

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
June 12, 2023

Chair Ahrens called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the "Ferry District") to order on June 12, 2023 at 4:00 PM at the Island Community Center and via Zoom.

Commissioners Tom Cashel, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Dave McCall, Jon Haney and Deanna Ross. Commissioner Burnham was absent. There were no members of the public present.

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

Correspondence/Public Comment - Commissioner Shillo reported she and Mr. Cook received an email from Jarod Toldo regarding a late invoice of \$160 handling fee for 72 pallets that were brought over on the ferry. Mr. Toldo is requesting a credit for the \$160 before paying his outstanding bill. Discussion ensued. The BOC has agreed to table this issue until all board members are present. Commissioner Ahrens received an email from Bob Evans with an idea of the Ferry District getting involved with leasing a portion of the Water Street garage in New London. A brief discussion ensued. The Ferry District has no interest in getting involved with a garage owned by the City of New London.

Warrant - Commissioner Reid questioned management regarding the Silver Eel costs on the warrant. Discussion ensued regarding Silver Eel. Mr. Cook reported that Silver Eel has not made any money and currently has a deficit of \$20,000. The BOC has directed management to continue Silver Eel this season and then will review numbers after to determine if the boat will stay in the fleet.

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2023 – 093

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated June 12, 2023, in the amount of \$48,415.04.

Moved by: Commissioner Reid
Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo
Ayes: Ahrens, Cashel, Reid and Shillo

Legal/Health Insurance

RESOLUTION 2023 – 094

WHEREAS the District desires to put in place new health insurance coverage for its qualified employees commencing July 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS the insurance broker Gowrie Group presented insurance options; and

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
June 12, 2023

WHEREAS the Oxford Bronze PPO HRA 6700 health insurance plan (the "Plan") was selected based on coverage and terms; and

WHEREAS the Oxford Bronze PPO HRA 6700 health insurance plan is a high deductible plan and a Health Reimbursement Account ("HRA") can be combined with this health insurance plan, requiring the services of a third-party HRA plan administrator, and Progressive Benefit Solutions, LLC was selected to provide these services; and

WHEREAS the District through the HRA will reimburse employees enrolled in the Plan up to **\$5,000 per single employee or up to \$10,000 per enrollee greater than a single employee for Plan year out-of-pocket expenses; and**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that commencing July 1, 2023, the District shall make available to its qualified employees the Oxford Bronze PPO HSA 6700 health insurance plan; and

be it further RESOLVED that management is authorized to execute all documents relating to the Plan subject to review by counsel; and

be it further RESOLVED that commencing July 1, 2023 the District authorizes management to execute all documents relating to establishment of and oversight over a HRA with Progressive Benefit Solutions, LLC subject to review by counsel; and

be it further RESOLVED that for the year commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2023 only, the District shall fund the HRA sufficiently to reimburse employees enrolled in the Plan up to \$5,000 per single employee or up to \$10,000 per enrollee greater than a single employee for plan year out-of-pocket expenses; and

be it further RESOLVED that management be authorized and instructed to work with the Gowrie Group to review any other related documents and in general to finalize and put in place these two related health care coverage programs commencing July 1, 2023, subject to review by District counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel

Ayes: Ayes: Ahrens, Cashel, Reid and Shillo

Nays:

HR Summer Seasonal

RESOLUTION 2023 - 095

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional full-time Laborers (FIFD) during the peak season between May 15, 2023 and September 17, 2023 and

It is further RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect May 15, 2023 Michael Barnwell from part-time to full-time summer seasonal status. On September 17, 2023, Mr. Barnwell will terminate his summer seasonal position and on September 18, 2023 be re-appointed to part-time Deckhand (FIFD).

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
June 12, 2023

Moved by: Commissioner Cashel
Seconded by: Commissioner Reid
Ayes: Ahrens, Cashel, Reid and Shillo
Nays: None

HR New Hire

RESOLUTION 2023-096

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional Deckhands (FIFD);

Therefore it is RESOLVED to appoint, with effect June 12, 2023, Benson Yon as a part-time Deckhand (FIFD) at a rate of \$15.00 per hour.

It is further RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect June 12, 2023 Mr. Yon from part-time to full-time summer seasonal status. On September 17, 2023, Mr. Yon will terminate his summer seasonal position (FIFD) and on September 18, 2023 be re-appointed to part-time Deckhand (FIFD).

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo
Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel
Ayes: Ahrens, Cashel, Reid and Shillo
Nays: None

HR Promotion

RESOLUTION 2023 - 097

WHEREAS the District ratified the Jan 1, 2022 – Dec 31, 2026 agreement with CSEA, Inc. Local 1000, AF-SCME, AFL-CIO; and

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

WHEREAS, on Friday, May 26th 2023 Joshua Henry, a Deckhand (FIFD), met the qualifications to be advanced to junior captain as listed in the Ferry District's advancement ladder, and

WHEREAS his manager has recommended such action, it is therefore

RESOLVED with effect June 12, 2023, Joshua Henry is promoted to part-time Captain (FIFD) at the rate of \$22.00 per hour when performing the duties of Captain. Mr. Henry will retain his title of full-time Deckhand (FIFD) at the rate of \$18.90 per hour when performing the duties of Deckhand (FIFD).

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo
Seconded by: Commissioner Reid
Ayes: Ahrens, Cashel, Reid, Burnham and Shillo

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
June 12, 2023

Nays:

HR Promotion

RESOLUTION 2023 - 098

WHEREAS the District ratified the Jan 1, 2022 – Dec 31, 2026 agreement with CSEA, Inc. Local 1000, AF-SCME, AFL-CIO; and

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

WHEREAS, on Friday, May 26th 2023 Vince Harring, a Deckhand (FIFD), met the qualifications to be advanced to junior captain as listed in the Ferry District's advancement ladder, and

WHEREAS his manager has recommended such action, it is therefore

RESOLVED with effect June 12, 2023, Vince Harring is promoted to part-time Captain (FIFD) at the rate of \$22.00 per hour when performing the duties of Captain. Mr. Harring will retain his title of Senior Deckhand (FIFD) at the rate of \$20.00 per hour when performing the duties of Deckhand (FIFD).

Moved by: Commissioner Reid

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

Ayes: Ahrens, Cashel, Reid, Burnham and Shillo

Nays:

Management Reports

Boat Update - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. The Summer 2023 schedule starts this Thursday, June 15, 2023. The annual USCG inspection for Munnatawket took place last Friday and everything went really well. Training will take place with the Fishers Island Fire Department next Tuesday, June 20, 2023. This training will cover electric vehicles in the event one should catch fire while on the boats. Mr. McCall reported that the fire blanket was received and in the Fishers Island freight shed.

Mr. Haney reported that he received an update on the generators and coolant modifications would have to take place if they decide to move forward with new generators on Munnatawket. Overall, the boats have been running well.

Ticketing Update - Mr. Cook reported that staffing in ticketing is hurting. Mr. Haney reported that 2 out of the 3 applicants that were hired for ticketing positions turned it down. The current ticketing agent,

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
June 12, 2023

Kathryn will be stepping down to part time as she is going back to school. Discussion ensued regarding the new ticketing system. Mr. Cook reported that they are continuing to work out glitches.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

RESOLUTION 2023 - 099

WHEREAS, DOCKO Inc., a marine engineering firm specializing in permitting, planning, design, engineering and construction located in Mystic CT has provided professional engineering services to the FIFD for thirty-six years and has provided valuable input and advise to the BOC on various pending projects; and

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District has determined that the institutional knowledge and familiarity with the District's infrastructure enables DOCKO, Inc. to provide efficient and expeditious professional services; and

WHEREAS, DOCKO, Inc. has presented a proposal to the BOC for the provision of professional engineering services including permitting, related to a new South Ramp at Fishers Island for an estimated total cost of \$15,100.00. Hourly Rates include engineering technician / computer drafting at the rate of \$145.00 per hour; and engineering services for project administration at the rate of \$230.00 per hour for the term ending December 2023;

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 DOCKO's experience and institutional knowledge.

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 DOCKO Inc. for marine engineering Professional Services dated December 28, 2018 and authorizes the District Manager to execute the professional services agreement, subject to the approval of District Counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Cashel
Seconded by: Commissioner Reid
Ayes: Ahrens, Cashel, Reid and Shillo
Nays: None

Dolphin and Piling Award

RESOLUTION 2023- 100

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
June 12, 2023

Whereas Dolphin and Pilings need to be replaced at the New London, CT Terminal and an RFP was issued and duly advertised,

Whereas two bids were received and the bid from Blakeslee Arpaia Chapman Inc., is the lowest responsible bid received, and whereas management recommends accepting the bid from Blakeslee Arpaia Chapman Inc.; and whereas there may be unforeseen replacement items requiring change orders, now therefore it is

Resolved that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District accepts the bid from Blakeslee Arpaia Chapman Inc. for \$896,800.00 to replace the dolphins and pilings at our New London Terminal; and be it further

Resolved to authorize management to review and authorize change orders up to \$104,000; the total cost shall not exceed \$1,000,000.00.

It is further Resolved to authorize management to execute all contract and ancillary documents for this project after review by District counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo
Seconded by: Commissioner Reid
Ayes: Ahrens, Cashel, Reid and Shillo
Nays: None

Professional Services

RESOLUTION 2023 – 101

WHEREAS, PJM Consulting, LLC (PJMC) specializes in drafting grant applications related to the marine industry; and

WHEREAS, PJMC has successfully drafted and was awarded grants in the past for the Fishers Island Ferry District under the name of MJ Bradley and Co.

WHEREAS, the BOC of the FIFD has requested a quote from PJMC for professional services and assistance in the preparation of a grant for federal funding under the Federal Transit Administration Ferryboat program; and

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District has determined that the familiarity and technical expertise in the submission of these grant applications will enhance the likelihood of an award to the District; and

WHEREAS, PJMC has presented a proposal to the BOC for the provision of professional grant writing services dated June 7, 2023, at the cost of \$235/hr; and

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
June 12, 2023

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.

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

RESOLVED that the BOC of the FIFD hereby accepts the proposal of PJMC dated June 7, 2023 for professional grant services, their fee not to exceed \$13,500.00, subject to the approval of District Counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Cashel
Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo
Ayes: Ahrens, Cashel, Shillo and Reid
Nays: None

Other - Commissioner Ahrens reported that he received a request from Christene Rogan to place a bench in memory of her mother, Jill Rogan at South Beach by Hay Harbor golf course. This would require a concrete pad and would only be there in the summer and be no cost to the Ferry District. Discussion ensued and management will look into it.

Commissioner Cashel and Mr. Cook received an email from Charlie Wilmerding regarding insurance on the freight building. Commissioner Cashel reported that he hopes to be able to split the premium between the Ferry and Walsh Park. One quote is \$55,000 which would be split between the two and then if a claim was made, both parties would have to sign and agree as to how the money is spent, etc. Mr. Cook will follow up with Mr. Wilmerding.

Mr. Cook received a thank you to the Ferry District from Susie Parsons for helping move and store some medical equipment.

Executive Session - No Executive Session needed at this time.

Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 26, 2023, at 4:00 PM at the Community Center and via Zoom.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner J. Reid, seconded by Commissioner T. Cashel, the meeting was adjourned at 5:01 pm.