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

Robert D. Larson,
Commission Secretary