

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
PORT OF EPHRATA COMMISSIONERS
August 30, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners for the Port District No. 9 of Grant County met in special session on August 30, 2021 in the Port conference room. Commissioner Karen Moore called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Moore stated that this special meeting was scheduled as an accommodation to the county so that the Port commissioners could decide if they will sell additional land adjacent to the current work release facility for the construction of a 512-bed jail facility.

Commissioner Moore also thanks Mike Wren for attending to give his thoughts on this decision.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Karen Moore, George Sisson and Shelly Rivard Detrick. Staff: Greg Becken, Executive Director; Mike Wren, Outgoing Executive Director; Charla Bomstad, Finance Officer.

OLD BUSINESS:

County Land Sale: Commissioner Moore read out the ports mission statement: “Aggressively pursue partnerships and projects that promote and sustain managed, compatible economic growth and family wage jobs for the Ephrata area”. She then stated that the purpose of this meeting was to determine if they want to move forward with the sale of additional land to the county, or not.

The commissioners discussed each of the three parts of the mission statement, Managed, Sustainability and Compatibility.

Managed: “Can the Community Keep Up”? The commissioners talked about road maintenance, water/sewer usage and power demands.

Sustainability: “Will it Succeed”? The commissioners talked about the history of the current facility and future economic growth.

Compatibility: “Does it Fit”? The commissioners talked about the location, security and safety, noise and risk, impacts on future marketability and the impact on the Port’s current tenants.

Mike Wren had 4 points he wanted the commissioners to think about. 1. Would we pursue this sale if it came in from commerce? 2. Does it have benefit to the port? 3. Does it benefit the community? 4. Does it meet our mission statement?

Greg Becken gave his thoughts on the proposed sale, as well as his findings from research he has done to answer some of the commissioner’s concerns. He talked about the option of offering different locations on the Port instead of the location the County is requesting.

After further discussion, the Commissioners feel that the sale of 6.6 additional acres next to the current unused work release facility is not in the best interest of the Port and does not fit with the

mission statement. They however, are not apposed to selling the County land further out and away from the current prime development area. Details could be worked out that would be beneficial to both parties.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously to not proceed with the sale of the requested property. However, the Commissioners are open to the discussion of alternate sites (M/S: George Sisson / Shelly Rivard Detrick).

PUBLIC/TENANT INPUT: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Karen Moore declared the meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Karen Moore, President

George Sisson, Vice President

Shelly Rivard Detrick, Secretary

ATTEST: _____

Greg Becken

2021