



Board of Director Regular Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2023 Recorder: Donna Halvorsen

1. **Call Meeting To Order:** Jeff Nickerson called meeting to order at 10:01am.

2. **Roll Call:**

Chair	Klawock	Jeff Nickerson	present
Vice Chair	Thorne Bay	Harvey McDonald	present
Sec/Tres	Craig	Otis Gibbons	present
Director	Coffman Cove	Brian Wilson	present via teleconference
Director	Hydaburg	Sam Mooney	present
Director	At Large	Doug Rhodes	present

Staff Present: Ron Curtis, Chrissy Torsey-Lucero

Staff present via teleconference: Walter Marsh, Jarrid Brendible, Johanna Lambeth, Arthur Martin, Katie Martin and Donna Halvorsen

Public Present: None

Public present via teleconference: None

3. **Approval of Agenda** Motion: Approve agenda as presented; moved by Sam Mooney and seconded by Harvey McDonald. Motion approved unanimously.

4. **Approval of Minutes** Motion: Approve minutes from June 8, 2023; moved by Doug Rhodes and seconded by Otis Gibbons. Motion approved unanimously.

5. **Public Comment** n/a

6. **Correspondence** None

7. **Manager's Report**

To: Inter-Island Ferry Authority Board of Directors

From: Ron Curtis - General Manager

Subject: Q1 Update

- 1) Funding Status – We are working on a couple Items. a) We were left out of the States Budget this year, we are usually given a legislative grant for 250K. I have been in contact with Dan Ortiz and Bert Stedman. They both conveyed that it was an oversight and that they will look at coming up with funding in a different way. I was asked by Dan Ortiz for a face to face meeting with he and Senator Stedman at SE Conference. b) STIP. We received 5.2M less than we requested in Capitol dollars through 2030 in the preliminary STIP. We have commented as has South East Conference.
- 2) SE Conference – The Annual meeting is September 19th-21st in Sitka, Chrissy and I are attending. There was a transportation sub-committee meeting on 8-28 to discuss the STIP and STIP comment period.

- 3) General Update – We had a very good FY23. Ridership (45,673 Passengers) and Vehicle ridership (11,710 Vehicles) in FY 23 were both up 11% over FY 22. Revenue was up compared to FY 22 by 11% also. (This does not include Metlakatla stats).
- 4) Operating Status – We are currently running 7 days a week between HYL and KTN.
- 5) Metlakatla – We filled in for the Lituya from January 21st to April 1st. We also provided 8 days of service in October. Met Numbers for FY 23 are 6,081 Passengers, 1,584 Vehicles,
- 6) M/V Stikine status – The Stikine is in operation and has been receiving rave reviews from the public. Awesome job by our Engineering team and VIGOR shipyard.
- 7) MV Prince of Wales Status – In Ward Cove.
- 8) Staffing – We are still struggling with staffing the Ketchikan terminal. We have been staffing by rolling in Hollis agents and Donna has done most of the coverage. We have hired two agents this week (one F/T, one P/T).
- 9) Fuel Expense – Fuel expense for FY2023 was 18.4% of total system cost.
- 10) KTN Dock project –The Dock improvement project has begun and the berth closure is on track to commence about Oct 1st 2023 and re-opened on November 9th.

Requirements and Restrictions for travel October 1 through November 6, 2023:

- a. No-Sail days are Oct 9,13,16,23,27,30 and Nov 6, 2023 Due to conflicts with the M/V Columbia.
 - b. Driver must be able to back-up their vehicle
 - c. Vehicle must be able to travel in reverse under its own power
 - d. Using AMHS staging lanes located on north side of terminal building
 - e. No Doubles or towed vehicles
 - f. No Single Unit Vehicles longer than 35'
 - g. Only up to 2 Single Unit Vehicles 28'-35' per sailing (excluding ECP cans)
 - h. Only UNAs allowed are those driven on/off under their own power
 - i. The Captain has final say and the right to refuse travel
- 11) Fares – After extensive discussion with the team, taking consideration of the CRRSSA funds we still have available, we believe this is a discussion for next year.

Respectfully Submitted, Ron

8. **Finance Report** Chrissy states she sent out report and wanted to mention the work done on Stikine in the spring was just now billed and the propulsion system for the POW came in as a lump sum so that's why the numbers look a little scary. She wanted to get an audit done by now but a few things are causing delays and one will occur as soon as auditor is available.
9. **Old Business** None
10. **New Business** None
11. **Board Comments** Otis states he wants the public well-informed about us docking at Main Berth for the 6 weeks. Jeff asks if we have a back-up plan if we can't dock because AMHS is still in port. Ron states yes we do, AMHS will move to cruise ship dock if this happens. Jeff asks if the pre-employment drug test is a requirement, and wondered if it was keeping people from applying. Chrissy states it's a DOT requirement but also an IFA policy we've practiced in the past so that we are sending the message of no tolerance. Jeff asked about our pay scale and wondered if we could get a list of our jobs and starting pay. Ron or Chrissy will send out list. Harvey asks if our wages are competitive, and Ron states for POW jobs we are above, for KTN AMHS we are less. But AMHS people pay dues and are away from home. Chrissy states you have to take our benefits into account; they add up and are

valuable. Otis reminds us that its also a year around job verses so many other jobs. Sam states he is so glad the seating in the galley has increased, it's a huge improvement of service. Doug states he's heard nothing but great things about the new enclosed solarium area. Sam states he appreciates the staff who has been stretched to the limits this past year, they need to be appreciated for hanging in there doing the tough jobs; staffing issues are occurring everywhere, and hats need to go off to the people covering the IFA and wishes there was something we could do for them.

12. **Schedule Next Meeting** TBA but tentatively early December

13. **Adjournment** Motion: Adjourn meeting at 10:40am; moved by Sam Mooney and seconded by Doug Rhodes. Motion approved unanimously.