

AICAB MEETING MINUTES
October 04, 2018 @ Anderson Island Community Center

Members Present:

Joe Howells, Dave Albertson, Dave Jacobsen, Elizabeth Emerick, & Wade Winkler; Absent: Lauren Kirby, Buzz Thome, Larry Nelson, Pat Owen

Call to Order and Verification of Quorum:

The regular session was called to order by Chair Joe at approximately 6:30pm and it was noted that there was not a quorum. The pledge of Allegiance was observed.

Introduction of Guests:

Nick Lacsina: Pierce County Ferry and Airport Management Analyst
Steve Caputo - Hornblower
LJ Rohrer: Pierce County Council Chair's (Doug Richardson) assistant
Doug Richardson: Pierce County Council Chair
Eric Cunningham – New AICAB Member (Not official yet)

Adoption of Minutes:

No quorum so minutes will be approved next meeting.

Treasurers report

Dave Jacobsen – Began the year with \$547.48 currently have \$142.48 and we have expended \$405 so far this year, \$360 of it in rent and \$93 in bank fees. Last reimbursement request was back in April of 2017 so I will be putting in a request for \$453 which will bring the bank account back up to about \$600. Budget for next year includes, \$360 for rent, \$100 for the website fee, \$60 in bank service fees for a year, meeting materials, and ferry fare reimbursement. This is a total of about \$630.90, which would be consistent with this year's spending.

Joe – Since we don't have a quorum tonight, we may have to meet in December so we can vote.

Guest Speakers Reports:

Doug Richardson –

First the building with the kitchen addition is beautiful. We are currently going through the budget process and are at the beginning of the budget cycle, so that is what everything is about for the next few weeks. We will be including a budget to upgrade the bathrooms in community center to ADA. The budget for the VIP is also included (\$20,000). We are also almost there with the shoreline management plan, which unfortunately is back to allowing dumping in the Nisqually dumping area. Anyone wanting to dump there will have to apply for a permit. This is where our fight needs to be so when the hearings examiner is reviewing these permits all the concerns that have been previously brought up by you, continue to be brought up during the permitting process. There maybe legislation in the works that would take these decisions away from local government. State makes the decisions on these items currently.

We have a district meeting next Tuesday at 5pm at the Lakewood pavilion inside Lake Steilacoom Park. If a member of the board would like to attend and talk about the island he can

have them added to the list of speakers. New TV series is being put together called Behind the Scenes of Pierce County. The first episode highlights the ferry and workers that support it. We will provide video to Hornblower for use. Still in process of filming them all and will let you know when they will be released. It is about what is going on in the County.

Reminder for election in November. Prepaid postage now for ballots.

Guest - Is there any action going on getting a grant for the gym.

LJ – waiting on elections so we can address the correct person.

Charlene – Sept. was the month of disaster awareness and would like to have agencies together to discuss options and preparedness for the Island.

Joe – Fire station is the preparedness location.

Glad plane crash didn't hit the island and would like to give a shout out to the ferry system, sheriff's department and all parties that came together to address that incident.

Charlene – worried about trees. Have root rot and am concerned about loss and damage due to earthquake. Would it be possible to have an arborist to assess the problem?

Nick Lascina –

Dry Dock Update – The Christine Anderson went into dry dock sept 17th, and is expected to be done in November. Cost of dry dock is \$1.6 million. Work being done include upgrades to navigation system, paint touchups, upgrades to doors, car deck make over, overheads will also get rehabbed. There will be engine maintenance and work, in addition to the propellers getting cleaned and polished. So far no emergency work has been required and everything is going as planned.

Guest - Does the shipyard have any incentive to get it done more quickly?

Nick - Not familiar with contract but can look at that.

Steve – tight schedules so likely not possible.

Contingency Plan – If the Steilacoom II has major failure that cannot be fixed within a short period of time – passenger only service will be initiated. The department of corrections would provide a barge to transfer passengers to the passenger only ferry. TA

Schedule – no updates for now. We are planning to take a more comprehensive look at the schedule in 2019 before making changes.

Wade – What happened to the survey?

Nick – that will be part of the comprehensive look

Level of Service – There are two ways that we currently measure level of service:

1. Service reliability – percentage of scheduled runs made
2. Cars left behind - % of runs leaving without cars left and # of cars left.

We are looking at other ways to measure level of service as well:

It looks like there is a lot of room to reduce the cars left behind: seasonal pricing, variable run pricing, HOV lanes on vessels not necessarily right for this service, increased service, reservation system, and one of the most immediate things, providing better communication about the better times to use the ferry (rider outreach). We are also looking at improving the ferry tracking system.

Recovery of Costs SII – Looking into what more we can do; Laruen has been working with the new attorney to determine what they can do to recover more costs than what the company that provided the faulty gears is offering (\$20,000).

Dave – Any thought to starting two boat services with Memorial Day weekend continuing through the summer instead of waiting until later in the summer to launch the two boat service on Friday and Sunday?

Nick – We have been looking into this.

Rick – question about Ketron service. What is the agreement for ferry service for them? The process seems questionable.

Nick – it is a reservation service, don't know what the contract is.

Steve – Ketron resident calls within a certain window. If resident says they have 3 vehicles we leave space for 3 vehicles. If ask for 13 spaces would leave 13 spaces. It is more common that they call for one space and they actually need 3 versus calling for 13 and only needing 5.

Amy – I am strongly against reservation system. As long as I keep seeing it as an option I want to document my opposition.

Heather – data on two boat system; appears that the double boat system needs to extend to the 6:40 hour as it often overloads. Can we look at changing the times for the double boat service?

Steve – have had discussions about it, but it hasn't been serious. Don't feel we have the infrastructure to support it.

Guest – What is wrong with the Steilacoom camera?

Steve – is supposed to be fixed tomorrow. Raising it up and taking off the double focus so it will concentrate on the lanes.

Jim – The Anderson Island assistant App; we get alerts when it is running late; can we use this to be able to provide real time updates?

Nick – We are looking at a different system for tracking. This would allow for more real-time information, and integration into other systems.

Amy – is there any tacking of the train runs that interfere with the runs?

Nick – there is a way we could look at, the data is there. Good point

Steve – There is no set schedule for freight trains, not allowed per homeland security.

Guest - Two boat services has been a blessing. Have you analyzed the data from this year? We had a 10 day period where we needed two boat service and we didn't have it. It was a disaster.

Nick – We are definitely aware of it, and looking into it.

Joe – Steve can you address the issue of crew?

Steve – The 4th of July is a perfect example. With the available crew that we had we guessed at the best time to do the two boat service. We have limits of what we can operate with, due to not being able to maintain crew that aren't used regularly.

Dave – Would that be the same issue?

Steve – No, it is a matter of the budget that we have to work with. Shifting the time is not a problem.

Nick – We look at the cost components of that as well.

Amy – Nick on the Steilacoom side. Why is the driveway at the bottom of the lanes still blocked out? Everybody always leaves a gap, can we change the stripping so people park there.

Dave – There is a reason for it, I think it is for access for utilities or emergency

Amy – What about the proposal for a round about?

Wade – Issues with larger vehicles getting access. It is quickly loosing popularity.

Heather – new boats in 2054, is there any thought about infrastructure updates?

Nick – There haven't been any plans addressing issues with trains at this point

Guest – What is the status of the maintenance strip?

Steve – Plan is to be done in December.

Mary – The loading etiquette cards that were created; is there a link to them online somewhere?

Nick – I will look into that.

Heather – in regards to the AICAB website, it still shows that meetings are on Fridays. Can this be updated to reflect when meetings actually are?

Joe – It is not set in stone, we can have a meeting whenever. Often times it has to do with who is available and where there is space available. You just have to watch and I try to post it to let people know.

Heather – I understand the Facebook site shows it but when you go to the AICAB website the information isn't accurate and so for people wanting to be involved it makes it hard to know what kind of time commitment might be involved, etc.

Joe – I understand your concern

Charlene – thanked Steve Caputo for helping her with dog on a hot summer day when she missed the boat.

Old Business:

Ferry Overloads & Line Management on AI side (VIP Chair) – Kendall – The VIP have been running the lines for years on big weekends; this year the lines on July 4th weekend have been bad. There is also a behavior problem with people getting combative and aggressive. It is not safe anymore for VIP to be running the lines. We feel that the county needs to recognize the increase in the population and the issues and they need to be in control of the situation. Doug has shown good leadership on this along with Lauren. They will be making a proposal to get the sheriff to assign people to both sides to be present during the times when there is heaviest traffic. They are developing the plan and working on funding. VIP will not be doing the lines anymore. County employees will be working the lines on both sides.

Will be increasing the time off-duty officers will be coming over as well so there will be a greater presence.

Jim – I have a suggestion about deputized citizens. I think it worth looking into a volunteer system for law enforcement. Deputized volunteers are used in small communities elsewhere and it might be a good solution for here too.

Rick – it seems like there are two roles here, directing traffic, and the other enforcement.

Kendall – deputies would just be there for enforcement when needed. County employees would still direct the traffic.

Amy – How does Washington state ferries deal with it?

Steve – They have assigned deputies for coverage on both sides.

Steve – VIP makes a world of difference, and without them there it will be a different experience and we are going to miss them if they go away.

Dave A. – It needs to be a program.

Kendall – we really felt that the County needs to take control of the situation.

New Business:

Adding an American Legion Member to the AICAB – We have a ten member board and some have felt it would be good to go to 11.

Jim – thanks for inviting me, I should attend more often. We have 110 members, as far as a body of representation it is significant. I think it would be worthwhile and a fair thing.

Dave J. – there are members of the American legion on the board, currently there are several.

Joe – Thought it was good idea.

Dave A. – Would it make sense for you to send a letter to Doug requesting that? Maybe keep it at 10 and replace a non-active group with the American legion.

Joe – Give it some thought and we can vote on it at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm