

**MINUTES OF THE PORT OF BELLINGHAM
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025
REGULAR IN-PERSON/HYBRID MEETING**

Commissioners:

**Consent Agenda
Item # A**

Bobby Briscoe
Ken Bell
Michael Shepard

President
Vice President
Secretary

Staff:

Tiffany DeSimone
Adrienne Douglass-Scott
Alan Birdsall
Brian Gouran
Gage Dally
Elliott Smith
Holly Stafford
Jon Olson
Judy Harvey
Reilly Wynn
Tamara Sobjack
Terry Ilahi
Tracy Lewis

Interim Executive Director
Sustainability Program Manager
Strategic Project Manager
Director of Environmental & Planning Services
Airport Operations Manager
Director of Real Estate
Port Legal Counsel
Marine Terminals Manager
Senior Property Manager
Director of Human Resources
Chief Financial Officer/Auditor
Senior Property Manager
Executive Assistant

4:00 PM OPENED PUBLIC MEETING

At approximately 4:00 pm, Commissioner Bell opened the regular meeting, and announced all Commissioners were present with Commissioner Briscoe attending remotely.

READ ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULES

- Marina Advisory Committee (MAC), November 11th at 6 pm in the Harbor Center
- Bellingham International Airport Advisory Committee (BIAAC), December 18th @ 4 pm at the Airport Rescue Firefighting Station and on Zoom

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4:00 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Bell stated there are two Public Comment periods: One at 4:00 pm and another at the end of the meeting. Out of respect for everyone who attends the Commission meeting, each public comment period may be limited to 15 minutes total. Speakers are asked to keep their comments to less than 3 minutes. Please feel free to submit further comments in writing.

Commissioners heard public comments from 3 individuals. To access the recording visit [October 21st, 2025 | Port Commission Meeting](#).

During the Public Comment period, Elliott Smith and Brian Gouran acknowledged Alan Birdsall and Judy Harvey for their 40 years of service.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Motion to approve minutes from October 2, 2025 Special Meeting/Fairhaven Work Study

- B. Motion to approve minutes from October 7, 2025 Regular Meeting
- C. Motion to approve Lease Amendment #8 with the State of Alaska, Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) located in the Bellingham Cruise Terminal
- D. Motion to approve the Modification of Marine Drive Industrial Park Lease between the Port of Bellingham and Fence Brothers, LLC
- E. Motion to approve a Lease Modification with Barlean's Fishery, Inc., for property located at 2551 Roeder Avenue
- F. Motion to approve one (1) applicant for a three (3) year term for the Bellingham International Airport Advisory Committee (BIAAC)
- G. Motion to authorize the Interim Executive Director to accept or administer grants, as funds become available, from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for reimbursement of up to 100% of the costs associated with the removal and disposal of five vessels - two power boats and three sailboats, which the Port of Bellingham has assumed ownership of through the capacities of RCW 79.100
- H. Motion to approve surplus equipment to the needs of the Port of Bellingham authorizing staff to sell same following Resolution 1322-H
- I. Motion to approve to amend the 2025 budget to revise the Environmental Remediation Detail: (non-BWAS sites) table

Discussion: Clarification on C

Motion: Approve Consent Agenda Items A-I

Motion Approved 3-0 Vote

PRESENTATION

1. Tamara Sobjack gave a presentation on the Draft 2026 Budget and Quarter 3 Financials.

Discussion: Question about whether the Commission would like to increase the tax and Commission agreed to keep it at 0%. Commissioners appreciated the productive Budget Retreats in order to inform them.

Commissioner Bell would like detail to be provided for the larger 2026 projects and provide some explanation for transparency of why the Port will be issuing debt.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Motion to approve the lease for Puget Sound Energy's community solar installation on the roof of the Fisherman's Pavilion building located at 2599 S Harbor Loop Drive, Bellingham

Adrienne Douglass-Scott gave a presentation on the planned community solar installation on the roof of the Fisherman's Pavilion.

Discussion: Adrienne clarified what the community solar program is. Question whether there are more Port property roofs that have plans for solar and answer is yes, but the Fisherman's Pavilion is the only one part of the community solar program.

Motion Approved 3-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Bell called for a final public comment period. Commissioners heard two additional comments.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Commissioner Shepard asked staff to comment on the public feedback received to not play the video from U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security. Both Tiffany DeSimone and Gage Dally provided comment that there have been no requests to play the video nor does the Bellingham International Airport have the technology to play it. Bellingham International Airport has no intention of playing the video.
2. Commissioners discussed the public comment regarding the Semiahmoo Marina Condominium Association (SMCA) 2016 presentation regarding fuel discounts and the need for a fuel dock in Blaine. After discussion, ***it was decided that Commissioner Briscoe would talk to SMCA and remind them of their commitment.***
3. Commissioners discussed the need for a discussion on the Executive Director recruitment and the 1106 Delegation of Authority. It was decided that there would be a Special Meeting in November for this discussion.

COMMISSIONER BELL ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT APPROXIMATELY 5:05 PM



President/Vice President



Secretary