

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
June 11, 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 June 11, 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. Peter Rugg and RJ Burns were present via telephone.

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

**Correspondence/Public Comment** – Mr. Cook reported an email correspondence was received from Mr. Bob Evans regarding an incident where his son was on a late train on Friday night and the ferry did not wait for him despite notification to the New London terminal. FIFD policy states the last boat of the day leaving for Fishers Island will wait up to 15 minutes in the event a train is late. Mr. Evans’ son notified the ticket agent at the New London Terminal; however, due to a last minute change in boats, the captain on duty never received the message nor was confirmation received from the ticket agent. Mr. Burns will take steps to correct. FIFD acknowledges the error and will refund the ticket. Mr. Cook will respond to Mr. Evans.

**Minutes**

RESOLUTION 2018 - 103

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the minutes of the April 30, 2018 meeting.

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

RESOLUTION 2018 - 104

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the minutes of the May 14, 2018 meeting.

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

**Warrant**

RESOLUTION 2018 – 105

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RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated June 11, 2018, in the amount of \$50,454.76.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham

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

Nays: None

### **Management Reports**

**Airport Building Roof** - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Management is still waiting to hear back from the underwriter from the insurance company. One bid was received after the job was re-bid to include prevailing wage. Resolution to follow to award the job.

#### **Airport Building Roof**

Resolution 2018 – 106

Whereas management has received and reviewed one proposal from vendor CR Schultz LLC to repair the airport building roof; and

Whereas management recommends acceptance of the CR Schultz LLC quote in the amount of \$25,800;

now therefore it is RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District accepts the quote of \$25,800 plus \$2,580 for additional equipment or supplies, the total amount not to exceed \$28,380, and authorizes general manager Mr. George Cook to execute all contracts and ancillary documents, subject to review by counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

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

Nays: None

**Ravino Rent and Roof** - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Tom Ravino had been subletting space from David Burnham which has now been subdivided. The roof of the space in question, which has been housing Mr. Burnham's personal belongings, has been leaking over some time and has now created a mold problem. Mr. Burnham's personal belongings were lost due to the roof leak. The FIFD was not made aware of a leaking roof until after the fact. The roof needs to be repaired and bids were sent out. Mr. Murphy believes that annual walk throughs of rental space is necessary. Tenants are required to report maintenance issues in the lease and the insurance clause insures for fire and general liability. Mr. Murphy will look into the matter further.

**Munnatawket/RP Update** - Mr. Burns updated the BOC. Both boats have been running quite well. Now that weather has improved, the crew is moving forward with painting and rust removal. Last Friday was

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a very busy 3:30 boat and Mr. Burns and the crew received multiple compliments from the passengers. Mr. Burns and the crew are aware of two upcoming weddings that will increase volume and they are prepared to assist with passengers who are unfamiliar with the ferry and its procedures.

Mr. Cook informed the BOC that Mr. Bob Coleman of the Finance Committee found that FIFD has been charged excess tax on diesel purchases for the boats over the last 3 years. The Connecticut Department of Revenue Services has declared that the FIFD is entitled to the reimbursement of the full 0.41 cents as opposed to the reimbursement that has been received for the last 3 years of 0.29 cents. This would be in upwards of \$40,000. Mr. Cook will continue to follow.

**New London Seafood** – Mr. Burns reported that the lack of fishing and activity has been due to cut quotas from the federal fisheries. This has affected all commercial fisherman. Discussion ensued. The BOC has agreed to extend the trial period through July 2018 in hopes that the quotas will be raised, fishing will resume and the BOC will have an adequate sampling to render a decision.

**HPHC Contract** - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Enrollment day for the Harvard Pilgrim Health plan was held Friday, June 8, 2018. Forms are due back by Monday, June 18, 2018. Management relayed that employees seemed happy with the plan. In moving forward, management has and will continue to look at alternative plans to compare and choose the plan that provides the most benefits from a financial and coverage position.

**PBS Contract** - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC that the administrator of the HRA, Progressive Benefits Solutions is on board and reported that by in large fees have not changed.

**357 Whistler Ave** - Discussed in working session. Mr. Cook reported that the TOS Department of Public Works employees are staying there while resurfacing the tennis courts outside of the Community Center.

**Executive Session** - The BOC determined that an executive session is not needed.

**Morris & McVeigh**

RESOLUTION 2018 – 107

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the FIFD hereby engages the law firm of Morris & McVeigh LLP (“M&M”) to represent and advise the Ferry District in connections with matters before the New York State government and to assist the Ferry District on other legal matters for the period Jan 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

It is further RESOLVED to the Board of Commissioners authorizes and directs Assistant Manager, Gordon Murphy to execute the Retainer Agreement dated June 4, 2018 for said services, subject to the review by counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

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

Nays: None

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**Legal / CSEA**

**RESOLUTION 2018 – 108**

Whereas the Board of Commissioners with RESOLUTION 2018 – 091 ratified and approved the 2018-2021 Stipulation of Agreement with the CSEA; and

Whereas the pay rate for Frank R. Smith was not included in resolution 2018-091;

Therefore it is RESOLVED, with effect January 1, 2018, to increase by 2% Mr. Russell's hourly wage rate from \$13.41 to \$13.68.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

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

Nays: None

**HR**

**RESOLUTION 2018 – 109**

WHEREAS The Fishers Island Ferry District requires additional Clerks and Cashiers (FIFD);  
It is therefore RESOLVED to appoint, with effect June 21, 2018, Ms. Alyssa Hadley as a summer seasonal Cashier (FIFD) at a rate of \$12.50 per hour.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

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

Nays: None

**Other** - Mr. Murphy informed the BOC that Mr. Bruce Hubert has asked in writing to build a 20 foot x 10 foot stockade fence on the side of the airport building to hide material and debris waiting to go to the dump.

Chairman Ahrens asked management where the crew stands with the new safety boots. Mr. Cook replied that the CSEA contract was ratified Wednesday, June 6th by TOS and crew should be purchasing now.

Commissioner Bloethe inquired of management if a policy exists for breaking windows of a locked vehicle on the boat. An incident occurred where a passenger locked the keys in their vehicle and the vehicle was preventing other vehicles from getting off the boat. Mr. Murphy reported that numerous attempts were made to reach the State Trooper without success. An employee from Goose Island attempted to unlock the car with a lock out kit but was unsuccessful. It was then deemed necessary to break the window to remove the car from the boat. Management will seek guidance from the insurance carrier regarding the matter and the liability of purchasing a lockout kit.

**Next Scheduled Meeting – Monday, June 25, 2018 at 4:30pm at the Island Community Center.**

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner H. Burnham, seconded by Commissioner D. Shillo, the meeting was adjourned at 5:24 pm.