

PORT OF OSWEGO AUTHORITY
Regular Monthly Meeting
Monday, February 24, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Cosemento called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 PM.

PRESENT: Constance Cosemento - Vice Chairperson, Stan Delia, Dr. John Kares Smith, Kathleen Macey, Diane Zeller, and Thomas Schneider - Interim Executive Director.

ALSO PRESENT: Pat McMahon - Supervisor of Development & Maintenance, Kim Natoli - Port Employee, and Debbie Godden - Accounting Manager.

PRESENT ON ZOOM: Francis Enwright - Chairperson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion 02-24-2501:

A motion was made by Mr. Delia to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2025 regular monthly meeting at 4:31 PM. Motion was seconded by Ms. Zeller. Motion passed. 5-Aye, 0-Nay, 1-Abstain.

ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONAL REPORT

Mr. Schneider, Interim Executive Director, presented the Administrative Operational Report to the Board and addressed any questions or comments at 4:31 PM.

Report Topics:

Monthly operations update – January 2025

Update on projects:

- Operations Monthly Report – included; this report originates from the Port’s Scale’s Office, that shows the volume of trucks, railcars, and vessels within any given month; comparing it to the prior year there is about double coming in and 2/3 of the amount of last year going out. The Port’s three (3) commodities are:
 - ✓ **potash** – which is going out by truck load
 - ✓ **grain** – was still coming in in January from farmers, from their silos as they sold to the Port’s customer, filling the silo and the Port is loading it out on railcars
 - ✓ **aluminum** – the various commodity brokers who ship aluminum to the Port and then ship to the local aluminum plant
- Weather Conditions – the current weather conditions are causing slower operations for ILA members, overtime in snow removal, clearing and de-icing the railroad tracks and switches, and silo issues. Adverse weather conditions are challenging to the business model and will show in the financial statements in January and February, however, are not a long-term concern.
- Still Watch Vessel – abandoned vessel still sits at the Port’s dock. The United States Coast Guard (USCG) from Alexandria Bay did respond but did not board the vessel. They did note that the vessel is a potential environmental hazard; the USCG will follow up with the Port. The Port was going to inquire with local law enforcement, however due to the past two weeks of winter weather, that was not done. Unfortunately, from the USCG’s perspective, they are looking at this as a private, pleasure vessel and it is

moored in our marina and therefore it is a private business. The Port will have to seek an insurance provider that has salvage provisions for abandoned vessels.

- Aluminum – ingots that are coming into the Port that cannot go directly to the local manufacturing plant end up being rerouted to the Port; these are the larger ingots/slabs. Also, the Port was informed that we would be receiving the ingots by rail from Kentucky. There has been a lot of activity in the handling and storage of aluminum. The Port is receiving more requests to sort by alloy and size which creates added complexity to the storage and will need to be reflected in the pricing and contracts.
- Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP)/Maritime Administration (MARAD) – The PIDP is a discretionary grant program administered by the Maritime Administration. There was an initial meeting the week prior for the warehouse modernization project.
- H. Lee White Marine Museum – continues their efforts on the LT-5, they are attempting to get grants and reconfigure grants. They are looking for a dry-dock solution locally for the vessel.
- Meetings – Operation Oswego County, Oswego City Department of Public Works, New York State Parks & Canal System, CenterState CEO; there was a cooperative, neighbor-type meeting with Fort Ontario State Historic Site. Pat McMahan has been participating in all the meetings.

DISCUSSIONS ON TOPICS FROM ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONAL REPORT

Mr. McMahan explained the challenges of the weather on the silo operations. When temperatures get colder, components are freezing at the top of the silo. Several components of the silo are operated by air actuators. There is an air compressor on the lower portion that sends all the air to the actuators; once the computer of the silo begins, if a component is frozen, it will not proceed to each step. The system will not function properly. The frozen component must then be found and thawed out. Ms. Zeller and Mr. Delia inquired if there was some type of heat system that could be installed. Mr. Schneider stated that weather conditions should be contemplated for future discussions of contracts, pricing, and operations of the Agricultural Center.

Dr. Kares Smith inquired more about the USCG visit to the Port. Mr. Schneider stated that we wanted their recommendations on the Still Watch vessel, and that they did respond because of the environmental and navigational hazards along the Oswego River and the New York State canal system. The Port will follow-up with USCG.

Mr. Delia inquired about if the Marine Museum receiving grant funds is contingent on defueling the LT-5. Mr. Schneider stated that it would be part of the award of the grant to defuel the vessel; he would like the transfer of title sooner rather than later and working cooperatively with the Museum would be in the best interest.

Mr. McMahan described a situation where the Port assisted the Oswego City DPW with securing a light pole on the East Seneca Street bridge for safety reasons. Also, the City inquired about using the Fitzgibbons site as a disposal site for the excess snow in the city. Mrs. Cosemento inquired if the area for the excess snowfall was on the lay-down area at Fitzgibbons and Mr. McMahan stated it was on the concrete area because it would be safer for the trucks to come in on the concrete. Mr. Schneider explained that this was about reestablishing good relationships and being good neighbors, and working towards positive responses.

ADMINISTRATIVE FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion 02-24-2502: A motion was made by Ms. Zeller to accept January's financial reports as presented at 5:17 PM. Motion seconded by Ms. Macey. Motion passed. 5-Aye, 0-Nay, 1-Abstain.

Primary Financial Reports

- Cash Position
- Balance Sheet
- Profit & Loss Statement
- Marina Profit & Loss Statement

Subsidiary Financial Reports

- Monthly Bills
- Accounts Payable
- Accounts Receivable
- Grants Receivable Summary
- Loan Summary
- Schedule of Assets
- Sales Report

Mr. Delia reviewed the cash position, balance, and profit/loss statements ending 01/31/2025; cash position is above cash position of one month ago, the balance sheet total is above one year ago, total current assets continue to outweigh total current liabilities. Profit/Loss statement, the gross profit year-to-date is slightly below the previous year. Mr. Delia reiterated that the Port needs to be working at a profit; the Mission Statement is that the Port wants to assist commerce throughout Oswego County and central New York. Mr. Schneider stated that the Port needs to have net income being rolled into retained earnings so that the Port may reinvest in itself to continue to maintain operation and efficiency.

Ms. Zeller inquired about the impact of price adjustments as well as potential tariffs placed on goods. Mr. Schneider explained that curves of supply and demand meet at a certain price point and that is what needs to be assessed. Tariffs will be universal and that should not impact competitiveness, however it could impact the Port because of the amount of aluminum manufactured in Canada.

Chairman's Report: Mr. Enwright (on Zoom) commented on the severe winter weather conditions, is aware of the additional burden and expenses that go with the cost in moving aluminum, and the coordination that is needed in order to complete it efficiently. He is also aware of the issues with the freeze-ups on the silo. Issues like adverse weather conditions will need to be taken into consideration on how to make operations more efficient (i.e. accepting grain in the winter months).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: No meeting, no report per Mrs. Cosemento.

Audit and Finance Committee: No meeting, no report per Mr. Delia.

Governance Committee: No meeting, no report per Dr. Kares Smith.

Planning and Development Committee: No meeting, no report per Ms. Macey.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion 02-24-2503:

A motion was made by Ms. Zeller to enter into Executive Session for discussion of contracts, grants, and Board continuity at 5:25 PM. Motion was seconded by Dr. Kares Smith. Motion passed. 5-Aye, 0-Nay, 1-Abstain.

Motion 02-24-2504:

A motion was made by Ms. Zeller to resume the regular monthly meeting at 5:59 PM. Motion was seconded by Ms. Macey. Motion passed. 5-Aye, 0-Nay, 1-Abstain.

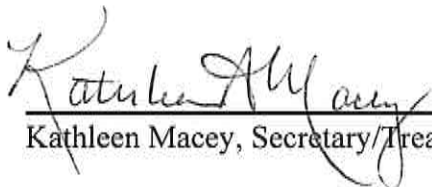
Motion 02-24-2505:

A motion was made by Ms. Zeller to grant the Oswego Yacht Club one (1) slip in the Goble Marina for the 2025 boating season to support their educational program, "Try Sailing" at 6:00 PM. Motion was seconded by Mr. Delia. Motion passed. 5-Aye, 0-Nay, 1-Abstain.

Mr. Enwright disclosed that he is a member of the Oswego Yacht Club.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion 02-24-2506: A motion was made by Dr. Kares Smith to adjourn the regular monthly meeting at 6:00 PM. Motion seconded by Ms. Zeller. Motion passed. 5-Aye, 0-Nay, 1-Abstain.


Kathleen Macey, Secretary/Treasurer


Constance Cosemento, Vice-Chairperson