

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
January 8, 2024

Chair Ahrens called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the "Ferry District") to order on January 8, 2024 at 2:00 PM at the New London Terminal and via Zoom.

Commissioners Ace Ahrens, Heather Burnham, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Dave McCall, Jon Haney and Carol Murphy. Commissioner Tom Cashel and Secretary Deanna Ross were absent. Members of the public included about 80% of the Ferry Crew.

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

Correspondence/Public Comment - Mr. McCall received correspondence from James McCall requesting medical fare abatement for physical therapy. The BOC agrees. Public comment was opened to the Crew. Dan Eagan asked if the board meetings could be moved to 4:30 pm so more crew members could attend. The Board commented that the times can be adjusted to accommodate the crew members. Kris Dorsett reported that Union Rep Diaz sent an email to Alyssa with the official request of opening the renegotiations of the Advancement Ladder. Mr. Cook and Mr. Dorsett acknowledged the request. Discussion ensued. Mr. Dorsett believes the meeting will occur in February.

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2024 –001

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated January 8, 2024 in the amount of \$63,311.14.

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

BUDGET MODIFICATION

RESOLUTION 2024-002

01.08.2024

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District Hereby amends the **2023** Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Increase Appropriations:

SM5610.4.000.000	Airport: Contracted Expenses	\$ 100
SM5710.4.000.625	Terminal Supplies	\$ 2,000
SM5710.2.000.000	Repairs: All Vessels	\$ 10,000
SM5710.2.000.100	Repairs: Munnatawket	\$ 5,000

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
January 8, 2024

SM5710.2.000.200	Repairs: Race Point	\$ 2,000
SM5710.4.000.500	Computer/IT Support	\$ 15,000
SM5710.4.000.400	Printed Materials	\$ 100
SM5710.4.000.800	Uniforms	\$ 200
SM5710.1.000.000	Payroll Expense	\$ 34,000
SM9030.8.000.000	Social Security Tax	\$ 6,000
SM9060.8.000.000	Medical Insurance	<u>\$ 8,000</u>
Total		\$ 82,400

Decrease Appropriations:

SM5709.2.000.200	Repairs: Docks & Terminals	\$ 29,400
	Fuel Oil: Munn & RP	\$ 5,000
	Repairs: Silver Eel	\$ 4,000
	Insurance: General	\$ 4,000
	Vacation Earnings	\$ 8,000
	Property Taxes	\$ 16,000
	Sick Time Earnings	<u>\$ 16,000</u>
	Total	\$ 82,400

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

BUDGET MODIFICATION RESCIND

RESOLUTION 2024-003

01.08.2024

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby rescinds Budget Modification 2023-178 (dated 12.11.2023) as follows:

RESOLUTION 2023-178

12.11.2023

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District Hereby amends the **2023** Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Increase Appropriations:

SM5709.2.000.100	Repairs: Munnatawket	\$ 30,000.00
SM5710.4.000.625	Terminal Supplies	\$ 8,000.00

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
January 8, 2024

SM5713.4.000.000	US Mail	\$ 1,055.00
Total		\$ 39,055.00

Decrease Appropriations:

SM5709.2.000.200	Repairs: Docks & Terminals	\$ 39,055.00
		\$
		\$
Total		\$ 39,055.00

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

BUDGET MODIFICATION REPLACE

RESOLUTION 2024-004

01.08.2024

Whereas, Resolution 2023-178 has been rescinded, the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry therefore approves the revised budget modification below, in effect 01.08.2024,

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District Hereby amends the **2023** Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Increase Appropriations:

SM5710.2.000.100	Repairs: Munnatawket	\$ 30,000
SM5710.4.000.625	Terminal Supplies	\$ 8,000
SM5713.4.000.000	US Mail	\$ 1,055
Total		\$ 39,055

Decrease Appropriations:

SM5709.2.000.200	Repairs: Docks & Terminals	\$ 39,055
		\$
		\$

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
January 8, 2024

Total

\$ 39,055

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

HR Promotion

RESOLUTION 2024 – 005

WHEREAS Employee 38461 has exceeded the requirement of his current position and requested to increase his role at the Ferry District; and

Therefore, it is RESOLVED to appoint Employee 38461 to a Full Time Advanced Agent/ Freight Agent of \$21.00 with effect January 25, 2024.

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

HR Promotion

RESOLUTION 2024 – 006

WHEREAS, Employee 41786 has exceeded the requirement of his current position and requested to increase his role at the Ferry District; and

Therefore it is RESOLVED to appoint employee 41786 to Senior Deckhand with a wage rate of \$20.50 with effect January 25, 2024.

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

HR New Hire

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
January 8, 2024

RESOLUTION 2024-007

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional Deckhands (FIFD);

Therefore, it is RESOLVED to appoint, with effect January 17th, 2024, Nils Lee as a part-time Deckhand (FIFD) at a rate of \$17 per hour.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

Ayes: Ahrens, Burnham, Shillo and Reid

Nays: None

HR -Resignation

RESOLUTION 2024 – 008

It is RESOLVED to accept the resignation of employee 66623 with effect December 31, 2023

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Burnham

Ayes: Ayes: Ahrens, Burnham, Reid and Shillo

Nays: None

Fire Equipment - Co2 Suppression - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. Mr. Haney reported that he received a recommendation from Cross Sound Ferry of a company based out of New Jersey for the Co2 Suppression System for the Race Point. The RFP was sent out for both Race Point and Munnatawket. The install includes approximately 4 days per boat. Install will require USCG approval and yearly maintenance. One Bid was received. The Bid was opened with all commissioners at the meeting present. The bid from Sea Safety International was \$85,128.41 for both boats a certificate of non inclusion was included. The bid was reviewed and accepted.

Fire Equipment

RESOLUTION 2024-009

Whereas the Fishers Island Ferry District desires to install CO2 fire suppressions systems aboard both of their ferries, M/V Race Point and M/V Munnatawket; and

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

Whereas one proposal was received, evaluated, and conformed to the published specifications; and

Whereas the proposal from Sea Safety International is the only bid for the M/V Race Point and M/V Munnatawket fire suppression systems; and

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
January 8, 2024

Therefore, it is Resolved that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District accepts the bid from Sea safety International for CO2 fire suppressions systems aboard both boat for a total of \$85,128.41 and to authorize management to review and authorize change orders and shipping expenses up to 25% of the total bid; 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 Burnham
Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo
Ayes: Ahrens, Burnham, Shillo and Reid
Nays: None

PROPERTY Security Deposit Refund

RESOLUTION 2024-010

WHEREAS Paul Ford, dba Paul's Home Improvement, terminated his rental agreement with the Fishers Island Ferry District in August 2023, he is thereby due a security deposit refund in the amount of \$98.18.

Therefore, be it RESOLVED that the Fishers Island Ferry District will refund Paul Ford, formerly dba Paul's Home Improvement, the sum of \$98.18

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

Management Reports

Marine Update - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. Last week, there was an issue on the 7am run of Race Point which caused operation at a reduced speed. The problem was quickly resolved when the boat returned to New London. Munnatawket is heading to the shipyard tomorrow and will be there for six weeks. The boat will return February 23, 2024. New generators will be installed during the shipyard. Mr. Haney spoke with Cross Sound Ferry and The Caribbean is a viable boat if needed. Due to upcoming weather, this week's cargo run has been moved to Tuesday. The times will remain the same.

Traffic Update - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. Traffic numbers were up for October, November and December 2023. Overall for the year, passengers were up by 3,000. Autos up by 200 and commercial up by 1,000. Traffic numbers remain lower than pre-covid; however, continue to climb.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
January 8, 2024

New Boat Design Phase - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. Mr. Cook reported that the Ferry District did not get awarded the Federal Transit Administration grant. Mr. Cook stated that they will try again. Mr. Cook received some sample RFPs from other ferries and is working with someone who has experience with new boat RFPs. Along with Elliot Bay, Mr. Cook and Mr. Haney have been talking with Incat Crowther who works closely with Gladding-Hearn Shipbuilding. Both companies are interested in our project. Discussion ensued among the BOC and Crew regarding design possibilities of the new boat.

Ferry Wifi - Commission Reid reported that he has been researching possibilities of getting WiFi on the boats through StarLink and ROAM Set. Commissioner Reid would like this to be a free service and will work with Mr. Cook.

Backhoe Repair - Mr. McCall reported that the ferry owns a backhoe that is in need of repairs that will cost \$38,000. Discussion ensued and it was determined that the Ferry District does not need it. The district will look at options to sale the backhoe.

Property Lease Update - Mr. Cook reported that Goldberg is moving forward with evaluating all the districts properties and rewriting of new leases.

Executive Session

At 14:45 it was RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

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

At 15:16 it was RESOLVED that the Commission exit from Executive Session and resume Public Session.

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

Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 22, 2024 at 3:30 PM, at the Island Community Center and via Zoom.

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 3:17 PM.