



Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority

SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE WOODS HOLE, MARTHA'S VINEYARD AND NANTUCKET STEAMSHIP AUTHORITY

January 31, 2012

The Members of the Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority ("SSA") held their regular monthly meeting at 9:30 a.m. on December 20, 2011, in the second floor conference room of the SSA's Woods Hole terminal, located at the Foot of Railroad Avenue, Woods Hole, Massachusetts. All five Board Members were in attendance: Chairman John A. Tierney (New Bedford); Vice Chairman H. Flint Ranney (Nantucket) (who participated by telephone conference); Secretary Robert L. O'Brien (Barnstable); Marc N. Hanover (Martha's Vineyard); and Robert S. Marshall (Falmouth).

1. SSA General Manager Wayne C. Lamson presented the Board with management's proposed scope of the study the SSA will be conducting over the next few months to determine how the SSA should replace the *M/V Governor* to best provide it with additional operating and scheduling flexibility. The alternatives that will be reviewed, in addition to the possibility of doing nothing, are:
 - (a) Possible acquisition and modification of a used supply vessel up to 235 feet in length with similar (or additional) truck-carrying capacity as the SSA's other freight vessels;
 - (b) Construction of a new 235-foot freight vessel (with significantly more truck-carrying capacity than any of the SSA's current freight vessels);
 - (c) Construction of a new passenger/vehicle ferry (similar to the *M/V Martha's Vineyard* or the *M/V Island Home*) and the conversion of the *M/V Nantucket* into a freight vessel (with the removal of her two mezzanine passenger decks);

As part of this project, the SSA will also be studying the economic feasibility of providing freight service between New Bedford and Martha's Vineyard, either seasonally or on a year-round basis, and based upon different sailing speeds and truck-carrying capacities.

2. SSA Director of Engineering and Maintenance Carl R. Walker reported that the *M/V Eagle* Mid-Life Refurbishment Project is going well at Thames Shipyard in New London, Connecticut. The demolition phase is about 90% complete, and the shipyard has started installing the passenger heads and steel bulkheads. The bowthruster engine also has been removed and the new bowthruster, as well as the new windows and other new equipment, already have been delivered to the yard. Mr. Walker stated that the vessel will return from Thames on schedule around April 1, 2012.
3. Mr. Lamson discussed with the Board management's proposed changes to the Hyannis parking lot operations that will allow 84 parking spaces at the Hyannis terminal, which are currently being used by parking permit holders, to be used for daily parking by customers who want the convenience of dockside parking and are willing to pay slightly more for it. As part of these proposed changes, management plans to keep the SSA's Lewis Bay Road parking lot open on a year-round basis for all of the SSA's Hyannis parking permit holders, which is within easy walking distance to the terminal, instead of requiring them to park at our Yarmouth Road parking lot, which is a little farther away. (Hyannis off-site parking permits will continue to be offered at a price of \$600 per year, from May 15, 2012 through May 14, 2013.) Management's proposed daily parking rates at the Hyannis terminal vary from a low of \$5 per day from December 15 through March 31, to \$10 per day from April 1 through April 30, to \$15 per day from May 1 through June 14, and then to \$20 per day from June 15 through September 14, after which they decrease to \$15 per day through October 31 and then to \$10 per day through December 14. Additionally, management is proposing to offer discounted long-term parking at the SSA's Brooks Road parking lot at the rate of \$10 per day for those customers who stay one week or longer (with those customers who stay in that lot for five or six days also being charged a maximum of \$70). The SSA will now notify its current parking permit holders of these proposed changes and give them an opportunity to comment on them by the end of February 2012, which will allow management to consider their comments before a final recommendation is made to the Board at their next meeting.
4. The Board approved an update to the Authority's Equal Employment Policies so that they reflect amendments to the laws concerning employment discrimination. These amendments include increasing the time period within which individuals may file charges of discrimination from six months to 300 days, and including additional categories with respect to which individuals are protected from discrimination, such as their genetics, active military status and, most recently, their gender identity and expression (which goes into effect on July 1, 2012).
5. The Board rescinded their award last month of a two-year contract for the SSA's marine fuel to Dennis K. Burke Inc. of Chelsea, Massachusetts, because management subsequently allowed Burke to withdraw its bid after it realized it could not meet the SSA's

specifications. The Board's vote also awarded the contract to Canal Fuel Co. of Sagamore, Massachusetts, which was the next lowest eligible and responsible bidder for the contract and had submitted a bid to provide the fuel at a mark-up of \$0.0545 per gallon.

6. Because no bank can provide the SSA with a full range of banking services at all of its locations, the Board adopted SSA Treasurer/Comptroller Robert B. Davis' recommendation (which he made with the assistance of SSA Director of Information Technologies Mary Claffey, SSA Assistant Treasurer Kathy Walters and SSA Accounting Manager Mark Anderson) to award contracts to a number of different banks for these services, as follows:
 - (a) The SSA's depository accounts for cash revenues received at the Woods Hole, Vineyard Haven and Oak Bluffs terminals, as well as at the Martha's Vineyard Airport Reservation Office, will be held at Martha's Vineyard Savings Bank.
 - (b) The SSA's depository accounts for cash revenues received at the Nantucket terminal and the Mashpee Reservation office will be held at Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank.
 - (c) The SSA's depository accounts for cash revenues received at the Hyannis terminal and the Falmouth parking lots will be held at TD Bank.
 - (d) The SSA's depository account for revenues received from credit card transactions will be held at Sovereign Bank.
 - (e) The SSA's municipal checking account for disbursements will be held at TD Bank.
7. The Board also awarded Contract #36-11 for dry-dock and overhaul services for the *M/V Iyanough* to Fairhaven Shipyard Companies, Incorporated of Fairhaven, Massachusetts, the lowest eligible and responsible bidder for the contract, for a total contract price of \$203,859. The *M/V Iyanough* is scheduled to be in the shipyard in March 2012 to undergo a US Coast Guard hull examination, machinery inspections, underwater hull cleaning and painting, seachest piping renewals, exhaust elbow replacements, exhaust side shell penetration repairs, and replacement of the damaged luggage compartment doors.
8. The Board also authorized Mr. Lamson to purchase two new shuttle buses powered by compressed natural gas (CNG) from Northern Bus Sales, Inc. of Hudson, New Hampshire, for a total contract price within our budgeted amount of \$220,000, in accordance with the terms of a government contract that allows for cooperative purchasing by governmental entities such as the SSA. Each of the new shuttle buses will have 20 seats and a wheelchair lift with room for two wheelchairs. They will be used for transporting

customers between the Hyannis terminal and the three off-site parking lots located in Hyannis, although during the off-season one or both of them may be used between the Woods Hole terminal and the Palmer Avenue parking lot.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Board voted to go into executive session to discuss various matters appropriate for discussion in executive session, and they announced that they would reconvene in public.

The next regular monthly meeting of the SSA's Board is currently scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 2012, in the second floor conference room of the SSA's Woods Hole terminal, which is located at the Foot of Railroad Avenue, Woods Hole, Massachusetts. The location, time and date of the meeting are all subject to change, so please look for the formal notice for the meeting that will appear on this website next month. Thank you.