



Board of Director Regular Meeting w/Executive Session Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2020 Recorder: Donna Halvorsen

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

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

Staff Present: None

Staff present via teleconference: Ron Curtis, Walter Marsh, Rich Rogers, Chrissy Torsey-Lucero, and Donna Halvorsen

Public Present: None

Public present via teleconference: None

3. **Approval of Agenda** Motion: Approve agenda as presented; moved by DeeDee Jeffreys and seconded by Harvey McDonald. Motion approved unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes** Motion: Approve minutes from March 25, 2020 Regular Meeting & March 26, 2020 Emergency Meeting; moved by DeeDee Jeffreys and seconded by Harvey McDonald. Motion approved unanimously.
5. **Public Comment** None
6. **Correspondence** None
7. **Manager’s Report** Ron gives a big thank you to all staff during these ever-changing times; it’s been an all-hands-on deck effort and he is very proud of everyone. Jeff extends his appreciation as well, and Harvey, DeeDee and Otis all concur to all comments! Ron states that we have added Saturday sailings starting June 13, 2020 and will start adding Wednesday sailings on July 1, 2020. Jeff asks if we are getting questions about COVID-19 and what we are saying. Donna answers yes and that people want to follow the ‘rules’ and be prepared before traveling so we are getting a lot of calls. The IFA website and FaceBook have current COVID-19 information and requirements, and all Agents provide info to customers by phone, email and in person. Some questions are beyond our knowledge base so we refer

them to the State's website. Jeff asks what we tell them, and Donna answers that we follow the CDC cleaning and disinfecting recommendations, social distancing and face covering protocols as feasible and have reduced vessel's passenger capacity to roughly 65% at this time. Harvey asks/comments that travel allowed is for "essential services only" and can we even monitor it? Donna replies that allowing essential travel only stopped the beginning of June and that we would have a hard time enforcing restrictions; anyone can travel as long as they do not have an active case of Covid-19, or they quarantine or follow steps for having COVID-19 test taken. Ron states that *intrastate* travel is unregulated unless off the road system and that *interstate* travel still has 14-day quarantine and significant restrictions. Otis asks what happens for interstate travel if people are tested in KTN and they don't have results back what do they get to do? Ron states they are not required to quarantine until they reach their final destination stated on their declaration form so there is a possibility someone would travel with us who is carrying the virus. Ron states we are not a port of entry so we cannot ask them where they are quarantining or get a copy of their declaration form. He continues that we have protocols in place if someone shows symptoms while in transit, but we have restrictions on what we can ask and are doing the best we can with it. Otis asks if we could put up a sign that says anyone with results pending please stay in your car? Donna replies that it is a USCG regulation that no one is allowed on vehicle deck while underway and not everyone is traveling with a vehicle. Ron comments that we cannot supersede the State's directive and ask who is coming in from out-of-state. Otis asks since we have no legal grounds maybe we can just 'ask' them to isolate themselves. Otis continues that letting people stay in vehicle could reduce chances of spreading virus. Donna comments that another couple issues are that we may need more man power because we would be monitoring passengers on 2 decks and also there is no lifesaving equipment on vehicle deck. Rich states that the USCG has security and safety regulations in place that state we cannot have people on vehicle deck and that we don't allow people to stay in their vehicle while we are under way. He continues that operationally it does not work; the Lituya can do it because they have an 'open' vehicle deck and that deck is their disembarkation deck in an emergency. Otis states that when we have a medivac people stay in ambulance, and Rich replies that happened once that he knows of in the 18 yrs he's been working. Rich states that our current regulations do not allow for this but he will contact the USCG to see if this is an option. Jeff states that the main problem with all of this is that from the beginning none of this is enforceable. Jeff says he is concerned that we will be exposed but there is nothing we can do about it because we live in a free country and until something happens, we can't enforce anything.

To: Inter-Island Ferry Authority Board of Directors
From: Ron Curtis - General Manager
Subject: Q4 Update

- 1) Letter of commitment for matching funds was signed and submitted to the State on 3-27.
- 2) On Monday 4-16 our Buy America waiver was listed in the Federal register. This is the culmination of 2 years of work.
- 3) On 4-14 Commissioner MacKinnon of the Alaska DOT confirmed we have 6.3M set aside for the IFA over the next 4 years in the STIP. These are Federal Highway dollars that pass through the State.
- 4) On 5-22 the M/V POW broke down in transit to KTN. Stikine was not available do to the inability to get the required technicians from down South to complete the repairs.
- 5) On 5-25 working with Commissioner MacKinnon and the AMHS we were able to secure some service from the AMHS to help out our passengers.
- 6) On 5-28 the M/V Lituya began service to POW.
- 7) On 6-9 we received confirmation of receiving 5311 grants totaling 952.5K for 2021 administrative costs.
- 8) On 6-11 we received a Grant Award letter from the State in the amount of 250K.
- 9) On 6-12, The M/V Stikine came back into service and the AMHS made its last run to POW.
- 10) Cares funding for operational costs was approved but we have not seen any of the dollars as of yet.

- 11) Next item of business for me is getting funding for the repairs on the POW moved from 2021 to this year.
- 12) It has been a crazy quarter as outlined above and including the navigation of all the Mandates and compliance steps. If I missed something here, I apologize.

Respectfully Submitted, Ron

8. **Old Business** None

9. **New Business**

- a) Motion: Accept Mayor Donald Nickerson Jr’s reappointment of Jeff Nickerson to Klawock BOD seat; moved by DeeDee Jeffreys and seconded by Otis Gibbons. Motion approved unanimously.
- b) Motion: Approve Resolution No. 2020-05 approve FY2021 Budget Public Hearing & Adoption; moved by DeeDee Jeffreys and seconded by Harvey McDonald. A roll call vote was taken and motion passes.

Chair	Klawock	Jeff Nickerson	yes
Vice Chair	At Large	DeeDee Jeffreys	yes
Sec/Tres	Craig	Otis Gibbons	yes
Director	Thorne Bay	Harvey McDonald	yes

- c) Motion: Discontinue offering Sensational Saturday Sales program; moved by DeeDee Jeffreys and seconded by Harvey McDonald. Motion approved unanimously.

10. **Executive Session**

Motion: Recess Regular Meeting as 10:40am and enter into Executive Session in order to maintain a reasonable expectation of privacy for the purpose of discussing internal personnel structures; moved by Harvey McDonald and seconded by DeeDee Jeffreys. Motion approved unanimously.

11. **Reconvene Regular Meeting**

Reconvene Regular BOD Meeting from Executive Session at 10:57; roll call taken.

Chair	Klawock	Jeff Nickerson	present via teleconference
Vice Chair	At Large	Dee Dee Jeffreys	present via teleconference
Sec/Tres	Craig	Otis Gibbons	present via teleconference
Director	Thorne Bay	Harvey McDonald	present via teleconference

Staff Present: None

Staff present via teleconference: Ron Curtis, Rich Rogers, Chrissy Torsen-Lucero, and Donna Halvorsen

Public Present: None

Public present via teleconference: None

12. **Action items from Executive Session** None

13. **Board Comments** Harvey asks how we can cover the route if crew is exposed, do we need a backup crew? Rich, Ron, Donna all state they could fill in and Rich mentioned Walt and Relief deckhand(s) would could be part of a 3rd crew. Harvey states he just wants to have that addressed. Jeff says that if we are ready for something it usually doesn't happen so great! Otis asks that staff looks into allowing people to ride in their vehicle while underway as people are generally good about things if we have options for them but if we don't then people may be more inclined to hide things which wouldn't be good either. Rich states he will follow up with Captains and USCG on possible options. Ron states maybe we will designate the reading room for interstate travelers. Jeff suggests staff talk it over then contact USCG and maybe they say no and no more discussion is required. Ron comments that we filed an Interstate Plan with the State which lists all things we are doing to decrease spread of COVID, and reminds everyone that we are not recirculating air on vessel-it is all fresh air coming in. Jeff requests Ron send out information on this so Ron will send copy of Interstate Plan submitted to State to all BODs. DeeDee thanks everyone for 'surviving' all the hassles we've had, and others agree.
14. **Schedule Next Meeting** TBA but SE Conference is tentatively the 2nd week of September (16-20th)
15. **Adjournment** Motion to adjourn meeting at 11:08am; moved by DeeDee Jeffreys and seconded by Harvey McDonald. Motion approved unanimously.