

MINUTES
PORT OF SIUSLAW
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, 26 May 2015, 4:00pm
Port Office at 100 Harbor Street
Lane County, Florence, OR 97439

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: Ron Caputo, Nancy Rickard, David Huntington
Attending via phone: Terry Duman
Absent: Jay Cable
Staff: Robert Forsythe, Dina McClure
Audience: Bill Evans, Del Phelps
Media: Jack Davis, Siuslaw News

Purpose: Discuss where to cut \$15K expenses in FY15-16 Budget

Commission President Caputo called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Caputo said the Port would not shut down since \$15K is only 1% of the budget. The Port will remain open for business as usual.

Caputo said Commissioner Cable had resigned effective immediately and read Cable's resignation letter (attached to these minutes).

McClure said, before the budget discussion started, she wanted to clarify two items that were mentioned by Bill Trotter at the 20 May 2015 meeting on the FY13-14 Financial Report.

- 1) McClure clarified the revenue and expense graph is correct in showing expenses higher than revenues, but are listed in the opposite order to the side of the graph.
- 2) McClure said Trotter told the Board in six years the debt would be paid down but the loan graph actually shows loans paid off in 18 years.

Caputo started the budget expense discussion. Caputo suggested the following:

- Cut \$3K from Election expense since there will be no election in FY15-16.
- Cut \$5K from Legal expense by using free legal advice from SDAO more often.
- Cut \$5K from Travel & Meeting expense by reimbursing fuel instead of mileage, and cutting out some of the travel.
- Cut \$2K from Dues & Subscriptions by not renewing Kiwanis and Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association. (Rickard disagreed with cutting any Dues & Subscriptions).
- Instead of cutting Dues & Subscriptions, cut \$1K in Miscellaneous Expense.

There was discussion about filling Cable's vacancy. Caputo said he preferred appointing someone as opposed to holding a special election. Rickard said she wanted the public to decide. Duman said it costs a lot of money to hold a special election.

McClure explained elections are held every other odd numbered year by Lane County Elections. The board decided to advertise and take applications for the vacancy.

Caputo mentioned that he would like to see Utility and Health Insurance costs go down.

Huntington asked why Advertising expense is high when we have a lot of people here. Forsythe said some advertising is important but \$1K could be cut.

Caputo said they had accomplished their discussion of where to cut \$15K and he adjourned the meeting at 4:20pm.

President

May 26, 2015

To: Ron Caputo and the Port of Siuslaw Commissioners,

It is with regret to you as a board, and to the voters that elected me that I tender my resignation, effective immediately. While some of the reason to resign may be personal, the bulk of the decision is business. As you know, we are entering the busy season of the year and I must dedicate more time to my business.

I feel that there are aspects of the Port operation that need immediate improvement, but I haven't the time or the persuasion to initiate them. We hear the words that we want to run the Port operation like a business, yet we are locked into the government mind set of raise fees or we will close with little if any regard to cost savings. From my observation, employee morale is at an all-time low, which reflects directly on productivity. While I understand that "operations" is the exclusive right of management, it is my hope that the "rubber stamp" will be used less and real guidance for improvement to the Port operation will be forthcoming.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the community as a Port Commissioner.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John D. Cable", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John D. Cable