DRAFT Meeting Minutes

PORTLAND FISH PIER AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING
August 8, 2025, 2:00 PM

Remote Meeting Format on the Zoom Platform

PFPA Board Members Present
Class A Directors: Groundfish Harvester or Representative
Mary Hudson
Tracy Pearce
Class B Directors: Groundfish Buyers
Nick Alfiero, Harbor Fish Market
Class C Directors: Representing the seafood industry of the State of Maine
Rob Odlin, Representing the Lobster Industry
Matthew Moretti, Representing the Aquaculture Industry
Ex-Officio Members of the Board of Directors:
Representing the Commissioner of Maine DMR
Meredith Mendelson, Department of Marine Resources

PFPA Board Members Unable to Attend
Class D Director: Representing the Public at Large
John Arnold
Class B Directors: Representing the Groundfish Buyers
Tim Merrill, Merrill's Seafood
Class E Director: Representing the City Council
Wesley Pelletier, District 2
Ex-Officio Members of the Board of Directors:
Representing the Commissioner of the Maine DOT
Chris Mayo
Representing the Portland City Manager
Brendan O'Connell, Finance Director

Staff Present
Diane Albert, PFEX
Avery Dandreta, Associate Corporate Counsel
Kaela Gonzalez, Program Coordinator
Robert Vanmeter, PFEX Manager
Greg Watson, Housing & Economic Development Director

Public
No public members were in attendance.

1. Discuss Portland Fish Exchange financial situation with potential vote to pay line of credit and consider establishment of a cash reserve for Exchange operations.

Robert Vanmeter, PFEX Manager, updated the Board on the Fish Exchange's financial situation. The Exchange has used $200,000 of its line of credit and will need to delay vendor payments to prioritize payments to boats. This is due to several unexpected, significant capital expenses and lower-than-anticipated landings. Vanmeter is requesting $200,000 to reduce the line of credit and an additional $50,000 to create a cash reserve.

The Board largely concurred that the PFPA's mission, and the merger's objective, is to support the Fish Exchange. To boost revenue, several Board members expressed interest in re-evaluating fees. Diane Albert recommended exploring alternative accounting software to enhance assessment capabilities, while Vanmeter emphasized previously implemented cost-saving initiatives. A prevailing concern among the Board is the PFPA's financial capacity to maintain a cash reserve while supporting the Exchange, which warrants further investigation. Mendelson has requested that a Finance Subcommittee meeting be scheduled.

Motion to approve a $250,000 payment to the Portland Fish Exchange, of which $200,000 will be utilized to pay down the line of credit and $50,000 to establish a cash reserve.
Mendelson, 2nd Odlin

No Public Comment
Approved 6-0

2. Motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 3:07 p.m.
Mendelson, 2nd Alfiero
Approved by census