

## League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

**Name of Agency:** Port of Whitman County

**Date:** 04/16/20

**Observer Reporting:** Carolyn Joswig-Jones

**Length of Meeting:** 33”

**Members Present/Absent:** **Teleconference Meeting**

Commissioners: John E. Love (District 1)  
Kristine Meyer (District 2)  
Tom Kammerzell (District 3)

### Staff:

Joe Poire - Executive Director  
Kara Riebold - Chief Operating Officer  
Debbie Snell - Properties & Development Manager

Brenda Stav - Finance Director  
Sarah Highfield - Communications Director  
~~Matthew Johnson - Port Attorney ?~~

### Others Present (i.e., media, public):

Kimberly Thompson – LWV Observer backup  
Victoria Fowler (Gazette)

Below, cut and pasted, are segments of the Agenda and supportive materials supplied by the Port in **Black**. My additional comments are in **Red**. Potential areas of interest to LWV are in **Green**. To view FULL **Meeting Agenda, Minutes and all supportive materials** follow this link: <http://www.portwhitman.com/about/commissionmeeting>  
**Port meeting calendar:** [http://www.portwhitman.com/pdf/Port\\_Calendar\\_2020.01.01-2020.06.30\\_Revised.pdf](http://www.portwhitman.com/pdf/Port_Calendar_2020.01.01-2020.06.30_Revised.pdf)

### Port Notice as to how they are handling meetings:

The Governor’s Proclamation 20-28 dictates that while the public must continue to be permitted to attend public meetings, they can attend only remotely (not in-person).  
The **meeting will be held by teleconference**. Please call 1 (605) 313-4415 and enter the access code 623969. Members of the public will be “muted” during the meeting except during public comment periods.  
**Port is considering the use of Zoom.**

### Commissioner and Staff Updates:

Lease agreement for early occupancy (6-month lease) was granted to **Veterinary Medical Research & Development (VMRD) for Henley Court Port owned property**. VMRD is doing **Covid 19 pandemic research** and needed to occupy the space earlier than anticipated.

### Old Business:

**Snake River Family Festival cancelled** and not postponed. Set the date for the 2021 festival – May 22, 2021. Boyer Park is still leasing camp sites via internet but restaurant is not open.

**Strategic Planning Meeting to be postponed** until sometime in May due to lack of discussion during teleconferencing not having face-to-face contact. May use Zoom if meeting in person is still not allowed.

### New Business:

Regional Economic Development - **SEWEDA update**

Port is asking Southeast Washington Economic Development Association how they can be of help to businesses during these times. SEWEDA has set up a relief program of **\$70,000 to give to small businesses** up

to \$1,000 each. Pullman Chamber is involved. Port will help SEWDA by keep abreast of changing information about programs available to pass on if inquiries come to them.

**Business pertaining to League Positions or topics of interest:**

- Veterinary Medical Research & Development leasing space on Port property.
- Snake River Family Festival cancelled.
- Boyer Park campground still open, restaurant closed.
- Southeast Washington Economic Development Association has money available to help small businesses.

**Public Meetings of interest to League:**

- Strategic Planning Meeting, ~~Wed., Apr. 29~~, 10 a.m., Henley Court, Pullman -Sometime in May
- CANCELLED - WPPA Spring Meeting, May 6-8, Skamania, WA
- CANCELLED -Snake River Family Festival, Boyer Park, Saturday, May 30, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- PNWA Summer Conference, June 23-25, Davenport Hotel, Spokane, WA

**Process & Protocol: (Observations about participants and procedures of the meeting)**

Meeting was efficient and short with little discussion.