

**PORT OF NEWPORT
MINUTES
November 20, 2014
Special Meeting**

I. Call to Order/Introductions

The Special Meeting of the Port of Newport to discuss joining the Fishermen's Wives (NFW) as Plaintiffs in a Federal Court lawsuit challenging the planned decommissioning of the air rescue station was called to order by Walter Chuck, President, 12:01 pm in the South Beach Marina Activities Room.

Commissioners Present: David Jincks, Walter Chuck, Dean Fleck, Ken Brown.

Commissioners Absent: JoAnn Barton.

Port of Newport Management and Staff: Kevin Greenwood, General Manager.

Others Present: Wayde & Barb Dudley, Lee Fries, Kiera Morgan, Larry Coonrod, Sara Skamser, Spencer Nebel, David Allen, Dennis Anstine.

II. Introductory Comments, Walter Chuck

Chuck welcomed those in attendance to the Special Meeting and gave background on the topic. Originally the Port had been asked to join the NFW as co-plaintiffs by Mike Haglund, the NFW attorney, but Chuck felt that it was important that the Port not go it alone and inquired to the other agencies (city and county) participation. He thanked the city and county for participating and looks forward to a victorious, collaborative effort in retaining the air station.

III. Staff Report

Greenwood noted that he had been working closely with the Wayne Belmont and Nebel to help provide a conduit for public information on the air station closure. Haglund felt that it would be helpful if the Port participated to show that the "public's interest" had been covered. Greenwood's only concern was that the action would not be perceived by the state's federal delegation as counter-productive and he indicated that there was no concern about the effort.

Motion made by Fleck that the Port of Newport join as plaintiff with the Fishermen's Wives, City of Newport, Lincoln County and other parties in a federal court lawsuit challenging the legality of the U.S. Coast Guard's planned decommissioning of its air rescue station in Newport. Seconded by Brown. Motion passed 4-0.

Brief discussion about the Port's financial role in the effort. Chuck noted that the NFW had not asked the public bodies for financial assistance and their fundraising efforts have been fruitful. Greenwood noted that the Commission may consider financial assistance within budgetary restrictions at any time.

IV. Public Comment

Nebel noted that the City Council will be considering the same motion on Friday at Noon and looks forward to participating. He shared how impressed he's been with the community's advocacy on the matter. Ken Brown indicated that he will represent the Port at the City meeting.

V. Adjournment

There being nothing more to come before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned at 12:12 pm

ATTEST:

Walter Chuck, President

Ken Brown, Secretary/Treasurer