PORT OF GARIBALDI
MINUTES OF WORKSHOP
DECEMBER 4, 2025

MOORAGE WORKSHOP

Commissioners present:	Valerie Folkema, Bob Browning, Kelly Barnett, Amanda Cavitt, Dane Winchester.
Staff present:	Michael Saindon, Jessi Coon, Claudia Maciel, Curtis Jepson, Evan Wallace.
Visitors:	Jeff Burns, James Acock, Roy Markee, Loten Hooley, William Jefferson, Yuri Prasoloff, John Yates, Levin Cherry, Jeremy Coon, Phil Ferris, Brian Trotter, Briane Thorne.

Called to Order: 9:00 a.m.

PURPOSE OF WORKSHOP

Staff and Commissioners explained that the workshop was convened to gather input regarding revisions to Ordinance 15, specifically related to commercial catch/landing requirements, slip eligibility, grandfathering options, and waiver processes. The Port emphasized that the objective is not to remove active participants, but to ensure commercial moorage supports economic development, aligns with grant-funding requirements, and preserves access for working vessels.

PUBLIC COMMENT & DISCUSSION

1. Comments on Raising Landing or Revenue Requirements

Yuri Prasoloff expressed support for a higher annual revenue benchmark—suggesting $20,000—to ensure slips are occupied by vessels actively contributing to the local economy. He noted long wait-times for working fishermen and emphasized the need to prioritize residents who work year-round.

William Jefferson explained that vessels operating under Open Access permits lack the gear or endorsements needed to generate high income. He supported modest landing requirements to prevent slip-sitting but argued that high revenue thresholds would disadvantage small-scale fishermen.

James Acock stressed that commercial moorage decisions should not be based solely on economics, highlighting the value of small-boat fleets to food security, cultural identity, and local business ecosystems.

Loten described purchasing a vessel and slip based on prior conversations with Port staff and expressed concern that new requirements could force him out despite investing heavily in restoring his boat.

Rory Markee, on the waitlist for four years, noted that changes in ODFW licensing now limit him to one tuna landing license, making it impossible to meet higher landing-count requirements.

Kelly Barnett recused himself as a commissioner to make public comments. Barnett emphasized that infrastructure constraints—such as aging pilings, insufficient weight capacity, and departure of major buyers—limit fishermen's ability to meet proposed landing numbers.

Phil Ferris expressed concern over receiving an eviction notice tied to vessel inactivity and urged the Port to improve communication with long-term tenants.

PORT PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

1. Rationale for Revising Commercial Requirements

   Commission President Folkema reiterated the Port's statutory purpose of economic development and stressed that federal and state funding competitiveness depends on demonstrable commercial activity.

2. Concerns With Current One-Ticket System

   Staff explained that the one-ticket minimum has enabled some vessels to retain slips with single-fish landings; some submitted following compliance notices.

3. Grant Funding Impact

   The Port often looses out on multi-million-dollar grant competitions due to weaker economic activity metrics compared to competing ports.

4. Grandfathering & Waiver Concepts

   Staff circulated draft concepts proposing temporary grandfathering, waiver criteria, and waitlist protections.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC INPUT

Commenters such as Jeremy Coon, Ryan Vantress and Levi Cherry provided fishery-specific context regarding landing variability.

NEXT STEPS

Commissioners stated that no decisions would be made at the workshop. Draft revisions will be reviewed by the full Commission before any formal reading.

ADJOURNED

The workshop adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Val Folkema, President

ATTEST:

Kelly Barnett, Secretary/Treasurer