

# Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules  
DATE: January 30, 2024  
BY: Leslie Porter, Analyst  
RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT OF PORTLAND

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The Governor has appointed the following individuals to the Board of Commissioners of the Port of Portland subject to Senate confirmation.<sup>1</sup>

### New Appointee

Sam Johnson of Hillsboro

### Reappointees

Katherine Lam of Portland  
Richelle Luther of Portland  
Meg Niemi of Portland

### Terms

Johnson: February 17, 2024 – February 16, 2028  
Lam: November 25, 2023 – November 24, 2027  
Luther: February 17, 2024 – February 16, 2028  
Niemi: November 25, 2023 – November 24, 2027

### Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 778.215 \(2023\)](#)

### Statement of Economic Interest<sup>2</sup>

Required.

### Composition<sup>3</sup>

The board consists of nine U.S. citizens and Oregon residents, with not fewer than two from each county constituting the port district:<sup>4</sup>

- Clackamas County (**LAM**, STRADER);
- Multnomah County (ALEXANDER, DEVAUGHN, **JOHNSON**, **NIEMI**);
- Washington County (**LUTHER**, SAMPAT); and
- Other Counties outside the port district (COBA).

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<sup>1</sup> [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 and 171.565 \(2023\)](#).

<sup>2</sup> [ORS 244.050 \(2023\)](#).

<sup>3</sup> [ORS 182.100 \(2023\)](#) for affirmative action policy; [ORS 236.115 \(2023\)](#) for diversity criteria.

<sup>4</sup> [ORS 778.205 to 778.235 \(2023\)](#).

Commissioners must have resided within the state for one year immediately preceding appointment. They serve four-year terms and may be removed for malfeasance after a hearing and upon determination of the Multnomah County Circuit Court.

The board must hold at least one meeting each month. The Governor designates the president of the board, who must designate a vice president, treasurer, and secretary. If a commissioner refuses to serve, ceases to have the required qualifications, or fails to attend for the period of 60 successive days any of the regular or special meetings of the board regularly and duly called and held, the commissioner's place on the board is vacated. The board may grant a leave of absence not exceeding three months to a commissioner unable to attend meetings of the board by reason of illness or continued absence from the City of Portland.

### **Duties<sup>5</sup>**

The board sets policy for the operation of the Port of Portland. The board must:

- oversee the finances of the port, including the issuance and sale of revenue bonds and the approval of contracts for work and materials;
- determine the fair value of property acquired by the port; and
- provide assessment of the damages and benefits of the filling or reclamation of any low, swamp, or submersible land as contemplated by the port.

The board may:

- by ordinance make, modify, or abolish regulations for the use, navigation, and placement therein or removal of obstruction from the rivers, harbors, and waterways controlled by the port;
- create an executive committee of which every commissioner is a member and of which a number less than a majority, as the board may determine, may constitute a quorum for the transaction of business;
- legislate with respect to the internal affairs of the Port of Portland by the adoption of ordinances; and
- by ordinance adopt, amend, or repeal regulations as convenient or necessary to provide for policing or regulating the use of properties owned, operated, maintained, or controlled by the port and of facilities located at or in conjunction with these properties.

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<sup>5</sup> [ORS 778.020 to 778.260 \(2023\)](#)



## Port of Portland, Board of Commissioners of the

Agency: **None**

Authorization: **ORS 778.205 - .215**

Min Members: **9** Max Members: **9**

Term Length: **4** Term Limit: **2**

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

Policy Area: **Transportation & Infrastructure**

Board Admin: **Pam Thompson**

Address:

**Port of Portland**

**7200 NE Airport Way**

**Portland, OR 97218**

**503-415-6013**

**Pam.Thompson@portofportland.com**

## Current Appointments

**Mr Strader, Stuart W**

Clackamas County

Position Number: **1**

Term(s): **3/15/2021 - 3/14/2025**

**Ms Coba, Katy M**

Marion County

Position Number: **2**

Term(s): **6/10/2022 - 6/9/2026**

**Luther, Richelle**

Washington County

Position Number: **3**

Term(s): **2/17/2024 - 2/16/2028**  
**6/10/2022 - 2/16/2024**

**Johnson, Sam**

Multnomah County

Position Number: **4**

Term(s): **2/17/2024 - 2/16/2028**

**DeVaughn, Michael "Mike"**

Multnomah County

Position Number: **5**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 5/24/2026**

**Mr Alexander, Michael C**

Multnomah County

Position Number: **6**

Term(s): **6/1/2020 - 5/31/2024**  
**6/1/2016 - 5/31/2020**

**Ms Lam, Katherine**

Clackamas County

Position Number: **7**

Term(s): **11/25/2023 - 11/24/2027**  
**11/25/2019 - 11/24/2023**

**Ms Niemi, Meg M**

Multnomah County

Position Number: **8**

Term(s): **11/25/2023 - 11/24/2027**  
**11/25/2019 - 11/24/2023**

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**Sampat, Ketan R**

Term(s):

**3/15/2021 - 3/14/2025**

Washington County

Position Number: **9**

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## Vacant Positions

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