

PORT OF THE DALLES COMMISSION  
Regular Session Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 5:30 p.m.  
Port Administrative Office  
3636 Klindt Drive, The Dalles, Oregon

CALL TO ORDER The Regular Session Meeting of the Port Commissioners was called to order by Commission President Coburn at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL Executive Assistant Toepke

- COMMISSION Staci Coburn, President; Greg Weast, Vice-President; Jill Amery, Treasurer; John Willer, Secretary; Ed DeVlaeminck, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
- STAFF Andrea Klaas, Executive Director; Jennifer Toepke, Executive Assistant/Bookkeeper, Ashley Byers, Office Assistant
- LEGAL Bill Dick, Attorney, Dick, Dick & Corey, LLP
- GUESTS Rich Mays, Mayor, City of The Dalles; Dave Anderson, Retired Public Works Director, City of The Dalles; Natasha White, Columbia Gorge Documenters; Jinlu Yuan, Columbia Gorge Documenters

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Commission Secretary Willer

AGENDA CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS None

PUBLIC COMMENT OR QUESTION None

COMMUNITY PARTNER PRESENTATION

1. City of The Dalles Rich Mays, Mayor & Dave Anderson, Retired Public Works Director Gave a detailed presentation about H.R. 655 The Dalles Watershed Development Act, including historical dates and facts for relative reference. Some notables include:
  - Planning for future expansion of Crow Creek Reservoir has been part of City of The Dalles' long range water planning for decades. In 1996 City of The Dalles approached the U.S. Forest Service about acquiring land needed for the possible future expansion of Crow Creek Reservoir. In 1999 the City received State water rights to support a future reservoir expansion. In 2006 the City's Water Master Plan confirmed the need to expand Crow Creek Reservoir. Finally, in 2024, the updated Water System Master Plan continued planning for expansion with estimated construction to occur around 2050.
  - H.R. 655 would transfer roughly 150 acres of U.S. Forest Service land to City of The Dalles for municipal watershed purposes. This transfer would make the parcels around the reservoir under City of The Dalles ownership for municipal purposes which would simplify watershed management – this Act is about land, not water. This Bill does not add or modify existing City of The Dalles water rights, it simply transfers land ownership.
  - The watershed supplies approximately 70-80% of The Dalles' municipal water. The City operates a single municipal water system that serves the entire community, and future water supply improvements will support the whole system, not an individual business or industry - the reservoir expansion concept predates the existence of data centers in The Dalles. Additionally, the Act would address climate change impacts such as reduced snowpack and improve wildfire resilience.

CONSENT ITEMS Motion to approve Consent Items as presented: M/G. Weast, S/J. Willer, Motion passed unanimously. Voted Yes: S. Coburn, G. Weast, J. Amery, J. Willer, E. DeVlaeminck; Voted No: None; Abstained: None

1. February 18, 2026, Regular Session Meeting Minutes Executive Assistant Toepke

ACTION ITEMS None

REPORTS

1. Director’s Report Executive Director Klaas *Stands as included in meeting packet, plus Executive Director Klaas added: 1) Still waiting to hear from the contracting department of AKS Engineering concerning the River Road Property Project, 2) Bellingham Marine has also been finalized and Port Staff are waiting to receive their work schedule, and 3) POTD Annual Moorage Concessionaire Angie Macnab has agreed to an extension of the current concession agreement for one year pending the result of the Facility Condition Assessment Report to be finished later this spring.*
2. Financial Report: February 2026 Bookkeeper Toepke *Stands as included in meeting packet, plus Bookkeeper Toepke made a correction that the deposit noted as FIB Treasury, was from the IRS. Executive Director Klaas added the Port received a letter of thanks from PERS because Bookkeeper Toepke received the Gold Star for submitting 100% of reports on time in 2025.*
3. The Dalles Community Outreach Team Executive Director Klaas *Stands as included in meeting packet, plus Executive Director Klaas mentioned that the team are preparing to travel to Washington, D.C.; a draft of issues is included in the packet; and finally, National League of Cities is holding their conference during the same week – so meeting with them has yet to be scheduled.*
4. Columbia Gateway Urban Renewal Agency Board Commissioner Amery *No report.*
5. Wasco County Economic Development Commission Executive Assistant Toepke *No report.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION *None*

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS *Stands as included in meeting packet, plus Executive Assistant Toepke highlighted that April’s meeting would take place in Dufur and start a little earlier at 5:00 p.m.*

COMMISSION CALL

- *Commissioner Amery mentioned that Urban Renewal will be holding a work session to discuss relevant future projects and is wondering if there would be interest in agencies getting together to share the projects they are working on – to see if any align. Both Commission President Coburn and Executive Director Klaas expressed their interest for POTD to participate.*

ADJOURN *There being no further business to come before the Port Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.*

PORT OF THE DALLES:

Staci Coburn, President  
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

John Willer, Secretary  
Board of Commissioners

DATE APPROVED: April 8, 2026  
Prepared by: Executive Assistant Toepke