

PORT OF BREMERTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

MINUTES

October 14, 2025

10:00 AM

Bill Mahan Conference Room
Port Administration Offices
Bremerton Nat'l Airport Terminal Bldg
8850 SW State Hwy 3, Bremerton
Remote Option via Zoom

Commissioners and Staff Present

Commissioners

Gary Anderson
Cary Bozeman
Axel Strakeljahn

Staff Members

Jim Rothlin
Arne Bakker
Aaron Schielke
James Goodman
Kathy Garcia
Cole Barnes
Ginger Waye
Stephanie Frame
Jim Ryan, Atty

Call to Order

President Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

It was moved by BOZEMAN, seconded by STRAKELJAHN to:

Approve the Agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIES, 3-0

Consent Items

- A. Minutes of the regular business meeting of September 23, 2025.
- B. Payment of checks #903014 through #903019 and #903020 through #903021 and #903022 through #903025 and #87118 through #87129 and #E02894 through #E02899 and #903026 through #903029 and #903030 through #903031 and #87130 through #87147 and #E02900 through #E02913 and #903032 and #903033 through #903034 and #903035 through #903036 and #87148 through #87153 and #E02914 through #E02924 and #903037 and #903038 through #903041 and #903042 through #903051 from the General Fund for \$522,548.04.

It was moved by STRAKELJAHN, seconded by BOZEMAN to:

Approve the Consent Items as presented.

MOTION CARRIES, 3-0

Information Items

1. Tug Dominion Update – David Prater, Washington State Department of Ecology Liaison
CEO Rothlin introduced David Prater, Department of Ecology (DOE) Liaison Officer. Mr. Prater acknowledged the virtual presence of Nora Haider from DOE and LCDR Sean DiGeorge of the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). Mr. Prater provided detail on the Tug Dominion which sank at Bremerton Marina on September 17, 2025, and presented a timeline of the response actions since the sinking which included two unsuccessful attempts to lift the tug. The response is now transitioning to a maintenance phase while the Unified Command approves next steps. In response to a question regarding damage to the breakwater, Kathy Garcia, Marina Operations Manager, explained there is no current damage but due to the new position of the Tug, some strain has been noticed. The Port is working closely with our engineers and a naval architect to confirm the structural integrity of the breakwater.

Mr. Prater discussed the containment and cleanup actions along with wildlife assessment and recovery. He also detailed the local impacts to marina tenants, public access to marina being restricted, cruise ship docking, and marina traffic being restricted. He noted that a claims line has been established via the USCG National Pollution Fund.

Mr. Prater listed the four potential paths forward of 1) destruction in place; 2) destruction under Washington Department of Natural Resources (WA DNR); USCG removal of vessel via marine debris authority; and bringing in a larger crane.

LCDR DiGeorge discussed in detail the four options and potential drawbacks. He responded to questions and comments from the Board and provided closing comments.

Mr. Prater and Ms. Garcia responded to questions and comments from the Board.

2. Sunny Jack Events, LLC Report – Sunny Saunders, Founder

Ms. Garcia spoke to Ms. Saunders' cooperation and partnership through the Dominion situation as she had to cancel her final Friday Night Market at a cost of over \$3,500.

Ms. Saunders provided a 2025 event recap, highlights, vendor stats, and tourism analytics on Bremerton Bridge Blast; Bremerton Night Market; Taste of Kitsap; and Bremerton Blackberry Festival. She described Sunny Jack's partnership with the Port noting that all these waterfront events greatly increased overnight guest boater stays at Bremerton Marina with 300+ visiting boats during Bridge Blast. Erica Filler, Marketing & Communications Manager, described how the Port markets these events.

Ms. Saunders provided detail on her newly created non-profit, Elevate Events, and how Sunny Jack Events will partner with Elevate. She discussed the potential for a new 2026 waterfront event, Discover Bremerton, June 20-21, that will coincide with the FIFA World Cup timing.

The Board expressed their appreciation for all her hard work stating her efforts make a huge impact on downtown Bremerton.

Public Comment - None

Action Items

1. Bid Award to Randal Ponce dba PECC for the Bremerton National Airport (BNA) Maintenance Shop & Vehicle Wash Oil-Water Separator Project.

Presented by Cole Barnes, Airport Manager

Following presentation and after questions were addressed:

It was moved by BOZEMAN, seconded by STRAKELJAHN to:

Award the bid and authorize the CEO to execute a contract with Randal Ponce dba PECC for the Bremerton National Airport Maintenance Shop & Vehicle Wash Oil-Water Separator Project.

MOTION CARRIES, 3-0

2. Resolution 2025-06 Declaring an Emergency under RCW 39.04.280 for the sinking of the Tug Dominion within the Bremerton Marina.

Presented by Jim Rothlin, Chief Executive Officer

Following presentation and after questions were addressed:

It was moved by STRAKELJAHN, seconded by BOZEMAN to:

Approve Resolution 2025-06 declaring an emergency (the sinking of the Tug Dominion) under RCW 39.04.280 and waiving competitive bidding requirements.

MOTION CARRIES, 3-0

Staff Reports

Jim Rothlin, Chief Executive Officer reported on:

- Employee Milestones:
 - Brian Robinson, Port Maintenance III, reaching his 36th anniversary with the Port.
 - Ellen Ataie, Contract Administrator, arriving at her 3rd anniversary with the Port.
- American Cruise Lines back at Bremerton Marina after missing a couple of weekends due to the Tug Dominion sinking.
- Two recent presentations to the Navy League of the United States (NLUS) Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council and the Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council Board at their annual retreat.
- The last few weeks which have been busy with the Tug Dominion sinking; airport feasibility study, presentations, and hiring personnel.
- Taking vacation for one week starting tomorrow.

- Thanked Kathy Garcia for her dedication and willingness to be the Port's representative for the Dominion situation.

Commission Reports / New Business

Commissioner Bozeman

- Discussed the complex situation with Tug Dominion and reiterated appreciation for Kathy and the Unified Command for their assistance in trying to solve this issue. Thanked Mr. Rothlin for providing Ms. Garcia with the necessary tools.

Commissioner Strakeljahn reported on:

- Recent tour of SeaTac airport with its ongoing \$5B reconstruction efforts noting it is all being done at one time to be prepared for the 2026 FIFA World Cup.
- Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Executive Board meeting and Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC) Board annual retreat.
- The support letter he wrote to 35th District legislators for Holly Community Club's request for state capital funds to assist in the rebuilding of their community center that was destroyed by fire in 2022.

Commissioner Anderson

- Reported on the recent Port Orchard Economic Development & Tourism Committee meeting during which there was full discussion on the impacts of the upcoming 2026 FIFA World Cup.

Executive Session - None

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Submitted,



Jim Rothlin
Chief Executive Officer
October 23, 2025

Approved,



Axel Strakeljahn
Commission Secretary
October 28, 2025