

PORT OF GOLD BEACH
BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
SPECIAL MEETING
May 11, 2015

PRESENT:

Milt Walker, President
Bill McNair, Vice President
Charles Riddle, Secretary
Mark Lottis, Commissioner

ABSENT:

Mark Harshman, Commissioner

Debbie Collins, Port Manager

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Board President, Walker and roll was called.

Walker asked McNair to start the Sea Lion topic and why the meeting was necessary. McNair explained that Lottis went to him with concerns about the program as ATF is now requiring a new permit for the firearms that are used for the program. Walker stated that there is no question that we need the program or there would be no fishing. McNair went on to say that Curry Sportfishing Association, CSA would be the one filing out the paperwork needed for the new permit and that the port would need to be the permit holder and keep the records of the firearms to be stored and used. McNair expressed that Lottis would not have a conflict of interest with him being President of CSA since there is no monetary gain for Lottis. McNair stated that if Lottis declared a "potential conflict" he would still be able to be a voting member of the Board. Collins then handed out pages that she asked Wendy Able about as far as insurance coverage and any other issues with the program going back to the port. The paper referenced the fact that insurance would not increase but the workers comp would need to be increased. Collins stated that she had concerns in regards to the port being employer of the Sea Lion hazers. Collins said over the years there had been complaints from fishermen on different things having to do with the person in the Sea Lion boat. Collins also expressed that it is a hard topic with employees that work for the port making much less of a wage than that of a Sea Lion hazer. Collins stated that she would need to have the payroll information by the next day as the port budget meeting was that evening. Lottis stated he couldn't remember exactly how much CSA paid hazers but thought it was between \$10 and \$20 per hour. McNair asked what he thought they would be paid this year and Lottis responded saying to use \$20 per hour for budget purposes. Collins said she would speak with accountant Jeff Kemp to find out what the expected tax expenses would be.

Lottis declared a "potential conflict" and then explained that the Sea Lion program was in jeopardy of being lost since CSA won't be able to hold the permit. Lottis said that CSA will still be responsible for raising the money to fund the program and would reimburse the port for the expense of running it. Lottis stated he had spoke with Garth at NOAA and he was going to be assisting CSA with getting the ATF permit to keep the program going.

Riddle spoke in regard to previous issues when the Sea Lion Program went through the port as far as payroll and with the conduct of the person running the boat. Riddle also has concerns with regard to state wage and hour laws. There was some discussion about the amount of hours the hazers worked and will work as well as the amount of days of the program ran.

Walker expressed concerns about the rate of pay for hazers in comparison to what port employees make. Walker stated that hazer that has been working the boat does a phenomenal job and is

worth the money he makes but wanted to be fair to port employees. McNair asked Walker if he was for or against the problem. Walker said he was definitely for the program and there was no question we needed it. Walker stated that he has questions about how the public felt about the amount people were paid. McNair stated that the public concerns could be shared at the meetings if they choose to. McNair continued that Lottis would have to administer and oversee the program as well as the other commissioners. Collins stated that perhaps the port could contract out the program to CSA as we contract out for other projects. Riddle summarized on the program saying either it could be contracted out or assign Lottis to run the program. Lottis stated he was speaking on behalf of CSA saying they were not interested in subcontracting the program any longer. After more discussion on different aspects of the program a decision was reached.

MOTION: To accept the proposal from CSA to undertake the Sea Lion Program and accept the permit from ATF and keep the existing permit from NOAA that the port already manages also to maintain and continue operating the Sea Lion hazing program. Motion made by McNair and seconded by Riddle. *Discussion: McNair stated that the port would need to draft some kind of agreement with CSA because of the fact that money will be a part of it. McNair said he would work with Lottis on drafting together a document with dollar amounts. McNair mentioned this will also put in writing that CSA is agreeing to fund the program and if in the future they decide not to then the port will be dealing with another issue.* Motion passed by a vote of 4 for, 0 against. (Harshman was absent)

Collins asked if Lottis was to be the administrator and liaison of the program would that would also include him advertising the position in the paper and dealing with the hiring of the hazers. McNair responded that Lottis would be responsible for that and it would be up to him also offering to help with interviews if needed.

MOTION: To appoint Lottis to be the Ports Program Administrator and Liaison of the Sea Lion Program. Motion made by McNair and seconded by Walker. Motion passed by a vote of 4 for, 0 against. (Harshman was absent)

ADJOURN:

MOTION to adjourn made by Riddle and seconded by McNair. Motion was passed by a vote of 4 for, and 0 against (Harshman was absent) at 1:07 PM.