



Board of Director Regular Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2018 Recorder: Donna Halvorsen

1. **Call Meeting To Order:** Harvey Mc Donald called meeting to order at 10:01am.
2. **Roll Call:**

Chair	Thorne Bay	Harvey McDonald	present
Vice Chair	Klawock	Jeff Nickerson	absent excused
Sec/Tres	Craig	Otis Gibbons	present
Director	Wrangell	Patricia Gilbert	present via teleconference
Director	Hydaburg	Anthony Christianson	present
Director	At Large	Dee Dee Jeffreys	absent excused
Director	Coffman Cove	Brian Wilson	present via teleconference

Staff Present: Dennis Watson, Chrissy Torsey-Lucero, Walter Marsh and Donna Halvorsen

Staff present via teleconference: None

Public Present: None

Public present via teleconference: None

3. **Approval of Agenda** Motion: Approve agenda as presented; moved by Harvey McDonald and seconded by Otis Gibbons. Motion approved unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes** Motion: Approve minutes from September 28, 2018; moved by Harvey McDonald and seconded by Otis Gibbons. Motion approved unanimously.
5. **Public Comment** N/A
6. **Correspondence** N/A
7. **Manager's Report** Dennis explains he's been traveling for the last month so is still catching up and apologizes for not having a written report for the Board.

- Dennis states we worked with the AMHS yesterday to avert a potential hazardous situation for the vessel departure. The Kennicott was due in at 2:45pm and winds were so high that the Captain wasn't sure if he would have enough bow thruster power to be able to pull away from dock while the Kennicott was tied up. The Kennicott sticks past last dolphin about 40' so to pull out of port, the Captain has to head south momentarily then head north. Additionally, the Lituya arrives at 3:30pm so would be close by further closing that passage way for our vessel to get through. Bucking those winds would hinder navigating this scenario so the Captain was hoping the Kennicott could back up the 40' so we could have a straight shot out of the port. Dennis contacted AMHS Operations Manager Tony Corvallis and he said he would have the Kennicott slow down so arrival is after we depart. This was a perfect solution and this kind of cooperation and immediate response with the AMHS for remedying the issue was greatly appreciated by all.
- Dennis states he went to Washington DC and discussed the Buy America issue which was allowing us to make significant repairs to our variable pitch systems and reduction gears. The

Buy America directive means that any item made with steel must be manufactured in America. Steve Silver who worked with us when building the vessels got ahold of FTA and FHWA and White House staff to get a waiver or find out alternatives and unfortunately, we didn't get anywhere. The White House staff has not come up with a protocol for using the new Buy America directive from the President. Before going to this meeting, we meet with our delegation and they said go to this meeting and come back and tell us what they said, and we'll adjust from there. So we've got the ball rolling but we won't get any satisfaction before needing to haul out vessel and do repairs so Walt and state engineer have adjusted what will get worked on. There has only been 1 company to get a waiver this entire year; we'll see some action, it just isn't clear how long it will take.

8. **Old Business** Otis asks about the Volkswagen grant and Dennis explains that it has only gotten more complicated and although we were first to sign up, we have not heard anything; Dennis plans on following up. Dennis asks how FareHarbor is doing and Donna states that both ticketing and accounting are working well. FareHarbor has a lot of capabilities and we are learning more and more about it as time goes on. Chrissy states there are 'no findings' for the financial report and that the final report will be available soon.
9. **New Business** General Manager discussion: Harvey states Dennis is retiring and we need to be looking at filling or restructuring the position. He continues that he wants to poll each Director on their ideas for the position and what they want the workshop to include. Otis states he wants to have a workshop with as much face-to-face as possible, and that the discussion should include historical and present needs and where we want to go now. He continues that we need to develop a vision statement for the GM position. Harvey states that there seems to be 2 options: hire a full time GM or have Dennis (or someone) be our lobbyist and the 4 managers absorb some of the other GM duties. Otis states we need to sit down and discuss these things among Board, Dennis and Managers. Dennis states he'll dig up old documents from when he first got involved years ago to see how things have evolved over the years, and that a face-to-face is important for getting a thorough understanding of where you want to go. Otis states that he'd like Dennis to write a synopsis of the GM duties he's been performing. Anthony agrees that Managers should be part of discussion if them taking over duties is a possibility, and he asks that Dennis stay long enough to train whoever takes over GM duties. Dennis agrees and says was planning on that for sure. Patty states that workshop with GM is needed, and that he is probably doing over and above what the job description outlines so we need that information from him. She states she believes we'll need to restructure duties for Managers and wants an organizational chart. She continues that perhaps the coalition members city lobbyists could work on behalf of the IFA by soliciting funding. Anthony states that he will approach the 4 Tribes at next meeting to see if they can get the IFA as an 'inventoried route' then there could be some funds available to assist financially. He states that Sea Trails is up for discussion and is where the funds would come from. Anthony continues that they run to the ferry Fridays and Sundays, so it could be just an extension of those existing runs. He will let Dennis know what he finds out. Brian states that face-to-face is great and wants the job description and other materials ahead of the workshop. He states he's leaning towards having a GM because in his experience the decision-making process was a struggle when there were multiple people involved in the final decision. Harvey is torn between the current 2 options; if he could get someone like Dennis, he is all for keeping things the way we are. He also states that he will be out of state 3 months starting Dec 27 (and latter part of Feb in Egypt so unreachable during that time) so face-to-face happens now or he'll have to participate by phone. All agree that some participation will be by phone and there isn't a way around that. Dennis states the information flow needs to start now so he and Chrissy will get needed documents out to everyone asap. Harvey asks when to set workshop up, and Dennis states let's get information out and start discussing things via email and phone and then we'll poll people on when is a good time to schedule workshop, the sooner the better but ok to wait until after holiday. Walt states that we are looking at a financial strain ahead and replacing the GM will cost more than having

Managers take on those duties. The vessels are getting older and are needing more repairs so cutting costs where we can is needed.

10. **Board Comments** Harvey thanks Anthony for bringing up fact that Tribal Inventory funding might be a possibility.
11. **Schedule Next Meeting** TBA
12. **Adjournment** Harvey McDonald adjourned meeting at 10:47am