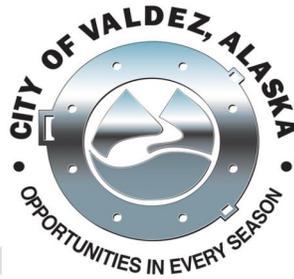


# City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.  
Valdez, AK 99686



## Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, June 21, 2021

7:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Civic Center Conference Room

**Ports and Harbor Commission**

**REGULAR AGENDA - 7:00 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Swanson called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. in the Valdez Civic Center Conference Room.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present 4 - Chair Mark Swanson  
Commission Member Ryan Sontag Jr.  
Commission Member Stu Hirsch  
Commission Member Monty Morgan

Excused 3 - Commission Member Collen Stephens  
Commission Member Tim Bouchard  
Commission Member Alan Steed

Also Present 2 - Director Ports and Harbor Jeremy Talbott  
Office Manager Port and Harbor Karisa Friend

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Hirsch to approve Port & Harbor Commission Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2018, May 21, 2018, October 1, 2018, November 9, 2018, December 3, 2018, and April 19, 2021. The motion carried by the following vote, after the following discussion occurred.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 4 - Chair Swanson, Commission Member Sontag, Commission Member Morgan, and Commission Member Hirsch

Excused: 3 - Commission Member Steed, Commission Member Stephens, and Commission Member Bouchard

**1. Ports & Harbor Commission Special Meeting Minutes of January 8th, 2018**

The Ports and Harbor Commission Special Meeting Minutes of January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 were approved as presented.

**2. Ports & Harbor Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of May 21st, 2018**

Chair Swanson commented the word “allow” needs removed on page two, second paragraph. All Commissioners agreed minutes approved with correction.

**3. Ports & Harbor Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of October 1st, 2018**

The Ports and Harbor Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

were approved as presented.

#### **4. Ports & Harbor Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of November 9th, 2018**

Chair Swanson commented to add a semicolon in the last sentence on page two, third paragraph. All Commissioners agreed minutes approved with correction

#### **5. Ports & Harbor Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of December 3rd, 2018**

The Ports and Harbor Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 were approved as presented.

#### **6. Ports and Harbor Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of April 19th, 2021**

The Ports and Harbor Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 were approved as presented.

### **IV. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

There was no public business from the floor.

### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Master Planning Review**

Mr. Talbott explained he wants to hear from Commissioners, their thoughts of the plans included in the agenda packet. Chair Swanson stated what he sees is mostly improving Kelsey Dock, which seems already done.

Commission Member Sontag Jr. asked if City Council has sat down with Peter Pan or Silver Bay Seafoods. He also asked about Sea Otter and the plans for it. Chair Swanson mentioned a lay down yard and a lift area. Commission Member Morgan mentioned including 150 ton mega lift. Chair Swanson says the idea may be to attract tourism.

Chair Swanson asked if these plans will be worked through together. Mr. Talbott said the 3 plans were done by the same company and are meant to work together.

Nathan Duvall, Capital Facilities Director, clarified the plans and the reference to the Port and Harbor Waterfront Master Plan.

Mr. Talbott mentioned other Harbors have had an increase in funds. He asked the Commissioners to relay their information to Council to make sure the Port and Harbor Commission is heard.

Commission Member Hirsch said previous Council body said to get the easier projects done first. Mr. Talbott asked Commissioners if Sea Otter is priority one, since H through K project is basically underway. Commissioners agreed yes.

Chair Swanson asked about leveraging funds for the Airport to make improvements since it is a primary mode of transportation to and from Valdez. Mr. Talbott stated the State of Alaska would have to go after any funds available for improvements.

After an additional brief conversation, Chair Swanson said that each Commissioner should make themselves familiar with all plans and voice their recommendations because there are a lot of other voices that will make sure their wants are heard and acted on first.

## **VI. REPORTS**

### **1. Ports & Harbors Director Report**

Mr. Talbott, Ports and Harbor Director, provided a verbal overview of his written report. He mentioned several topics which included; Pink Salmon funding of \$200,000 of disaster money, finished last cell tower lease, the consulting lead by previous Port Operations Manager helped with the annual increase.

Commission Member Hirsch asked about the bird poo problem. Mr. Talbott said there has been aggressive bird hazing performed. Commission Member Sontag Jr. mentioned the kittiwake's population has exploded.

Mr. Talbott went on to state the Kelsey Dock project completed and there have been lots of positive remarks about the Adirondack chairs. Also the windscreen was moved down for viewing and sun setter awnings may be on their way soon.

Additional items mentioned; City Events Coordinator is working on making 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration spectacular, Samson is moving out of the Scale House and into a new office.

Covid fishing task force is still meeting, Silver Bay has 100% vaccinated crew and Peter Pan is at roughly 80% vaccinated. The Canneries asked for closed campus again.

Lastly, emergency management is working on a shelter at the Airport, Stan Stephens 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and the Clerk is working to recognize the businesses celebrating a significant year mark. A few oil spills were cleaned up and the fish hanging stations are being upgraded.

Commission Member Morgan asked about staffing. Mr. Talbott mentioned Andrew Doherty is hired and filling the open security position. However, we're holding off on hiring the other two positions that were recently vacated.

Commission Member Morgan stated he heard less seiners are coming to town. Mr. Talbott confirmed he'd heard the same. Commission Member Morgan also asked if the new Harbor is filling up and Mr. Talbott confirmed yes.

## **VII. COMMISSION BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Chair Swanson opened the floor for business from Commissioners.

Commission Member Sontag Jr., Hirsch, and Morgan stated no business.

Chair Swanson also stated he had no business.

### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Swanson adjourned the meeting at 7:47p.m.

DRAFT