

**PORT OF ILWACO
MINUTES
February 2, 2026**

COMMISSION MEETING

Chairman Bennett opened the Commissioner's regular meeting at 3:00 PM. Those present were Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Glenn, Commissioner Shirley, Port Manager Hayes, Finance Director Sheldon, and Admin Assistant 1 Lambert.

- **Call to Order**

Chairman Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

- **Approval of Agenda**

Finance Director Sheldon requested an amendment to the agenda to add vouchers 21545-21560.

Commissioner Shirley entered a motion to approve the agenda as changed.

Commissioner Glenn seconded; the **motion was carried** by voice vote.

- **Approval of minutes from January 5th, 2026, Commission Meeting.**

Commissioner Glenn entered a motion to approve the minutes from the January 5th, 2026, Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Shirley seconded; the **motion was carried** by voice vote.

- **Approval of vouchers 21513 through 21544, amended vouchers 21545 through 21560, and electronic fund transfer payments in the amount of \$101,903.59.**

Commissioner Shirley entered a motion to approve vouchers 21513 through 21544, amended vouchers 21545 through 21560, and electronic fund transfer payments in the amount of \$101,903.59.

Commissioner Glenn seconded; the **motion was carried** by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

J.Cutting: I have fished out of Ilwaco for over 50 years. I no longer want to be a commercial fisherman and want to be a recreational boat. I have been waiting for a recreational (sports) slip. I was unable to go fishing this year due to a broken leg.

P.Patana: I have been here forever. I had planned a 20-minute speech out but will shorten it. The other fishermen and I are asking for an amendment to Tariff 22. We used to have faith and trust in the Port when it came to the Tariff and doing what is in our best interest. The Port broke that trust when they sent out letter in June requiring the commercial fishermen to produce a fishticket. We feel as if the Port is targeting its tenants and stakeholders. We have serious questions about trust with the Port. There were no clear timelines or criteria sent to us for the requirement of the fishtickets. There is a difference between inactive commercial vessels and the idle vessels. The inactive boats are still well-maintained that may be out of commission due to several different reasons but shouldn't be penalized for not being able to produce a fishticket.

The Port needs to take into consideration the lifecycle of a commercial fisherman and vessel. The market infrastructures matter such as a fish processor and buyer, dredging, and operational maintenance. The Port should be more concerned with dredging and other failing infrastructures such as dock maintenance. We ask that Tariff 22 be revised to include clear definitions of requirements and clear timelines for the fishticket requirement. Trust between the Port and fishermen is essential.

M.Bolland: Safe Coast Seafood and Pucci Foods are owned by the same corporation. Pucci Foods is currently going through a restructuring and will be focusing on being a food processing plant. This gives us the opportunity to focus on the Safe Coast plants. Chris feels that it is always bad publicity associated with us, but we want to show that we are focusing on our seafood plants. We are paying our bills, paying our fishermen.

T.Watterberg: I did not fish for the last two years due to no market. SafeCoast wouldn't buy fish from me, so I was unable to sell it and get a fishticket.

P.Lisac: J-Dock is under powered during the tuna tournament. There was no power when everyone was plugged in. I would also like to discuss the issue with storage on the docks and items being confiscated if left out. Would it be possible if we purchased something like this (presented pictures of baby docks to the commission board) that we could attached to the finger for storage of crab pots and such. The smaller docks could be tied to the dock, that way we are no longer stressing the docks themselves.

T.Hayes: We are currently unable to change any docks to add length to the slip due to the fish shading and eel grass. With the current permit we have for the maintenance of the docks we are only allowed to fix the existing structure.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Fishticket Requirements**

The first notices were sent out in June of 2025. The second notice was sent out in October of 2025. The final notice was sent out in January 2026. All commercial fishing vessels that sell fish whether it be to a fish processor or off their boat are required to report their sales with the Department of Fish and Wildlife. It is through the Department of Fish and Wildlife that commercial fishermen receive their fishticket.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Resolution 26-1042 Credit Card Authorization**

Commissioner Shirley entered a motion to approve Resolution 26-1042 credit card authorization.

Commissioner Glenn seconded; the **motion was carried** by voice vote.

- **Resolution 26-1043 Authorized Signers for Banking Purposes**

Commissioner Glenn entered a motion to approve Resolution 24-1043 authorized signers for banking purposes.

Commissioner Shirley seconded; the **motion was carried** by voice vote.

- **Resolution 26-1044 Adopting A Charge Account Policy**

Commissioner Shirley entered a motion to approve Resolution 26-1044 adopting a charge account policy.

Commissioner Glenn seconded; the **motion was carried** by voice vote.

OPERATIONS REPORTS

Manager Report: The maintenance permit is in. We are asking for a variance to be able to continue work through March 31st, 2026. The above water works permit is good throughout the whole year. If there is an emergency repair needed after the in water work after the window we ask for permission before we do any repairs. We have begun doing board replacements and cleat repairs. The small hoist is fixed. Three of the derelict boats that we seized have been torn down. We have approximately three in the water that we will need to haul out. We will be releasing annual moorages this month. We have had work done on both travel lifts. I spoke with Cantwell about the dredging issues and the need for dredging in the channel. Working with the southwest Motorcycle safety group to do testing at the boat launch during the off season. Grays Harbor Community College is open during small business, and other work-trade classes. We have hired a new operations manager, Joe Wright. I have been working with Commissioner Glenn to make a one-page financial to go out monthly during the meeting.

Finance Report: November Financials

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner Glenn: I will be going to Washington DC this year and will be petitioning for the maintenance of the channel and be able to get the channel dredged. The pile dike dredging project will really help the Port once it is complete. It is in the final stages to be completed this year. The city of Ilwaco is working on its comprehensive plan. Part of the focus for the city's comprehensive plan is affordable housing for the city of Ilwaco. We need to support Safe Coast as much as we can. Do we have a plan to clean up the planters?

T.Hayes: Yes, we are replacing the current plants with creeping thyme.

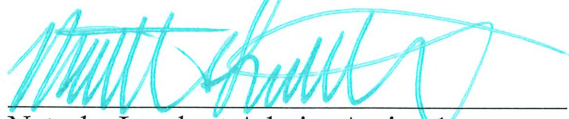
Commissioner Shirley: Dredging. It would make a huge difference to get the dredging done. We need the dredging done and anyone who can help with that. We are collecting letters from anyone in support of getting the channel dredged. We want you involved; we want to hear

from you, not after there is a problem. Please show up. If you aren't at the dinner table, you are on the menu. We must be consistent. Please be involved in our community not just when there is a problem. Hold us accountable. We want to be transparent in our operations. Give us the feedback you need for us to improve the Port.

Commissioner Bennett: Let's give a big shout out to our fishermen. They are working hard and risking their lives. Thank you for all the hard work you all do.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:19 PM by **Chairman Bennett**.

Minutes submitted by Natasha Lambert for approval on February 17th, 2026.



Natasha Lambert Admin. Assist. 1

Commissioners:



Alan Bennett, Chairman



Mike Shirley



Guy Glenn