

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
April 2, 2018

Commissioner Ahrens at the Fishers Island Community Center called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (“the Ferry District”) to order on April 2, 2018 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners William Bloethe, Heather Burnham and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy, Diane Hansen and Deanna Ross. Commissioner Peter Rugg was absent. RJ Burns was present via phone. Public member Craig Shultz was present.

Commissioner Ahrens established that a quorum was present. Everyone in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

Correspondence/Public Comment – Mr. Cook reported that no correspondence was received. There is public comment from Mr. Shultz. Mr. Shultz attended the BOC meeting in regards to a recent modular structure that he built on the Ferry District managed land he leases for his business. Management and the BOC have requested that Mr. Shultz stop work. Discussion ensued regarding the size of the structure and building codes and required permits from the Town of Southold. The BOC expressed their willingness to work with all tenants with regards to their individual needs for leased commercial space, but has requested that the proper procedures be followed. Mr. Shultz expressed understanding and has agreed to meet with the building inspector along with Mr. Cook to resolve the issue. The BOC has determined that in moving forward, leases need to be more specific with regard to written permission prior to any structure being built on leased property and that any proposed structure must meet building codes.

Property Management - Chairman Ahrens had several questions regarding property management. Chairman Ahrens asked Mr. Cook if he has had any further discussion with Ms. Herrick regarding the beautification of the grounds around the Fishers Island Ferry Terminal. Mr. Cook reported that the permits are still in process for the dredging and he does not foresee them being ready prior to June 1, 2018 which would push back the dredging to fall of 2018 due to shellfish regulations. Mr. Cook communicated this information to Ms. Herrick and she expressed understanding. Chairman Ahrens recalled in an agreement with Lighthouse Works and their intention of building a deck and doing landscaping on the west side of the Annex. Commissioner Burnham responded that currently Lighthouse Works does not have the funds for the deck that was part of the original plans; however, in the short term, there is a plan to fill the space with a gravel material and build a planter perimeter prior to the summer season. Question arose regarding the 357 Whistler Avenue property. Mr. Murphy responded that the current lease runs through the end of May and they intend to do a walk through prior to May to assess if and any needed repairs and intend to paint the exterior. Commissioner Burnham asked if there has been any update regarding Walsh Park and their intent of converting the second floor of the Fishers Island freight building into housing. Chairman Ahrens responded that after speaking with Mr. Edwards, Walsh Park is moving ahead with due diligence. Mr. Mark Gaumont is spearheading Walsh Park’s fund raising efforts and has expressed confidence with that aspect to Chairman Ahrens. Finally, Mr. Murphy informed the BOC that Friends of the Fishers Island Theater board met last week and stated that most likely their focus would be on leasing the building for this year. 501(c) (3) status has been applied for but has not yet been finalized. Mr. Fowler is planning to attend the next BOC meeting.

Warrant

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RESOLUTION 2018 - 050

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated April 2, 2018, in the amount of \$210,718.87.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and D. Shillo

Nays: None

Management Reports

Munnatawket/RP Update - Mr. Burns updated the BOC. Munnatawket is back in full service. There was a problem with the bow thruster that didn't prevent use of the boat; however, management chose to keep it out of service for a week until the parts came in to repair it. Race Point is down off and on for the next week or two to take care of some maintenance including replacing the bearings on both fire pumps. Crew continues to prepare for upcoming COI inspections in May. The crew has been diligently working on replacing of the new seat slats and painting exterior decks of both boats when weather permits. Mr. Burns informed the BOC that he received only one bid out of five potential vendors for the Munnatawket Re-power install. The bid received was from Fairhaven Shipyard and was well above the budget guidelines. The lowest price with reusing existing reduction gears was \$331,220 and the highest price using new reduction gears was \$353,800. Mr. Burns spoke with Fairhaven and was informed that this increase was due to the compressed time frame, requiring a large amount of overtime, as well as the substantial lead time for the keel coolers, creating expedited manufacture and shipping. Mr. Burns has recommended to reject the current proposal and re-solicit in the near future for a post Race Point yard period installation, allowing for the possibility of more vendor interest, less compressed time frame, less overtime and more lead time for materials and the ability to thoroughly test power plant before placing vessel back in service. Discussion ensued. A question arose if it would be possible to do the re-power before the Race Point shipyard. Mr. Burns and Mr. Cook responded that this would cause concern because of not allowing for possible problems that could arise after a complete re-power and the inflexibility of the US Coast Guard hull exam which requires dry dock time. After discussion, Mr. Burns feels confident that the Race Point could enter its ship yard period immediately after Columbus Day this fall and the BOC has agreed to accept Mr. Burns' recommendation to reject the current Munnatawket Re-power proposal and re-solicit in the near future.

Ship Radar - Mr. Burns updated the BOC. Dockside has ordered all the Garmin materials which have arrived and the Furuno components should be arriving by April 5, 2018. Mr. Burns plans to call Dockside April 3, 2018 to schedule the install. Estimated install time for the new radar is one day per boat.

New London Seafood - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. The first trial period has ended and due to inclement weather, there were only three drop-offs at the Fishers Island terminal. Discussion ensued and the BOC feels that the minimal drop-offs due to weather has not allowed for an adequate sampling and wishes to extend the trial period through May 1, 2018. Commissioner Bloethe observed a carton sitting on top of the totes. The BOC has agreed that all cartons must be inside the totes at all times. Mr.

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Cook reminded BOC members that each touch fee is \$150, \$50 for each tote and additional boxes would be charged. Mr. Burns will speak to Mr. Yerman April 3, 2018 to inform him of the BOC decision as well as to reiterate the need for communication when the fishing vessels are arriving so the commissioners can observe the operation.

Airport Hangar Update - Chairman Ahrens met with Mr. Brad Burnham last week. Mr. Burnham has expressed some concerns with regard to the proposed rent, as well as the possibility of an imposed property tax. Discussion ensued. The BOC expressed their wish to stay consistent with regard to land leases. The BOC plans to make a final decision regarding rent at the next BOC meeting when all members will be present and have input.

Hovercraft - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. The following proposals were made by Blackbird. Blackbird proposes to pay a \$5,000 fee to the FIFD by August 1, 2018. An additional \$5,000 will be paid for gross sales over \$120,000, another \$5,000 over gross sales of \$150,000, and another \$5,000 for gross sales over \$180,000. Last year the FIFD made \$1,500. This would ensure \$5,000 for 2018. After discussion, the BOC would like the additional \$5,000 to be paid for gross sales over \$100,000. Mr. Cook will respond to Blackbird.

New Telephone System - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. The new telephone system is in place and working well with some minor adjustments still needed. Mr. Cook stated that customers wishing to make a reservation on the weekend from Fishers Island can now call the Fishers Island office and after following the menu, their call will be picked up by New London, thus preventing customers having to make a long distance call. Commissioner Shillo informed management that many times the Fishers Island doctor's office is unable to reach anyone in the freight building to generate a ticket for lab specimens going over to New London. After discussion, the doctor's office will now call the main office number on Fishers Island and be prompted to the New London freight desk to generate the ticket to ensure proper tracking. Mr. Cook will notify the New London office of the new procedure.

Z&S Contracting Settlement

RESOLUTION 2018 - 051

WHEREAS, the District was presented with a claim by Z&S Contracting for the sum of \$2,454 as reimbursement for damage to a solar hot water storage tank caused by the error of District staff and \$60 reimbursement for transportation costs, a total of \$2,514; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District has determined that it is in the best interests of the District to resolve this claim to avoid the expense and uncertainties of litigation; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District approves the settlement of this claim in exchange for the damaged equipment, and directs management to make payment of the settlement amount of \$ 2,514 subject to the approval of District counsel and the Southold Town Attorney.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

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Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and H. Burnham
Nays: None
Abstain: D. Shillo

Executive Session

At 18:10, the following resolution was proposed: RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations conducted pursuant to the Taylor Law involving the CSEA and employment matters.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe
Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and D. Shillo
Nays: None

At 18:29, the following resolution was proposed:

RESOLVED, That the Commission exit from Executive Session and resume Public Session.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens
Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and D. Shillo
Nays: None

HR

RESOLUTION 2018 – 052 (not for TOS)

It is RESOLVED to rescind resolution 2018 - 047

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe
Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and D. Shillo
Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2018 – 053 (this is the 047 replacement with corrected dates)

Whereas Robert Lavin and Carlton Wilcox have fulfilled the requirements for advancement to Freight Agent (FIFD),

It is RESOLVED that Robert Lavin be appointed Freight Agent (FIFD) with effect April 1, 2018, and be released from his current title Purser (FIFD) at the end of business March 31, 2018.

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It is further RESOLVED that Carlton Wilcox be appointed Freight Agent (FIFD) with effect April 1, 2018, and be released from his current title Cashier (FIFD) at the end of business March 31, 2018.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe
Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and D. Shillo
Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2018 – 054

It is RESOLVED that Hannah Peabody be appointed Clerk with effect April 1, 2018, and be released from her current title Cashier (FIFD) at the end of business March 31, 2018.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe
Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and D. Shillo
Nays: None

Advancement Ladder

RESOLUTION 2018 – 055

Whereas there are wage ranges in the various Advancement Ladders, Management recommends that the following employees' wage rates be changed with effect April 12, 2018.

	Old Rate	New Rate
Chriss Bridgman	\$12.18	\$12.50
Karina Curbelo	\$11.10	\$12.50
David Denison	\$11.10	\$12.50
Michael Fiora	\$28.57	\$29.00
Vince Harring	\$11.60	\$12.50
Sean Healy	\$11.10	\$12.50
Steven Kamm	\$12.10	\$12.50
Chase Lettrich	\$11.60	\$12.50
Dawson Millbauer	\$11.10	\$12.50
Anthony Mirabelli	\$28.69	\$29.00
Ryan Miner	\$11.10	\$12.50
Richard Waters	\$11.10	\$12.50
Nathan White	\$12.18	\$12.50

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham
Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and D. Shillo

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Nays: None

Next Scheduled Meeting – **Monday, April 16, 2018** at 4:30pm at the Island Community Center.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner W. Bloethe, seconded by Commissioner H. Burnham, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 pm.