



# Board of Director Regular Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2021 Recorder: Donna Halvorsen

1. **Call Meeting To Order:** Jeff Nickerson called meeting to order at 10:06am.

2. **Roll Call:**

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

Staff Present: Rich Rogers, Kristine Hansen and Donna Halvorsen

Staff present via teleconference: Ron Curtis and Chrissy Torsey-Lucero

Public Present: None

Public present via teleconference: DeeDee Jeffreys

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 September 21, 2021; moved by Harvey McDonald and seconded by Sam Mooney. Motion approved unanimously.

5. **Public Comment** none

6. **Correspondence** none

7. **Manager's Report**

1) COVID Update - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced that it will again be continuing its Face Mask Order for public transportation. We currently have no active cases.

2) Funding Status – The 6M grant of CRRSAA funds is in the hands of Alaska Community Transit and they are working to make the funds available to us. We continue to work with the Governor's office regarding these funds. We are currently waiting for reimbursements from our current year 5311 grants.

3) SE Conference – I will be attending the SE Conference Mid-Session meeting as well as a Transportation committee meeting in Juneau. The Session is February 9-11.

4) Infrastructure Bill – As I mentioned last month most of the dollars in the infrastructure bill have been set aside for ferry operators that have routes longer than 50 miles. We are currently working on solutions to this with the Governors office and SE Conference.

A number of possibilities have been asked of us, including running the Coffman route a couple times a month during the summer months. Our first priority is to serve our existing route but we are looking and listening to options.

5) Electric Ferries – Walt continues to work with Thrust Master and Elliott Bay on technical feasibility. We need to know if this can be done without changing the class of our vessels.

6) Operating Status – We are currently running 7 days a week.

7) M/V Prince of Wales status – Pier side, Painting the upper deck is currently taking place.

8) MV Stikine Status – In Operation. Currently we are down one generator that needs repairs. The repairs should be done in a matter of days.

9) Staffing – We have hired 2 new employees to the Vessel staff and are currently looking for another terminal agent in KTN.

10) 20th Anniversary Celebration – Electronic “Save the Date” emails have gone out. Service awards for our 20 year employees are in hand. Recognition awards for our founders are nearly complete. Catering has been arranged for the luncheon. We have also purchased swag bags for everyone that rides the boat on January 13th. The press has been sent bullet points in order to formulate a story, I have already seen the draft story by the Island Post. I will be putting out a press release on 12-16 concerning the Free Fare week. It will be 1-8 to 1-14-2022.

11) Longest Term IFA Employee – This is a correction to the last meetings report. Since Barbi Armstrong still does some relief work for us, she is the longest term employee, December 11, 2001. December 17th, 2021 will be the 20th employment anniversary for Brian Edwards. Followed by Scott Crayne 1-19-2022 and Rich Rogers 2-4-2022, both also 20 year anniversaries. We plan on awarding service awards to these individuals at the 20 year celebration.

12) AMHS – We will be doing the Metlakatla run in January just after the Free Fare week. The Lituya is going to have 2 lay up periods this year. One in the Winter and one in the summer.

13) Retention Bonuses – I am proposing a \$500 retention/Christmas bonus for all employees as well as a \$500 Gift Certificate for IFA travel. The purpose of the gift certificate is for friend travel as well as confirmed travel for employees on days they must travel. These will be payable in this month.

8. **Old Business** none

9. **New Business**

- a) BOD Terms expiring June 30, 2022 for Coffman Cove, Hydaburg and Thorne Bay. Mayors will be contacted next month, and if current Director is interested in position, let Mayor know.
- b) 20 Year Celebration details are on schedule.
- c) Monetary retention incentive 2021 for employees. Motion to go along with management’s proposal (\$500 IFA travel gift card & \$500 bonus) on retention incentive moved by Otis Gibbons and seconded by Sam Mooney. A roll call vote was taken and motion passes.

Chair	Klawock	Jeff Nickerson	yes
Vice Chair	Thorne Bay	Harvey McDonald	yes
Sec/Tres	Craig	Otis Gibbons	yes
Director	Coffman Cove	Brian Wilson	yes

Director	Hydaburg	Sam Mooney	yes
Director	At Large	Doug Rhodes	yes

10. **Board Comments** Harvey thanks staff for doing a good job keeping up on things, the 20 yr anniversary is a special event. Jeff appreciates the maintenance on ferries is being kept up so thoroughly; we learned a year ago what happens when we can't do the maintenance. Ron agrees and states that was completely out of our control and was due to the required Buy America waiver we needed to proceed. Sam states although the mileage of covering the MTM run doesn't get us to the 50 mile mark, maybe the importance of it is enough to help IFA qualify. Ron states the 50 mile is a hard stop but State is looking at putting a ferry dock in Saxman and nothing is definitive at this point. Sam agrees that the Employee incentive is a great help for employees.

11. **Schedule Next Meeting** TBA but 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March 2022

12. **Adjournment** Motion: Adjourn meeting at 10:40am; moved by Harvey McDonald and seconded by Sam Mooney. Motion approved unanimously.