

Zimbra

bsteve@actionnet.net

Port Meeting - Unable to attend.. my comments

From : Patricia Patrick-Joling <patricia@drellc.us> Tue, Jun 27, 2017 08:58 AM
Subject : Port Meeting - Unable to attend.. my comments
To : steve beck <bsteve@actionnet.net>

Hello Steve - I wish I would be there today, but my Uncle's surgery got delayed trying to stabilize his blood pressure, hopefully today we get a green light.

I've prepared a statement if this issue should come to a vote I would like for you to read at the meeting. I know that my absense is not counted as a vote, but I would like the commission to know what I think and where I'm coming from.

It's always been about the numbers and the constant changing of numbers has left me with serious doubt. The Port has a serious amount of debt and I know that sometimes you need to take a risk, but that risk in my viewpoint has to be balanced so that it is beneficial to not only the Port but our users as well.

As you know I have requested on several occasions to discuss this matter in executive session and/or get an independent review by someone in Financial/Legal world and my requests have been denied. How do you make a decision of this magnitude without the proper due dilligence? We owe our constituents that.

You can read the comment below at the meeting:

Port of Newport Port Commissioners

I regret I am unable to be at the June 27, 2017 Port of Newport Commissions meetings. I have prepared a statement to ensure my views are presented and placed on the record.

I want to make it clear my entire focus is to ensure the Port of Newport is successful. I have spent considerable time reviewing the current proposal, asking numerous questions to clarify issues and consulting with many people. The result is I am seriously concerned the proposed actions on use of land owned by the Port at the International Terminal as currently drafted will not be in the best interests of the Port.

These concerns are based on a series of issues to include:

1. Incomplete and inconsistent financial information on the proposal
2. A failure to address adverse impacts on the local and distant fishing fleets

3. Statements made to the press which are not supported by submitted budget documents
4. The apparent desire for a rapid decision when the proposal appears to be in flux
5. Inconsistencies between the proposal and the Tiger Grant

Every time the financial aspects of the log export proposal have been provided to the Commissioner the numbers change. For many meetings the basis of the financial was on 10 shipments a year. Now it appears 5 to 6 is a more realistic number. This change has a dramatically impact on the length of time to pay off the loan and the length of time the International Terminal will run a deficit.

All past studies as well as the Tiger Grant focus on ensuring the Fishing fleet is supported. However, even now there is no plan provided to the Commission to ensure the fleet is protected.

The press was told the Port would run a \$400,000 net profit. Yet, the current proposed budget indicates there will be a LOSS in the coming year. This inconsistency puts the credibility of the Port in jeopardy and is also contrary to the information provided to the commission until this latest submission.

There is an apparent rush to a decision which is inconsistent with good management and the trust placed on the commissioners by the citizens. Until details are better understood and major issues resolved, it appears to be a misfeasance in a public office to go forward at this time.

The Tiger Grant application stated the funds would support multiple economic activities. The exclusive use of the area funded by the Tiger Grant appears to be in contradiction of the Tiger Grant.

In Summary, I cannot support any decision on use of the International Terminal until these issues have been addressed and resolved.

Sincerely Patricia Patrick-Joling
