



# PORT OF KENNEWICK REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

**AUGUST 8, 2023 MINUTES**

Commission Meeting recordings, with agenda items linked to corresponding audio, can be found on the Port's website at: <https://www.portofkennewick.org/commission-meetings-audio/>

Commission President Skip Novakovich called the Regular Commission Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. via GoToMeeting Teleconference.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ROLL CALL**

**The following were present:**

**Board Members:** Skip Novakovich, President (via telephone)  
Kenneth Hohenberg, Vice President (via telephone)  
Thomas Moak, Secretary (via telephone)

**Staff Members:** Tim Arntzen, Chief Executive Officer (via telephone)  
Tana Bader Inglima, Deputy Chief Executive Officer (via telephone)  
Nick Kooiker, Deputy Chief Executive Officer/CFO (via telephone)  
Larry Peterson, Director of Planning (via telephone)  
Amber Hanchette, Director of Real Estate (via telephone)  
Lisa Schumacher, Special Project Coordinator  
Bridgette Scott, Executive Assistant (via telephone)  
David Phongsa, Marketing & Capital Projects Coordinator  
Carolyn Lake, Port Counsel (via telephone)

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Peterson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mike Luzzo, Kennewick. Mr. Luzzo has been asking about Duffy's Pond and has called the Department of Ecology Central Division and they have not responded. Mr. Luzzo noted that getting rid of the Trees of Heaven by Duffy's Pond is good. Mr. Luzzo is trying to look at what we do as a Port and what the City of Kennewick is doing right now, as far as making sure Duffy's Pond is taken care of. The properties adjoining Clover Island are taken care of, at least with the City and the Army Corps of Engineers, and his contact is Kye Carpenter and he has reached out to Lieutenant Colonel KingSlack. Mr. Luzzo was asked by Ms. Bader Inglima to pass along the information and that is what he is doing.

No further comments were made.

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## CONSENT AGENDA

**A. *Approval of Direct Deposit and E-Payments Dated July 31, 2023***

Direct Deposit and E-Payments totaling \$124,697.86

**B. *Approval of Warrant Register Dated August 8, 2023***

Expense Fund Voucher Number 105044 through 105109 for a grand total of \$164,732.41

**C. *Approval of Regular Commission Meeting Minutes July 25, 2023***

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Hohenberg moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; Commissioner Moak seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously. All in favor 3:0.*

## REPORTS, COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

**A. *Vista Field Art Walk Update***

Mr. Phongsa gave a brief presentation of the Art Walk (*Exhibit A*) held at Vista Field on August 4, 2023. Mr. Phongsa stated approximately 100 people attended and the event increased awareness of Vista Field. Mr. Phongsa stated the next event at Vista Field is the Bike Expo on September 14, 2023. Mr. Phongsa stated Saturday, August 12, 2023 is the last Summer Saturdays Night Market at Columbia Gardens from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**B. *Benton Franklin Council of Governments***

Mr. Arntzen introduced the Benton Franklin Council of Governments (BFCOG) bylaw update. Mr. Arntzen stated Commissioner Novakovich was the past chair of BFCOG and worked with their staff to update the bylaws and Ms. Lake has reviewed the documents. Mr. Arntzen stated the updated documents do not change the relationship that the Port has with BFCOG.

Commissioner Novakovich provided a brief history of the BFCOG organizational documents and stated the new documents are an update to the previous set up bylaws and various policies. Commissioner Novakovich stated the Port needs to do the following: review and sign the Interlocal Agreement, which is between all of the jurisdictional partners, and review and approve the Resolution ratifying the bylaws that were adopted by BFCOG Board of Directors.

Commissioners Hohenberg and Moak are prepared to move forward with the Interlocal Agreement and the Resolution.

Commissioner Novakovich asked staff to put the Resolution and Interlocal Agreement on the Consent Agenda for the August 25, 2023 Meeting.

**C. *Water Rights Update***

Mr. Peterson reported that Benton County is very interested in pursuing a new purchase and sale agreement for the transfer of water rights to address compliance with water usage to keep the Benton County fairgrounds green. Additionally, it will help with the \$15,000,000 expansion plans for the fairground. Mr. Peterson stated our water rights expert will be available on August 25, 2023 to discuss the general concept of potentially transferring water rights to Benton County.

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Commission and staff discussed the possibility of transferring the water rights to Benton County for use at the Benton County fairgrounds.

***D. Commissioner Meetings (formal and informal meetings with groups or individuals)***  
Commissioners reported on their respective committee meetings.

***E. Non-Scheduled Items***

Ms. Bader Inglima reported that John and Dara Foster, 2015 Friend of the Port, continue to walk the island and love the improvements the Port has been making. The Foster's wanted Ms. Bader Inglima to share with the Commission how much they enjoy the 1135 improvements with the additional trail, and the new flowers, bushes, and trees along the shoreline. The Foster's shared how much better it looks and how much they appreciate the investment that is being made on behalf of the public.

Mr. Kooiker stated the CEO evaluation process requires the committee to meet before September 15<sup>th</sup>, and he will be assembling the committee for the 2023 evaluation, which consists of Ms. Lake, Commissioner Hohenberg, and Mr. Kooiker. Mr. Kooiker stated the committee is a two-year appointment by the Commission and this is Commissioner Hohenberg's second year. Following the evaluation, the Commission will need to appoint a new Commissioner for the next two-year term.

Mr. Arntzen thanked the Commission for their continued working relationship and positive comments with Benton County.

Commissioner Hohenberg thanked Ms. Bader Inglima for the feedback on the 1135 project. He has been to the island several times with Mr. Arntzen and people have been very appreciative. Mr. Arntzen has said in the past, a lot of people don't know care who made the improvements, they just know they like the end results. Commissioner Hohenberg stated it is nice that people take time to comment, like the earlier comments related to Duffy's Pond. Duffy's Pond is still a jewel, and the Port has done a lot of work over the years to clean it up and Commissioner Hohenberg knows there is more to do, but it is nice when people recognize the important part that the Port has played.

Commissioner Novakovich asked staff to follow up with Mr. Luzzo to let him know what the Port is doing.

Ms. Bader Inglima has been having regular conversations with Mr. Luzzo and he has a passion for water quality, the shoreline, and following the ecology rules. It is a wonderful thing to see our citizens paying attention to the work that is being done and Ms. Bader Inglima will continue that relationship.

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## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Luzzo, Kennewick. Mr. Luzzo inquired if the Port was aware that the McNary pool (Lake Wallula), per RCW, is a state registered water storage area. When staff is discussing water rights, Mr. Luzzo wanted to know where the Port stands.

Ms. Bader Inglima stated that she and Mr. Peterson will be more than happy to visit with Mr. Luzzo after the Meeting for further discussion.

No further comments were made.

## COMMISSION COMMENTS

No comments were made.

## ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to bring before the Board; the meeting was adjourned 2:39 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

### PORT of KENNEWICK BOARD of COMMISSIONERS

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*Skip Novakovich*

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*Skip Novakovich, President*

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*Kenneth Hohenberg*

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*Kenneth Hohenberg, Vice President*

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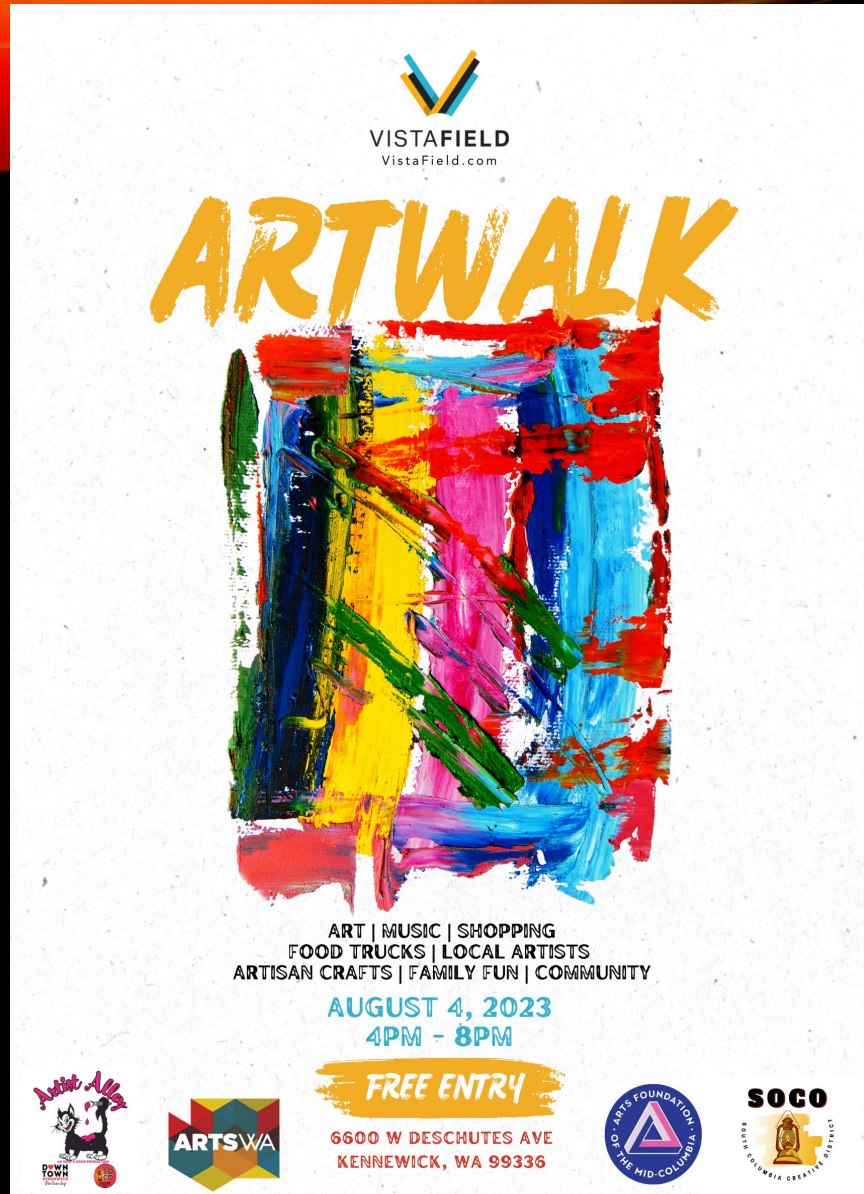
**Thomas Moak**

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*Thomas Moak, Secretary*

# VISTA FIELD ARTWALK

August 4, 2023



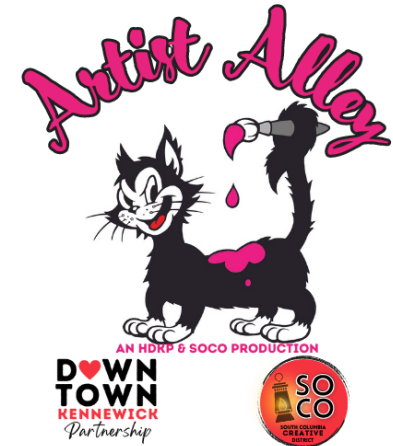
# INTRODUCTION

- This is the second event at Vista Field this year, showcasing our local artists. Blending art, food, music, culture, and community.
- This event occurred the weekend after City of Richland's *Art In The Park* annual event that draws thousands of people. I was in attendance to market this event with flyers.
- Wind caused us to end the event a little earlier than we had scheduled, had vendors packing up early, and probably affected less people than expected.



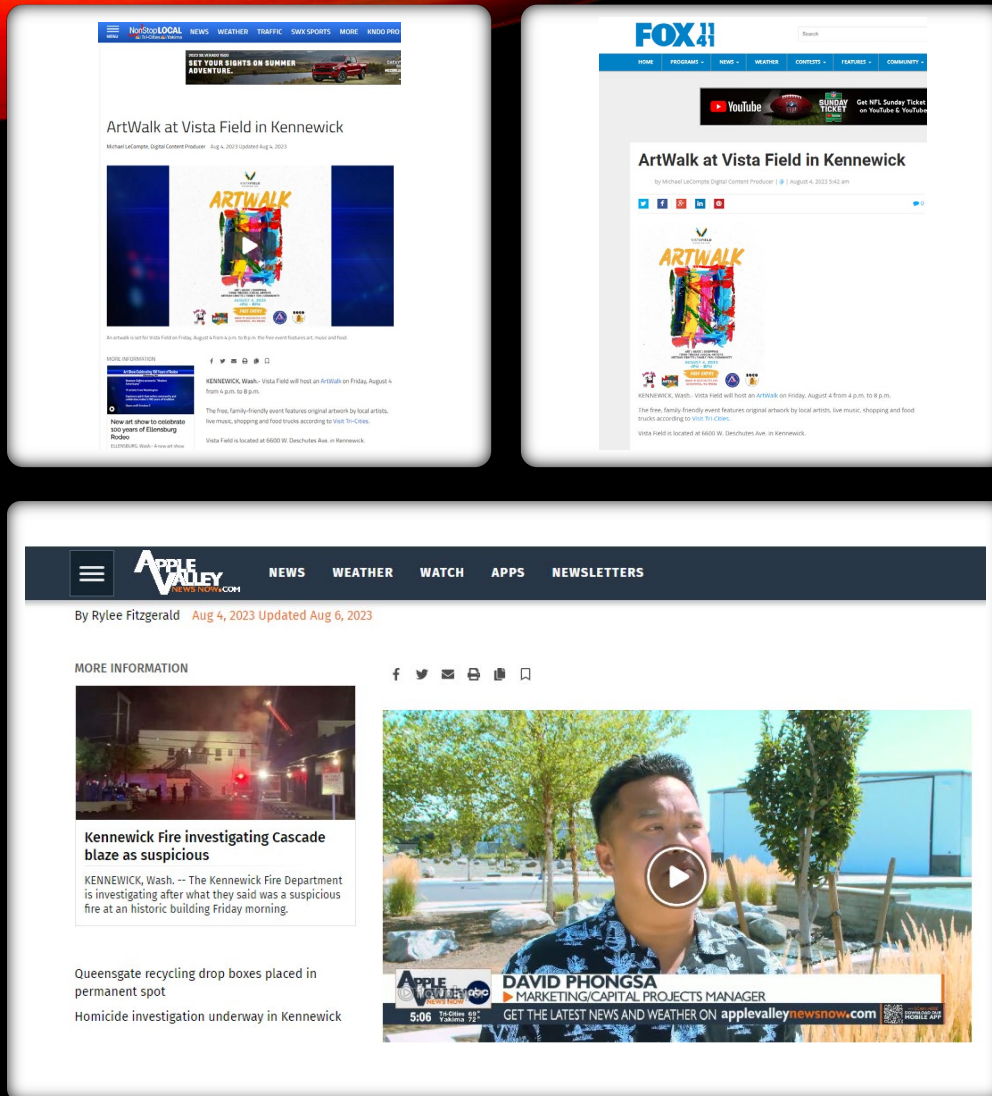
# LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Washington State Arts Commission
- Arts Foundation of The Mid-Columbia
- SOCO (South Columbia Creative District)
- Artist Alley of Downtown Kennewick



# LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE

- NBC Right Now
- CBS Nonstop Local News
- Fox 11 and 41
- KAPP-KVEW/Apple Valley News Now
- Social Media Reach: 500+
- Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn





## EVENT PHOTOS





# SUMMARY

- About 100 people in attendance (visitors & vendors)
- Increased awareness
- Press for Vista Field
- Vibrancy
- Great business for local artists
- New community partners
- Community focused
- Sets us up nicely for next event in September



**VISTAFIELD**

