
News Release

March 16, 2020

Port of Olympia Commissioners adopted a resolution authorizing emergency powers and delegation authority to the Executive Director in response to the outbreak of COVID-19

OLYMPIA – Today, the Port of Olympia Commissioners passed a resolution authorizing emergency powers and delegating authority to the Executive Director in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Port Commission resolution 2020-03 authorizes the Executive Director to make and adjust Human Resources Policies related to leave usage and other issues related to Port employees as necessary by the impacts of COVID-19.

The Executive Director may also make temporary appointments, up to one year or the duration of the emergency, of personnel to positions that directly respond to the emergency, when the urgency of filling positions prohibits examining applicants through the competitive process, and is immediately necessary for the protection of life and property.

The resolution also states that pursuant to RCW 42.30.070, and the state of emergency by Thurston County, all meetings of the Port of Olympia Commissioners are not required to meet the notice requirements, and meeting location restrictions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 42.30 RCW.

Resolution 2020-03 takes effect immediately and will be in full force and effect for the same time period as the state of emergency adopted by the Thurston County Commissioners.

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About the Port of Olympia

The southernmost deep-water port on Puget Sound, the Port of Olympia owns and operates an international shipping terminal that handles a range of breakbulk and project cargoes. The Port also owns and operates Swantown Marina & Boatworks, a 733-slip recreational marina and boat haulout/repair facility, a regional airport and a real estate division.