

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
June 25, 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 25, 2018 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners William Bloethe, Heather Burnham, Peter Rugg and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy, Diane Hansen and Deanna Ross. RJ Burns was 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 that Mr. Burns received a letter from Mrs. Tully, who is a parent of a student at the Fishers Island School, commending Mr. Burns and staff for all their great services in taking care of all the students on the boat during the school year. A second letter was received from Michele Klimczak requesting fare abatement of two vehicles for two separate friends who are visiting the island and unable to climb the stairs of the ferry due to medical conditions. The BOC has agreed to offer such abatement. In addition, Mr. Cook received two comments complaining of no proper egress on the boats. Discussion ensued and management and the BOC are in agreement that all passengers are required to get out of their vehicles unless a medical condition warrants otherwise. In the event passengers stay in their vehicles due to a medical condition protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act, a proper egress will be provided. There was no public comment.

**Minutes**

RESOLUTION 2018 - 110

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the minutes of the May 29, 2018 meeting as amended.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

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

Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2018 - 111

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the minutes of the June 11, 2018 meeting.

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

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

Nays: None

**Warrant**

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RESOLUTION 2018 – 112

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated June 25, 2018, in the amount of \$83,353.84.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham

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

Nays: None

Warrant A

RESOLUTION 2018 – 113

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant A dated June 25, 2018, in the amount of \$7,840.15.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

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

Nays: None

**Management Reports**

**Theater Roof** - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. When the roof was replaced 25 years ago, no sub board or felt was used and the shingles were nailed right into tongue and groove board. Over time with expansion and contraction, leaks have developed and have now progressed into the ceiling. Management has spoken with the Town Attorney who does not feel this is an emergency. Mr. Murphy wanted to apprise the BOC of the future need for repair with an estimated cost of \$3,000 - \$4,000. The job will be a public work and be subject to prevailing wage.

**Ravino Rent and Roof** - Mr. Murphy informed the BOC that the roof repair has yet to start but is scheduled to be done this summer by the vendor. Mr. Murphy has asked the BOC to agree with charging the lower rate rent until repairs are complete and the mold has been removed. The BOC voiced agreement.

**Munnatawket/Race Point Update** - Mr. Burns informed the BOC that both boats are running well with no issues to report. Maintenance continues. Management is searching for solutions to do exterior painting maintenance on Race Point which has been difficult due to constant use of the boat. Evening and night painting are under consideration; however payroll is a factor.

**Washout at New London Terminal** - Mr. Burns informed the BOC that the City of New London wants to expedite the stabilization of the sink hole before Sailfest and then work on repairing the sink hole soon after. Mr. Burns will participate in future planning meetings with the city as any work done will have an impact on the gate of the terminal. Mr. Burns will keep all updated as work progresses.

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**Public Hearing**

On motion made by H. Burnham, and seconded by A. Ahrens, the BOC moved to open up a public hearing regarding a lease at 357 Whistler Avenue at 17:00.

All BOC members received and reviewed the proposed lease agreement. Mr. Cook reported that the RFP for exterior painting has been publicized. There was no public comment.

After no further questions or comments, and on motion made by P. Rugg, seconded by W. Bloethe, the BOC agreed to exit the public hearing and resume the regular session at 17:05.

**Property Management**

**RESOLUTION 2018 – 114**

357 Whistler Ave

WHEREAS, Z&S Contracting, Inc. ("Z&S") wishes to lease 357 Whistler Avenue for six months with a one-time renewal option of six months to house four of its staff; and

WHEREAS, the BOC has determined that proposal is fair and reasonable and beneficial to the residents of the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the BOC of the FIFD accepts the proposal of Z&S and authorizes management to execute the Commercial Lease Agreement with Z&S for a term of six (6) months with a one-time option of and additional six (6) months for the amount of \$1,000 per month plus two months security deposit, subject to the approval of District Counsel and the Town Attorney.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and P. Rugg

Nays: None

Abstain: D. Shillo

**Management Reports Continued**

**Bonding** - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. Additional bonding of \$140,000 is being requested for the Silver Eel Cove channel dredging project and engine replacement for MV Munnatawket. The goal for dredging to begin is after September 30, 2018 when fish stop breeding.

**RESOLUTION 2018 – 115**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 699 of the Laws of New York, 1947 and Acts amendatory thereto (herein called the "Enabling Law"), the Board of Commissioners (herein called "Board") of the Fishers Island Ferry District, in the Town of Southold, Suffolk County, New York (herein called "District"), in furtherance of the public interest, wishes to submit a written request to the Town Board of the Town of Southold (herein called "Town Board" and "Town," respectively), to call a public hearing for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in the subject matter thereof, being as more fully described as the Engineering Reports of Docko, Inc. and Cummins Northeast, Inc., licensed engineers, dated September 9,

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2017 and October 25, 2017, respectively, on file in the office of the District and the office of the Town Clerk of the Town (herein referred to collectively as the "Projects"). The estimated maximum cost of the Projects is \$290,000, to be financed by the issuance of bonds of the Town of Southold;

Now therefore, be it RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE FISHERS ISLAND FERRY DISTRICT, IN THE TOWN OF SOUTHOLD, IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, NEW YORK, as follows: This Board of Commissioners is hereby authorized to submit to the Town Board a written petition, subscribed by all the Commissioners of the District, requesting the Town Board to call a public hearing for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in the subject matter thereof, being the increase and improvement of the facilities of the District pursuant to Section 202-b of the Town Law, consisting of the replacement of engines and associated parts for the MV Munnatawket and dredging of Silver Eel Channel to prevent ferries from grounding and to provide financing for said increase in the estimated maximum cost \$290,000, as herein above referred to in the Recitals hereof; it is hereby determined that the Projects at said estimated maximum cost is in the public interest.

This Board of Commissioners has complied with all procedures requisite to ensuring that the Projects will have no significant adverse impact upon the environment and permits for the Projects have been applied for and obtained from all known necessary agencies, and copies of such permits are available for inspection in the office of the Secretary of said Board of Commissioners, and in the office of the Town Clerk of Southold.

A copy of this resolution, subscribed by each of the Commissioners of the District, shall be submitted to the Town Board together with the petition herein authorized. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by: Commissioner P. Rugg

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

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

Nays: None

**Other** - Commissioner Rugg reported that an amended bill regarding the Enabling Act was passed on the floor of the Senate and by the end of the session on Friday, June 22, 2018, the bill had not come out of the Committee of the Assembly for a floor vote. There is uncertainty as to whether the Assembly will be returning for another session to vote on the bills they did not get to.

**Mail Delivery Contract**

RESOLUTION 2018 – 117

Whereas the USPS mail pickup contract between the FI ferry terminal and the FI Post Office that had been put out to bid. The only bid returned was from Mr. William Bloethe for a three year period at an annual rate of \$10,200 per year paid quarterly in arrears.

Therefore it is RESOLVED to award the three year contract beginning July 1, 2018 to Mr. William Bloethe in the amount of \$10,200 per year to be paid in arrears and to authorize manage to execute all related documents subject to FD counsel review and the Southold Town Board's approval.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, P. Rugg and D. Shillo

Nays: None

Abstain: W. Bloethe

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**Freight Increase for Small Packages** - Management is suggesting a freight increase of small packages of 50 pounds or less from \$2.50 to \$3.00. Currently Fed Ex Express and UPS packages are charged to the carrier which accounts for the majority of packages. Mr. Murphy reported that there is an increase in packages coming from other carriers. Mr. Cook reported that freight numbers are up 23%. Discussion ensued about current practices in sorting and picking up freight. Mr. Cook reported that the New London terminal is experimenting with containerized units to assist with sorting at the Fishers Island freight building. The BOC has agreed to table freight price increases until a future date.

**Finance Update** - Commissioner Rugg will send out the minutes of the last Finance Committee Meeting to all BOC members. Mr. Cook updated the BOC. Year to date, freight revenue is up 23%, Car and traffic is up 6%, Total ferry revenues including rents, freight, etc is up 3%. Payroll is down 2% but expected to change. Total ferry operational expenses are down 32% which by in large include repairs. Total expenses are up 32% which is largely due to the rise in fuel; however, a plan exists to correct this.

**Project Administration Services and Permitting**

RESOLUTION 2018 – 118

Whereas the channel into Silver Eel Cove has silted in and requires dredging; and  
Whereas permitting the State of New York requires specific sampling and surveying as part of the permitting process for dredging and disposal;

Therefore it is resolved that the Ferry District accepts Docko, Inc.'s time and material proposal for up to \$2,900 for professional engineering services related to the survey and topographical map of the shoreline for disposal purposes and permitting.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner P. Rugg

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

Nays: None

**Executive Session**

At 17:45, the following resolution was proposed: RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham

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

Nays: None

At 18:08, the following resolution was proposed:

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

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

**Legal / CSEA**

RESOLUTION 2018 – 119

Therefore it is RESOLVED, to rescind resolution 2018-108.

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

RESOLUTION 2018 – 108

*Whereas the Board of Commissioners Rescinds resolution 2018 – 108.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. Smith'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*

RESOLUTION 2018 – 120

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. Smith's hourly wage rate from \$13.41 to \$13.68.

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

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**HR**

RESOLUTION 2018 – 121

WHEREAS the District ratified the August 17, 2017 Stipulation of Agreement with CSEA, Inc. Local 1000, AFSCME, AFL-CIO regarding Advancement Ladders and;

WHEREAS said Advancement Ladders define qualifications and minimum wages for certain positions and;

WHEREAS, on February 1, 2018 Jonathan Hiller, a Ferry Captain (FIFD), met the qualifications to be advanced to Captain as listed in the Ferry District's advancement ladder, and

WHEREAS his manager has recommended such action, it is therefore

RESOLVED to promote Mr. Hiller to full time Captain (FIFD) with effect February 1, 2018. Simultaneously, Mr. Hiller is released from his part time Deckhand (FIFD) position.

It is further RESOLVED to retroactively increase, beginning February 1, 2018, the hourly wage rate of Jonathan Hiller from \$19.87 and \$24.89 to \$28.00 and to retroactively pay the difference between his contractual wage rates at January 1, 2018 and the Captain wage rate of \$28, the total payment equal to \$4,147.51.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham

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

Resolution 2018 – 122

WHEREAS The Fishers Island Ferry District wishes to amend resolution 2018-109 by noting that Ms. Hadley's summer seasonal Cashier (FIFD) appointment will terminate on September 15, 2018;

It is therefore RESOLVED to amend resolution 2018-109 that Ms. Hadley's summer seasonal Cashier (FIFD) appointment will terminate on September 15, 2018;

Moved by: Commissioner P. Rugg

Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham

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

Nays: None

*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.*

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*Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham*

*Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe*

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

*Nays: None*

**Next Scheduled Meeting – Monday, July 9, 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 P. Rugg, the meeting was adjourned at 6:14 pm.