

Duluth Seaway Port Authority Board Meeting: February 26, 2020

The shipping season finished with a total of 23 vessels. Water levels continue to be a challenge which will delay the Seaway opening until April. Interlake shipping will be on target due to the small percentage of ice on the lake. Short distance inter-modal shipping to Chicago will begin this year as well. The Port Authority continues to work on facilitating maintenance and protecting their property. Opportunities for grants are investigated as they become available. The Seaway Building remodel on Rice's Point is progressing and on budget. The annual Duluth and St Louis County at the Capital Days will take place on March 18th & 19th. This event attracts over 500 people from Northeastern MN to meet face-to-face with legislators all over Minnesota. The informal reception is designed for lawmakers to hear about region legislative initiatives directly from the voters. Maritime Days is scheduled for May 22nd. The Great Lake Aquarium has plans to add displays about shipping on the lakes. The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 25th.

Submitted by: Joni Plante

Duluth Seaway Port Authority Board Meeting: January 29, 2020

The Board of Commissioners met to discuss and report on financial statements, committee reports and action items. All action items were approved. Discussions included trade development, water levels, facility management and media exposure. Wind turbines are still being stored in the port, but they expect them to be gone by the end of February. Cruise Duluth is still working on firming up details such as border protection. Grain trade was directly affected by a decreased crop partially due to weather conditions. High water levels continue to create both opportunity and challenges. Challenges include but are not limited to navigation and safety. All of the Great Lakes have higher water levels than last year at this time. There continues to be discussion on when the shipping season should open. The media department continues to keep the public informed on issues. The Human Trafficking Task Force is ongoing. Overall, the Port Authority reports a good maritime performance, and they are expecting a busy upcoming shipping season. For more details visit www.duluthport.com

Submitted by Joni Plante

Duluth Seaway Port Authority: October 30, 2019

The Port Authority is moving forward on a positive path and preparing for next year's trade and business. Port Authority officials were recently in Belgium to accept an award for "Operator of the Year Award" for Duluth Cargo. The award, in part, is due to Port Authority improvement and hard work, especially with oversized wind cargoes. Governor Tim Walz also recently toured the port. Continued work is being done to bring cruise lines to Lake Superior by June 2020. They are also expecting to see an increase in lumber and machinery cargoes along with steady intermodal growth. To learn more about the Duluth Seaway visit: www.duluthport.com.

Submitted by Joni Plante

Port Authority Meeting: September 26, 2019

The treasurer reported that it has been a particularly good first half of the year due to maritime activity. The first shipment of lumber in many years recently came through the port. The warehouse continues to be busy and running strong. Intermodal is running at 55 percent which is up from last year's numbers. Traffic is moving smoothly. Domestic movement comes and goes on the rail system. The Port Authority continues to work on creating new opportunities. All action items were approved.

Submitted by Joni Plante