



**Port of Brownsville**  
Minutes of Study Session Meeting  
8 December 2010

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Jack Bailey called the Study Session to order at 6:12 PM. In attendance were Commissioner Bob Kalmbach, Commissioner Allen Miller, and Port Manager Jerry Rowland.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made to approve agenda as written. Motion seconded and approved unanimously.

## **SECURITY**

Port Manager, Jerry Rowland, announced the Port had received notification from Blue Knight on 22 November 2010, that they were canceling the security contract with the Port as of January 1, 2011. He reported that he had a meeting with Robert McPherson from Pierce County Security/Pacific Coast Security Company on 3 December 2010. This company had agreed to buy out the contract and honor the existing contract price until the end of March 2011. The options for the Port at this time to continue to have a security guard are to hire this company or another company or to hire the guards as Port employees. Jerry reviewed the job description of the security guard, full time and part time. One employee would be a full time employee and one would be part time. Jerry provided the commissioners with the costs to the Port of hiring these people as well as a job description for a Port security guard. At this time there would be a saving for the Port by hiring the personnel as Port employees.

Bob Kalmbach asked if the existing employees would be interested in being hired by the Port. Jerry Rowland replied the full time employee is interested but he has not talked to the part time employee yet. Bob asked if the pay scale would be similar to the other Port employees. Jerry said that a security guard pay scale is different than a Port maintenance person. He would use the hourly rate now being paid and this pay scale would be used for at least the next 3 years. Bob Kalmbach asked if a budget modification would be necessary and Jerry Rowland said it might and that he would look into that.

Allen Miller asked if the part time employee was in favor of working for the Port. Jerry Rowland repeated that he had not talked to the part time employee yet but if this person was not interested he knew of other people who would be interested in the part time position.

Ned Cook asked if there was a qualification or certification required for security guards and if in the future this would have to be part of hiring a new person. Jerry Rowland stated if this person is a Port employee he/she only has to fulfill the job description duties. He said he would look into any specific training a security guard may be required to have and put that in the job description.

Allen Miller asked about the health benefits that were offered to Port employees and whether the new guard positions would be entitled to these benefits. Jerry Rowland replied that the existing full time employee would not opt for any health benefits as he is in a retired military health program. If the part time employee wants the health benefit plan, they have to pay for it, according to the RCW's.

Bob Kalmbach stated he was in favor of hiring the security guards as Port employees at this time. Jack Bailey was also in favor of it at this time. He felt the Port would have more control of what a security

guard does at the Port. He felt it was worth trying. Allen Miller suggested the Port Manager interview the full time and part time employee but to go ahead with hiring them as Port employees.

Bob Kalmbach suggested a cell phone for the guard be purchased on a pay as you go plan, not a contract.

Robert McPherson from Pierce County Security/Pacific Coast Security Company was in attendance and announced that he would be willing to negotiate security services with the Port at any time.

**CLOSE MEETING / ADJOURN**

Motion made to adjourn. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 6:44 PM.

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President/Commissioner

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Secretary/Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Recording Secretary