

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
May 18, 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 18, 2020 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners Heather Burnham, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy 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 reported that no correspondence was received. There was no public comment.

### **Management Reports**

**Marine/Traffic Update** - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. The crew continues to do a lot of maintenance on the boats including painting. Traffic has improved. The boats are running 70-80% with some being full. Revenue from May 1 through May 15, 2020 has been close to the revised budget numbers but remains down 50% from the original budget. Currently the Ferry is running 8-10 commuter vehicles per day during the weekdays. Reservations have generally been full for the 7am and 4:45pm boats due to the commuter program that remains in effect due to Covid-19. Management will investigate how many commercial/passenger vehicles could not get a reservation due to the commuter program. Management is looking to add more boats as soon as tomorrow, May 19, 2020. Discussion ensued. Management has agreed to add the 6:15/7:00pm boat on Thursday and Friday this week and Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday beginning next week. An additional boat will also be added on Memorial Day. Management will send a blast email, update the website and post on [FishersIsland.Net](http://FishersIsland.Net) to notify passengers of the changes.

**Other** - Mr. Cook reported that he has had discussion with the Town of Southold Supervisor, Scott Russell, and Dennis Noncarrow, Government Liason a member of the Economic Development Committee regarding bond counsel and the pursuit of a note that would provide the Ferry District with an advance on next year's taxes. In addition, Mr. Cook has forwarded the Ferry District's operating detail to Representative Lee Zeldin's office who is pursuing a Phase 4 federal stimulus package that would assist state and local municipalities. The BOC intends to increase the tax revenue base for 2021.

**Covid Surcharge** - The BOC and management continued discussions on the proposed surcharge. Mr. Cook responded that a single charge per ticket could be implemented and administered more easily than a one-time charge and discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of each method. Management will discuss with counsel. The BOC has agreed to hold a special meeting this Thursday, May 21st, to further discuss the surcharge with hopes of deciding for implementation on June 1, 2020.

**Residency Discount Program** - Mr. Murphy has suggested to the BOC to pause the residency discount program for several months. The Ferry would still accept applications but hold off on processing. Commissioner Burnham responded that if a family moved into Walsh Park housing or Utility housing, she would not feel comfortable for that family to wait 4 months to get their residency card. Discussion ensued and the BOC has agreed to table the issue at this time.

## HR

### RESOLUTION 2020 - 074

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional Deckhands (FIFD);

Therefore, it is RESOLVED to reinstate, with effect May 21, 2020, Chriss Bridgman as a part-time Deckhand (FIFD) at a rate of \$13.81 per hour.

It is further RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect May 22, 2020 Chriss Bridgman and Evan Spohn from part-time to full-time summer seasonal status Deckhands (FIFD). On September 15, 2020, Mr. Bridgman and Mr. Spohn will terminate their summer seasonal positions and on September 16, 2020 be re-appointed to part-time Deckhands (FIFD).

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

### RESOLUTION 2020 – 075

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional full-time Account Clerk Typists (FIFD) during the peak season.

It is RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect May 21, 2020 Kathleen Alfred-Neiman and Katarzyna Asmolov from part-time to full-time summer seasonal status. On September 15, 2020, Ms. Alfred-Neiman and Ms. Asmolov will terminate their summer seasonal position and on September 16, 2020 be re-appointed to part-time Account Clerk Typists (FIFD).

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

### RESOLUTION 2020 - 076

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional full-time Cashiers (FIFD) during the peak season;

Therefore, it is RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect May 21, 20 Hunter Kucsera from part-time to full-time Cashier (FIFD) summer seasonal status. On September 15, 2020, Mr. Kucsera will terminate his summer seasonal position and on September 16, 2020 be re-appointed to part-time Cashier (FIFD).

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

#### RESOLUTION 2020 - 077

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional full-time laborers during the peak season;

Therefore, it is RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect May 21, 2020 Ian Tirabassi from part-time to full-time Laborer with summer seasonal status. On September 15, 2020, Mr. Tirabassi will terminate his summer seasonal position and on September 16, 2020 be re-appointed to part-time Laborer.

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

**24 Hour Hold on Packages** - Mr. Murphy reported that the 24-hour hold is more of a logistic factor than a safety factor and packages will be sorted as quickly as possible for customer pickup.

**Bids for New Engines** - Mr. Cook reported that three bids were received: from Yanmar, Milton CAT and Cummins. Bids were opened and under review. Management will bring a recommendation to the next BOC meeting.

**Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 4:30 PM via Tele/Videoconference.**

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner D. Shillo, seconded by Commissioner H. Burnham, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.