

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
May 11, 2020

Chairman Ahrens called a teleconference meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District ("the Ferry District") to order on May 11, 2020 at 4:45 PM.

Commissioners William Bloethe, Heather Burnham, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy, Captain Jesse Marshall and Deanna Ross. Finance Committee members included Tom Cashel and Bob Coleman. There were no members of the public present via teleconference.

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

Correspondence/Public Comment - Mr. Cook received a letter of correspondence from Derek Scroton requesting travel abatement for medical treatments and follow-ups. The BOC has approved. Mr. Cook also received a letter from Mrs. Peringer. The letter was read to the BOC. Mr. Cook will respond, and once Mrs. Peringer provides him with valid proof of residing on Fishers Island for 270 days, her resident card will be issued. There was no public comment.

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2020 - 066

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated May 11, 2020, in the amount of \$24,322.62.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Bloethe

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

Nays: None

Airport - Mr. Murphy reported that the Town of Southold signed the documents to approve Elizabeth Field Airport to receive \$20,000 of FEMA money through the CARES Act. The Ferry District is working with a company out of Cape Cod called MIS for tracking of aircraft and develop a landing fee billing system. The paving project is moving forward with C&S. There have been raised concerns of people walking and riding bikes on the runways. This is a violation and subject to a \$1,000 fine. Ms. Jane Ahrens has posted an announcement on the Fishers Island website and Mr. Murphy will be adding more signage to curtail the violations.

Management Reports

Marine/Traffic Update - Mr. Murphy reviewed April 2020 traffic. Passengers and vehicles were down 67% and commercial was down 50%. Mr. Cook reported that there is a scheduled inspection with the

USCG tomorrow. The crew continues to do ongoing maintenance and painting on the ferries. M/V Silver Eel remains in the water at the marina. Restrooms are open and accessible on the boats and the New London terminal restrooms are accessible if needed.

Covid Surcharge - The BOC discussed various surcharge options during the working session. An update was given to Commissioner Bloethe who was unable to join the working session. The BOC continues to debate and plan to make a final decision by next week.

HR

RESOLUTION 2020 – 067

It is RESOLVED to rescind resolution 2020 – 055.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Bloethe

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

Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2020 – 055

WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District policy as described in the Employee Handbook and the CSEA Collective Bargaining Agreement grants a 3% longevity increase to wages when an individual has been employed by the Fishers Island Ferry District for five years: and,

It is RESOLVED to note that with effect March 26, 2020, Mr. Mirabelli's pay rate for his Captain (FIFD) title be increased by 3% to \$32.34.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

Ayes: A. Ahrens, J. Reid and D. Shillo

Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2020 – 068

RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island District authorizes Gordon Murphy to enter into a Stipulation of Agreement and an Affidavit for Judgment by Confession with employee #24473 with effect March 2, 2020.

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens

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

Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2020 – 069

Whereas Mr. RJ Burns submitted his resignation for retirement with effect the end of business June 10, 2020; and

Whereas Mr. Burns has accrued 38 days of sick time due at the time of his retirement: and

Therefore, it is RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District accept the resignation and acknowledge his retirement with effect June 10, 2020 of Mr. Ronald J. Burns; and

It is further RESOLVED to pay Mr. Burns his accrued sick time of 38 days totaling \$14,759.20.

The Board of Commissioners also wishes to thank Mr. Burns for all his work at the District and wish him smooth sailing on his next adventure.

Moved by: Commissioner Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens

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

Nays: None

Handbook

RESOLUTION 2020 – 070

Whereas on October 19, 2018 the Ferry District adopted a “Policy Against Workplace Sexual Harassment” with effect October 9, 2018; and

Whereas this policy was never attached to the October 19, 2018 minutes or the Employee Handbook; and

Therefore it is RESOLVED to amend the Employee Handbook of the Fishers Island Ferry District by deleting the existing handbook language found on page “3,” specifically delete the two paragraphs addressing sexual harassment and replace said language with “The District’s Policy Against Workplace Sexual Harassment is attached as Appendix ‘A’”; and

It is further RESOLVED to amend the Employee Handbook by attaching the District’s Policy Against Workplace Sexual Harassment as approved October 19, 2018 by adding said policy as Appendix A.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Burnham

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

Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2020 – 071

It is resolved that with effect May 7, 2020 to temporarily reduce Mr. George Cook’s salary by 10% to \$121,680 (\$135,200 * 90%) and with effect on May 7, 2020 to temporarily reduce Mr. Gordon Murphy’s salary by 10% to \$88,242.53 (\$98,047.25 x90%).

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2020 – 07

It is RESOLVED with effect May 1, 2020 and until rescinded that the Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District waive their meeting fees.

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

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

Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2020 – 073

With immediate effect the Tuesday half-fare travel for the Peak Season has been suspended.

Moved by: Commissioner Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

Other - Commissioner Reid is requesting a discussion regarding the possibility of bringing back the 6:15/7:00 pm boat back on Fridays. Discussion ensued and the BOC and management agree to bring it back when the need arises and the stay at home orders are lifted on May 15, 2020. In addition, there may be additional boats added for the Memorial Day holiday weekend. Mr. Cook reported that he had a conference call with the ticketing provider that services Silver Eel. They built a platform for the auto ferries that will be considered and if approved can be implemented as soon as June 1, 2020. This would be a savings of \$2,000 per month. The BOC has agreed to keep up with ongoing communications to the public during these ever-changing unprecedented times.

Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 18, 2020 at 4:30 PM via Tele/Videoconference.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner H. Burnham, seconded by Commissioner A. Ahrens, the meeting was adjourned at 5:38 pm.