

# NEWS RELEASE

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PORT OF CHELAN COUNTY  
Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, June 4, 2008

June 4<sup>th</sup> Port of Chelan County Regular Commission Meeting Highlights:

## **Cashmere Mill Site Projects**

Property Director Dayle Rushing reported that initial steps are being taken to limit access to the property recently purchased from Cedarbrook Lumber. This is necessary to prevent trespassing and damage to the property such as illegal dumping. Port staff has been working with RH2 engineers to develop a schedule for debris removal, stream buffer enhancement, demolition of a few small outbuildings, and street-side landscaping. This work is expected to begin in July 2008 and continue as additional improvements are identified. Engineering work related to the removal of wood waste and future site development is ongoing.

## **Pangborn Memorial Airport**

### *Snyder Property Transaction Update*

Airport Legal Counsel Pete Fraley reported that significant progress is being made on the acquisition of 17 acres located immediately across Grant Road from the airport. This property is owned by C and O nursery and is needed by the Airport for its clear zone. The cost of this acquisition has not been precisely determined and 95% of it will be paid for by the FAA. The Ports of Chelan and Douglas Counties will further consider this acquisition at a special joint meeting to be held on Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM.

### *Miscellaneous Updates*

Airport Manager Pat Moore reported she is working with the Transportation Security Administration and Horizon Airlines to prepare for the Q400 aircraft which will begin serving Wenatchee area passengers on August 25<sup>th</sup>. The TSA will require certain modifications to the terminal and to certain operating procedures because as a significantly larger aircraft, the Q400 is in a higher classification for security requirements.

Moore also reported the security fence bids will be due Friday and will be considered at the previously mentioned special joint session of the Chelan and Douglas County Port Commissions.

## **Economic Development Projects**

Ron Johnston Rodriguez informed commissioners that he continues to communicate with a company that has developed plug-and-play modules and control systems for lithium batteries that will be integrated into vehicles. The company will evaluate the potential of five possible vehicle platforms for real-world testing of its technologies in the Wenatchee area. The firm's COO attended the Power-Up Summit held in Wenatchee this past May and is planning to visit the area in June. It is likely the visit will also include the Chief Technology Officer for a consortium of five large electric utilities in China – also looking for strategic partnerships.

### **Confluence Technology Center**

*Kiosk Project* – Commissioners approved the Kiosk Agreement Amendment that clarified the allocation of expenses between the participating entities. Information kiosks will be located at the CTC, Pangborn Memorial Airport, Rocky Reach Dam and the Wenatchee Convention Center.

*Videoconference Technology* - CTC Manager Laura Jaecks described ever-increasing opportunities to apply the CTC's videoconference technology. A recent AVI consortium meeting was held in Chelan, demonstrating the system and how it can be utilized in other areas of the county where compatible technology is in place.

### **Update Leavenworth Train Station**

Leavenworth Mayor Rob Eaton briefly updated the Commission on progress being made toward the Icicle Station Amtrak stop in Leavenworth. Eaton acknowledged the Port for its leadership in the project. He also acknowledged the unprecedented relationship that has been built with BNSF Railroad and Amtrak.

The site has been changed back to the existing BNSF rail yard. This is the original site of passenger service back in 1923. The City of Leavenworth has selected HNTV to do the design work on the platform and site plan. \$865,000 has been secured for the project which will be completed in a phased approach. Eaton reported that he anticipates Amtrak service to Leavenworth to begin in the fall of 2009.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An executive session was called to discuss real estate matters. No action was taken.

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