

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
February 16, 2021

Chairwoman Heather Burnham called a teleconference meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (“the Ferry District”) to order on February 16, 2021 at 4:00 PM.

Commissioners Ace Ahrens, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy, Jon Haney, Deanna Ross, Jesse Marshal, Polly Ford and Nick Espinosa. Mr. Jim Eagan was present to discuss the FIS missing fogger.

Chairwoman Burnham 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. Public comment will be held after the warrant is passed.

**Minutes**

RESOLUTION 2021 – 020

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby proves the minutes of the December 21, 2020, January 11, 2021 and January 25, 2021 Board of Commissioner meetings.

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

**Budget Modification**

RESOLUTION 2021 – 021

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby amends the 2020 Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Decrease Appropriations

SM5710.4.000.300	Fuel Oil, Vessels	\$ 20,000.00
SM5710.4.000.350	Fuel Oil, Silver Eel	\$ 15,000.00
5SM1420.4.000.000	Legal Fees	\$ 15,500.00

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		\$ 50,500.00
Increase Appropriations		
SM.9901.9.000.000	Capital Fund Transfer	\$ 35,000.00
SM5610.2.000.000	AirportCapital	\$ 12,000.00
SM5710.2.000.100	Munnatawket	\$ 1,500.00
SM5710.4.000.500	ComputerOperat	\$ 2,000.00
		\$ 50,500.00

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

**Warrant**

RESOLUTION 2021 - 022

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated February 16, 2021, in the amount of \$269,769.17.

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

**FIS Fogger Claim Update** - Mr. Cook reminded the BOC of a claim that was received from FIS regarding a missing fogger that was supposedly part of a shipment the school received in August 2020. FIS received notification that the claim was denied on January 11, 2021. After some research and video provided from the New London terminal, an updated notice of claim from FIS was submitted on January 28, 2021. The vendor did provide FIS with a new fogger. Mr. Eagan, school Business Manager, sent out a summary via email to the BOC and management outlining suggestions to consider with regard to how freight should be handled for the school to prevent future incidences. Mr. Eagan did inform the BOC and management that internal changes at the school are also in place. Discussion ensued regarding current practices and possibilities for new practices to improve the current process. Management and the freight team will work with FIS.

**BOC 2020 Summary Report** - Management has put together a Summary of 2020 Operations and Events for the BOC to review and provide input. Once approved, the report will be published in the FogHorn. Chairwoman Burnham has asked all board members to review in the upcoming weeks so the report can be submitted for the March 2021 FogHorn.

### **Management Reports**

**MU/RP/Silver Eel Updates** - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. Mr. Haney reported that Munnatawket has been running well and nothing to report. Race Point remains at Thames Shipyard. Replacement of the haul plate under the engine foundation has begun. Mr. Haney reported that more haul plate will need to be replaced than originally expected. The USCG is expected at the yard tomorrow for an inspection. Management is still waiting for a delivery date from Yamaha for the new powerhead for Silver Eel.

### **Legal**

#### RESOLUTION 2021 – 023

Whereas the Fishers island Ferry was awarded a grant for engine replacement; and  
Whereas the grant administrator agreed to include a bow thruster within the grant; and  
Whereas the engine purchase and installation will be a change order to the grant project; and

Therefore it is RESOLVED that the Commissioners agree to the engine purchase and installation change order for an amount not to exceed \$71,812 and authorize Geb Cook to execute related contracts subject to review by District counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

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

Nays: None

**Port Security Grant** - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. The RFP was placed in the newspaper. Thirteen vendors responded. Seven vendors are coming for a site visit tomorrow. Bids are due by 2/24/21. Mr. Murphy reported that of the grant, there is \$10,000 available for firewall (cybersecurity) upgrades. This has been approved and parts have been ordered for the upgrade.

### **Legal / Professional Service**

#### RESOLUTION 2021 – 024

WHEREAS, M.J. Bradley and Associates, LLC (MJB&A) is transportation engineering firm providing technical and strategic advisory services to government agencies and environmental groups throughout New York and New England; and

WHEREAS MJB&A specializes in drafting and administration of grants for marine vessels and port facilities; and

WHEREAS the FIFD was awarded a Port Security Grant for the upgrade of our terminal security surveillance system as well as Cyber infrastructure enhancements; and

WHEREAS, MJB&A has presented a proposal to the BOC for the provision of professional grant administration services dated December 11, 2020, for a fee of \$5,000; and

WHEREAS the BOC of the FIFD has determined that it would not be in the best interests of the taxpayers of the FIFD to seek alternative proposals or quotations from other engineering firms who do not possess MJBA's technical expertise in this field; and

Now, therefore be it RESOLVED that the BOC waives the requirement of a second quote in Guideline 8 of the FIFD Procurement Policy; and

be it further RESOLVED that the BOC of the FIFD hereby accept the proposal of MJB&A for professional grant administration services dated December 11, 2020 not to exceed \$5,000, subject to the approval of District counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Reid

Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens

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

Nays: None

**Traffic Update** - Mr. Haney updated the BOC on January 2021 traffic. Passenger, Vehicle and Commercial were down 45%, 8% and 31% respectively from January 2020. The bulk of the passenger count being down was due to FIS not returning to in person learning until January 19, 2020. There was one cancelled trip on January 29, 2020 due to weather. Cargo runs have been taking place every Wednesday and Saturday except for one Saturday in the month of January. Total late trips beyond the established five-minute window was only four trips. Mr. Murphy reported that management will be looking at commercial vehicles by revenue going forward.

**Property Update** - Mr. Murphy reported that the FIFD has 100% compliance with the leases and he is still waiting for a few insurance certificates from several tenants.

### **357 Whistler Ave – Short-term lease**

RESOLUTION 2021 – 025

WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District ("FD") wishes to lease 357 Whistler Avenue for the period June 1, 2021 through September 15, 2021 to the Hay Harbor Club, Inc.; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Ferry District authorizes management to execute a Lease Agreement with Hay Harbor Club, Inc. for a fully furnished house with a term of June 1, 2021 through September 15, 2021 without a renewal option for \$22,500 for the term, subject to the approval of District Counsel and the Town Attorney.

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

**FIS Internet** - Mr. Murphy reported that the FIS needs to upgrade their internet. He has reached out to the school superintendent and several School Board members regarding the possibility of the FIFD sharing in the cost and benefiting from the increased speed. Mr. Murphy will keep the BOC updated.

**BOC 2021 Goals** - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Mr. Murphy reported that he has been exploring with the Conservancy regarding a solar farm on the land between the Transfer Station and South Beach parking lot. Chairwoman Burnham has asked the BOC to review the current goals and provide any input for other potential short- and long-term goals to be discussed at a future working session.

**Draft Emergency Plan** - Mr. Murphy reported that the draft Emergency Plan that is required by the New York State Department of Health is 90% complete and the final draft will be presented in an upcoming BOC meeting.

**2020 Reorganization Plan** - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Mr. Murphy reported that his ten-year anniversary will be coming up in February 2022 and he will be retiring. In the long term there is no need for a civil service assistant manager. Mr. Murphy and Mr. Cook are in the early stages of the reorganization plan that may include a Fishers Island Supervisor. Management will continue to explore to prepare for the change.

**Theater** - Mr. Cook reported that he heard that Mr. Luke Fowler is planning on using the theater this year but has not approached anyone at the FIFD at this time. The BOC has agreed to revisit this at the next BOC meeting on March 1, 2021.

**FIDCO Commercial Sticker** - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. If a vehicle has a commercial sticker and the vehicle is being used for commercial purposes, they should be paying the non-resident rate as opposed to the resident rate. Mr. Murphy feels that some residents are abusing the system. The BOC has agreed to table this discussion for the next working session.

**Other** - Mr. Cook reported that the Town of Southold approved the airport hangar. The BOC approved the addition of a noon boat when the school holds its annual school day for prospective students. Mr. Murphy reported that progress is being made with the new website.

**Executive Session** - The BOC has agreed that no executive session is needed at that time.

## **HR / Salary**

RESOLUTION 2021 – 026

Whereas NY State increased its minimum wage to \$14.00 per hour with effect December 31, 2020; and

Therefore it is RESOLVED to increase the wages of the Lee Nelson to \$14.00 per hour with effect December 31, 2020.

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

RESOLUTION 2021 – 027

Whereas the Fishers Island Ferry District has an agreement with the CSEA through December 31, 2021 (“agreement”); and

Whereas resolution 2021 - 008 increased the base rates by 1% with effect for CSEA titled positions with effect January 1, 2021; and

Therefore it is RESOLVED to amend resolution 2021-008 for the rates for the following employees listed below with effect January 1, 2021.

NAME	PR	1%
KIRBY MARY	45577 Capt.	\$ 22.66
KIRBY MARY	45577 Deckhand	\$ 18.92
NELSON, Lee	62468	\$ 14.14
RUFFIN, Amy	75068	\$ 16.16
SMITH, Frank (Russell)	79935	\$ 14.37

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

**HR**

RESOLUTION 2021 – 028

It is RESOLVED with effect January 31, 2021 the Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District accept the resignation of Richard Waters (83114).

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

**Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2021 at 4:00 PM via Tele/Videoconference.**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner A. Ahrens, seconded by Commissioner D. Shillo, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.