

CBJ DOCKS AND HARBORS BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
For Friday, March 13, 2020

I. Call to Order

Mr. Etheridge called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. in CBJ City Hall Room 224.

II. Roll Call

The following members were present: James Becker, Steven Guignon, James Houck (by phone), Mark Ridgway (by phone), Bob Wostmann, Budd Simpson and Don Etheridge.

Absent: Chris Dimond and Annette Smith

Also Present were the following: Carl Uchytíl – Port Director, Matthew Creswell, Deputy Harbormaster and Mary Wolf, Administrative Assistant 1.

III. Approval of Agenda

MOTION By MR. SIMPSON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED AND ASK UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion passed with no objection

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items (not to exceed five minutes per person, or twenty minutes total time). - None

V. New Business

1. Bid Award for Project DH20-032 – Douglas Harbor Anode Installation
Presentation by the Port Director

Mr. Uchytíl said the bid opening was yesterday with three bidders. One of the bids from the Seattle area was deemed non-responsive due to not providing a surety bond. That bid was also the highest bidder. There were two other favorable bids from Alaska Commercial Divers and Global Diving and Salvage. Global Diving and Salvage had the low bid of \$148,108 and this will go to the Assembly for approval on Monday. This is a favorable bid and we do have a grant with Alaska DOT which is a 50/50 match. This means about \$75,000 of Harbors funds will be used for this project.

Board Questions - None

Public Comment – None

Board Discussion/Action

Mr. Wostmann asked if the \$75,000 was in the budget?

Mr. Uchytíl said yes. Staff was anticipating the bid to come in \$100,000 more.

MOTION by MR. SIMPSON: TO RECOMMEND THE CBJ ASSEMBLY APPROVE A BID AWARD TO GLOBAL DIVING AND SALVAGE FOR \$148,108 TO INSTALL ZINC ANODES IN DOUGLAS HARBOR PROJECT DH20-032 AND ASK FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

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V. Staff & Member Reports

Mr. Uchtyl said this was added in case any members wanted to discuss anything. He said he wanted to talk about the draft letter regarding a resolution the Board passed in February allowing Docks & Harbors to manage the reservation system for the Goldbelt dock downtown. The timing is such that he wants to get this in front of the Assembly. He met with CBJ Law and he was told that he needed to come up with more specifics before it could go before the Human Resources Committee on Monday. He said he met with McHugh Pierre, Goldbelt CEO and he recommended a 30/70 percent revenue sharing. This was added to the resolution.

Board Discussion

Mr. Simpson said in Title 85 it talks about responsibilities but it does not say it is exclusive or prohibitive of anything else. He said he believes CBJ Law is looking at this in a too narrow of an analysis. If the Assembly passes this we will be good to go but this seems to be harder than it needs to be.

Mr. Uchtyl said CBJ Law's position is if it is not in Title 85 Docks & Harbors is not able to do it.

Board Question

Mr. Becker asked if this Board has any say in allowing or not allowing cruise ships to come to Juneau.

Mr. Uchtyl said just today Canada said they will not allow ships greater than 500 passengers to use any of their facilities until July. That will shut down Alaska receiving cruise ships until July of this year because of the Jones Act. Congress could waive the Jones Act for that purpose for this year but absent any change, Alaska will not receive cruise ships until July.

Mr. Becker asked if Mr. Uchtyl had an opinion of this.

Mr. Uchtyl said not really. He said the Docks role is to provide and manage shore side infrastructure for ships to tie up but staff is not included in scheduling of the ships.

Mr. Wostmann said his understanding is that authority rests with the Captain of the Port - Coast Guard Officer or the City can assume or take on certain responsibilities if it declares a civil emergency and then it has to have a justifiable reason to do so. The decision to allow or not allow ships does not rest with the Docks & Harbors Board.

Mr. Ridgway said with Canada just making their statement today, is there anything Docks & Harbors can do to help the Cruise Industry?

Mr. Uchtyl said he cannot think of anything. The Canadian declaration has sent shock waves through the tourism industry. Even if the cruise ships do start up July 1st, there is a lot of damage. We are a small part of the cruise industry and he cannot think of anything that will help.

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Mr. Ridgway asked if at the next Operation Committee the members can be briefed on the impacts of the summer hires and the ripple effect this is going to have on our operations.

Mr. Uchytel said he will add this to the next Operations Committee.

Mr. Houck said his business is a small fish in the tourism industry. There are a lot of fees at the startup of each season and he has decided to take a wait and see type attitude meaning he will assess what is happening on June 1st and then on June 15th and then see from there. He said with Canada suspending ships over 500 passenger has probably set in motion the end to the 2020 cruise season.

Mr. Wostmann said he recommended to also bring to the next Operations Committee how to handle the smaller ships and charter yachts that come to Juneau and prepare for a possible scenario.

Mr. Simpson said like the Westerdam wanting moorage space while they are offline, maybe the three other docks in Juneau can provide the same moorage opportunity for other cruise ships.

Staff Reports

Mr. Uchytel reported;

- Staff was planning on having two gatherings for Harbormaster Dave Borg's departure and we have cancelled both due to COVID-19.
- On Monday at 5:30 will be the Human Resources Committee and that will roll into the Assembly Meeting. At the Assembly meeting there will be the bid award and also a non-code ordinance to allow the City Manager to directly negotiate with the Franklin Dock Enterprise for a tideland lease.
- The Lumberman went through the impound process and it was offered for sale and there were no takers. The vessel is full of trash. Staff was going to go with a term contractor to clean it up but now with no cruise ships we will use this opportunity to have seasonal staff do the work to clean it up. He is still working with EPA to scuttle and the process is to remove the trash, have Global Diving to clean the fuel tanks, fuel lines, and remove hydraulic lines. Next we would ask Coast Guard if the vessel would be clean enough to scuttle. We have located a location in the Gulf of Alaska 1300 feet deep that staff feels would be a good spot to scuttle. The scuttle permit comes from the EPA but it is approved through the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard is the local judge in this case on how clean is clean enough.

Mr. Becker asked if the 1300 feet deep location is in the 12 miles requirement?

Mr. Uchytel said yes.

Mr. Becker asked what the bottom is at that location?

Mr. Uchytel said it is a mud bottom.

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Mr. Creswell said with COVID-19 updates constantly changing, the steps staff have taken to protect staff and customers are as follows;

- Basic good hygiene. An employee in each space is responsible for multiple daily disinfecting of our areas.
- For the front facing staff we have put up signs asking customers to stand back from the counters 5' and staff stands back 5' creating a 10' separation and we are also installing plexi-glass for the air to air contact in Aurora and Statter Harbor offices. Staff is wearing gloves when taking money and paperwork from customers. As we learn more we are flexible and make changes where needed. There are a lot of unknowns and concerns with staff. Management is remaining unified with a calm collected factual voice.

VI. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 12:23 pm.