



## Port Appoints New Commissioner

**Bingen, Washington** – At its June 1 public meeting, the Port of Klickitat Board of Commissioners appointed William (“Bill”) Schmitt of Lyle, Wash., to fill the position left vacant by the unexpected passing of former Commissioner Rodger Ford. Ford had represented Commissioner District #2 that encompasses the communities of Appleton, Dallesport, Klickitat, Lyle, Murdock, and Wahkiacus.

Several individuals expressed interest in the position and three applications were ultimately received by the deadline. “We were fortunate to have had several qualified candidates apply for the position,” said Commission Secretary Jim Herman. “We sincerely appreciate their interest and willingness to serve their community.”

That sentiment was echoed by Commission President Wayne Vinyard. “We were pleased with the quality of all the applicants,” said Vinyard. “In the end, Bill’s level of community involvement, years of board service, and previous experience with the Port were key factors in his selection. With two board vacancies in the last five months, the Port Commission has been in a period of transition and we felt his history and experience would be particularly valuable in allowing us to move forward quickly.”



Schmitt was previously appointed to the Port Commission (to fill the unexpired term of William Hamm) and served from October 1990 to November 1991. He has also served as a fire commissioner for thirteen years and as a school board member for over nine years.

Schmitt will be sworn in at the next regular meeting of the Port Commission and begin serving immediately. His appointment will continue through the November 2011 election.

### At A Glance...

**Who:**.....Port Commission  
**What:**...Appoints commissioner  
**When:**.....June 1, 2010  
**Where:**.....Bingen, Wash.  
**Quick Facts:**.....The Port Commission has appointed William (“Bill”) Schmitt to fill the remaining term of former Commissioner Rodger Ford.

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### About the Port of Klickitat

Economic development, transportation, and marine-based recreation are key functions of the Port of Klickitat. These are achieved through leasing industrial-zoned property, developing and renting industrial and commercial facilities, developing and maintaining rail spurs and dock facilities, assisting companies with an interest in locating in Klickitat County, creating and managing marine-based recreational facilities, and working closely with various partner organizations and agencies.

*For more information, please contact:*

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The Port of Klickitat is located in Klickitat County, Washington and was created in 1944. It is one of several port authorities located in the mid-Columbia region. It owns two industrial parks and several buildings, leases industrial property and space, operates a barge dock, and holds property set aside for a park and marina. Transportation access is provided via rail, river barge, highways 14, 35, and 197, and Interstate 84.

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