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**Port of Newport Commission Appeal to Don Mann
to Continue Service through December 2013**

NEWPORT – The Port of Newport board of commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, July 24, 2012, where Vice President David Jincks, presiding in President JoAnn Barton’s absence, read a letter from the board recognizing General Manager Don Mann’s distinguished tenure at the Port. Mann had publicly announced retirement effective the end of December 2012 at the previous commission meeting.

The commission’s letter acknowledged Mann’s 16 years of accomplishments including the winning the NOAA MOC-P award and completing that project ahead of schedule and under budget; the voter approved \$15.4 million bond to renovate the International Terminal, a project well under way to completion, noting that the project removed a major environmental threat to Yaquina Bay, added critical deep water habitat for an endangered species and facilities to better serve the distant water fleet as well as return important commerce to one of Oregon’s two coastal deep water ports.

Taking critical projects currently underway into consideration such as the initial phase of the state-mandated Strategic Business Plan and Capital Facilities Plan, multiple infrastructure repairs and replacements, and the permanent home for the Port Administration Office, the board of commissioners asked Mann to consider extending his retirement date through the end of December 2013 leaving the Port better positioned to thrive beyond his tenure.

They viewed it as yet another example of his commitment to the Port and the community when Mann agreed to postponing his retirement through December 2013.

End