

State Auditor Data Breach

Close-out letter from Washington State Auditor's Office (SAO) – no personal information was breached.

Contract for Fiber extension

A motion was approved to award Skyview Construction to carry out the fiber extension project.

Boyer Dock Rehab Contract

Final evaluation for dock rehab was carried out.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pullman Depot Heritage Center

Debbie Sherman presented background for the Pullman Depot Heritage Center, a project of the Whitman County Historical Society, and they are asking for a **\$50,000 grant** from the Port. Commission is in support of this project which would fall under **tourism and economic development** and Port staff will prepare for adding it to the Port's budget. Interesting documents, information and a master plan about this project can be found in the Port's agenda and supportive documents using the link above.

Industrial Development Districts

Frank Chmelik, Port counsel, gave a "Brief Overview of two separate, but related actions: Forming **Industrial Development District** and **Adopting an Industrial Development Tax Levy**"

Takeaways:

- Complicated statutes that need further study and planning before implementation
- Powerful tool for development
- Taxing decision is made on a yearly basis and within Commission discretion
- Consider linking any tax to a specific project" (with public support)

See the slides for this presentation in the Port's agenda and supportive materials using the link above.

Whitman County Redistricting

"Frank Chmelik wrote a column for WPPA in March of 2021 regarding redistricting **based upon data from the 2020 census**. The Port utilizes the same district boundaries as the County Commission and Port staff does not anticipate much change in the rural districts. However, the **district boundaries in Pullman may be impacted** due to multiple subdivisions being built since the last census."

Mr Chmelik's column can be seen in full in the Port's agenda and supportive materials using the link above.

2020 Annual Financial Report

"Annual Reports are to be certified and filed with the State Auditor's Office (SAO) within 150 days (May 30, 2021) after the close of each fiscal year. The preliminary report for fiscal year 2020 will be provided at the Commission meeting. After the report is filed, an audit will be scheduled with the SAO."

Public Works Trust Fund Board Application

"With the passage of Senate Bill 5511 in 2019, the Public Works Board (PWB) received **funding for broadband infrastructure**, which ports may apply for." Director Poire has been asked to be a PWB board member which is a Governor-appointed position. This would give the Port ability to have a positive influence in the PWB. Director Poire will only be working for the Port for 17 months before he retires from this position, and the appointment would be for 4 years. The appointment is independent from working for the Port.

Upcoming Meetings

- Washington Public Ports Association 2021 Spring Meeting, May 19-21 via Zoom
- Pacific Northwest Waterways Association 2021 Summer Conference, June 22-24