

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
May 26, 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 26, 2020 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners William Bloethe, Heather Burnham, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy, Diane Hansen, Jesse Marshall and Deanna Ross. 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.

**Warrant**

RESOLUTION 2020 – 082

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated May 26, 2020, in the amount of \$70,138.71.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

**Management Reports**

**Traffic and General Update** - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. Traffic was reviewed from the Memorial Day holiday weekend. Passengers, Vehicles, and Commercial traffic was down 64%, 47% and 32% respectively from 2019. Mr. Cook feels the number of boats that are running seem to be appropriate and nobody is being left behind. There were 4 trips offered on Memorial Day. The 6:15/7:00pm boat will be added on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays starting this week.

**Finance** - Mr. Cook reviewed finances through the end of April 30, 2020. Total Ferry Operations from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2020 were up 12%. Net Income Loss is \$101,693 vs a Net Income Gain of \$256,629 in 2019. The current year loss does not include \$351,000 in taxes that have yet to be transferred to the District from the Town. For the month of April 2020, Net Income Loss was \$121,371 vs Net Income Loss of \$3,433 in 2019. Costs have been cut and the revised budget has been cut by 50%, not including payroll; however, there is at least a 50% decrease in revenues.

**Health Insurance** - Mr. Murphy is working with the Gowrie Group on several plans to be proposed. Mr. Murphy will be reaching out to CSEA and should have more information in the coming days.

**Fares** - Mr. Cook and Mr. Murphy will update the fare table on the District's website to reflect the new Covid surcharge. Discussion ensued regarding fares. Management continues to work with Fare Harbor and hopes to implement a new ticketing system in the Fall. Jesse Marshall reported that passengers are socially distancing on the boats; staff occasionally must remind someone to wear a mask.

#### RESOLUTION 2020 – 083

Whereas resolution 2020 – 078 did not define the term “resident”; and

Whereas the term resident is defined as a Fishers Island year-round resident who participates in the Resident Discount Program;

Therefore it is RESOLVED to amend resolution 2020 – 078 by defining the term “resident” as a year-round island resident who participates in the Resident Discount Program.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

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

Nays: None

**Other** - Chairman Ahrens reported that the Finance Committee is encouraging the BOC to address the parking lot and airport issues. The BOC agrees that an individual needs to be hired to sit at the airport and collect landing fees. With regards to the parking lot, the BOC is aware of the current work being done for the freight building apartments, including digging of water lines, the addition of tenant parking spaces and new landscape plantings on the south side of the freight building. Discussion ensued. The BOC has agreed to have a plan in place prior to the Labor Day holiday.

#### **Legal / Race Point Repower Award**

#### RESOLUTION 2020 – 084

WHEREAS a Request for Proposals was issued and advertised in a widely circulated publication; and

WHEREAS three proposals were received and opened on May 12th: and

WHEREAS three vendors submitted proposals for replacement of main engines and generators and all proposals were evaluated by MJ Bradley and Gilbert and Associates Naval Architects who have determined that, of the three proposals the one received from Cummins Northeast offers the most appropriate engines; and

WHEREAS, the proposal of Cummins Northeast conforms to the published specifications, the pricing for two main engines, two generators, two gearboxes and one control system for both main engines for a total of \$301,892.00, which price includes an extended warranty, application engineering assistance, commissioning, testing, sea trials and documentation, is acceptable to management, and management recommends accepting the proposal from Cummins Northeast; and

WHEREAS there may be unforeseen circumstances which require change orders; and

now therefore it is RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District accepts the bid from Cummins Northeast for \$301,892.00 to supply two new main engines, two new generators, two gearboxes and one control system, etc. for the MV Race Point, exclusive of installation; and be it further

RESOLVED to authorize management to review and authorize change orders up to \$30,189.20; the total cost not to exceed \$332,081,200; and It is further

RESOLVED to authorize management to execute contract and ancillary documents for this project after review by District counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

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

Nays: None

**Other** - Mr. Cook reported that the Cummins bid is significantly lower than budgeted amount. The CT DEEP, administrator of the grant, was asked if money from the VW Grant that is not spent on engine replacement could be used for other things like propellers. Mr. Cook reported that conversations have been positive, but the District has received no firm response at this time. Mr. Cook and Chairman Ahrens will be presenting the upcoming surcharge at this week's ICB meeting. Mr. Cook reported that all the dredging information has been forwarded to the Town of Southold Trustees and Suffolk County Dredging team. He hopes to hear back soon.

**Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 8, 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 D. Shillo, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.