



Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority

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

August 16, 2022

The Members of the Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 16 2022, at the Authority's Administrative Offices, 228 Palmer Avenue, Falmouth. All five (5) Board Members were present and participated via Zoom videoconferencing: Chair Moira E. Tierney (New Bedford); Vice Chair Robert F. Ranney (Nantucket); Secretary Robert R. Jones (Barnstable); James M. Malkin (Dukes County); and Peter J. Jeffrey (Falmouth).

1. Communications Director Sean F. Driscoll provided updates on the website redesign and mobile app development project as follows:
 - The ADK design team have been hard at work on the mobile app and site homepage designs and continued to refine user dashboard & profile management designs, as well as various internal pages such as schedules, parking, directions, about section, what to do, and fares and discounts,.
 - The advertising and Call to Action strategies were started, as well as the overall content strategy for the About page, the what to do and events pages.
 - The ADK tech team worked on various facets of the site including frontend work on reservations, persistent login technology, account management, and security.
 - Accessibility audits were completed on the main header, side navigation bar, main footer and the booking bar.
 - Work on securing a content management system continues. Once that recommendation has been made by ADK and accepted by the Authority, the project's timeline will be revised to account for any necessary changes. The goal remains to have a site ready to launch by early November, but it is increasingly likely that the actual launch will happen in February or March 2023 to allow the internet general openings to occur first before switching.
 - Public engagement has been ongoing via the bi-weekly eNews and website updates at www.steamshipauthority.com/webproject.

2. Director of Marine Operations Mark H. Amundsen provided an update on the dry dock of the *M/V Katama* at Thames Shipyard & Repair Co. of New London, Connecticut. Highlights of the project include keel plate renewal in the bow area, and blasting and coating above the rub rail. Total contract price, including credits and change orders, stands at \$954,279.
3. Woods Hole Terminal Reconstruction Project Manager William J. Cloutier and General Manager Robert B. Davis presented an overview of the upcoming Phase 5 of the terminal reconstruction project, which will consist of enabling work on the landside portion of the project in preparation for construction of the new terminal building and utility building. The phase is broken into six subphases as follows:
 - Phase 5A involves activity around the traffic booth at the base of Cowdry Road and is expected to take five weeks.
 - Phase 5B is on the south side of the site around the freight shed and is expected to take six weeks.
 - Phase 5C is west of the traffic booth in line with south pier and is expected to take five weeks.
 - Phase 5D will take up most of the staging area for six weeks. The Authority will have very limited staging capabilities during this phase, which runs January 2023-February 2023. Staff is considering alternative staging plans for this time.
 - Phase 5E is just south of the temporary terminal building and is expected to take six weeks.
 - Phase 5F is directly in front of the temporary terminal building and will last eight weeks.

The work will begin September 12, 2022, and conclude by May 15, 2023.

4. Mr. Davis provided an update on the status of the Request for Proposals to Provide Freight Transportation Service to the Island of Martha's Vineyard, reporting that, following more than four months of local and national advertisement, the Authority received no proposals by the August 2, 2022, deadline. The RFP was issued March 18, 2022, and was advertised by multiple methods, including posting on the Authority's website; legal advertisements in the *Cape Cod Times* and the *New Bedford Standard-Times*; and advertisements in multiple marine publications, including *Marine Link*, *Boats & Harbors*, *Maritime Reporter*, and *Marine Log*. Additionally, an email blast was sent by *Marine Log* to approximately 20,000 subscribers and included a full-color advertisement of the RFP notice.

The Authority received 47 requests for a full copy of the RFP but, ultimately, no proposals, nor any requests for revisions, were received. The RFP encouraged potential proponents "to contact the SSA if they believe there are any provisions in the RFP that are too restrictive for a successful freight service for the island of Martha's Vineyard so that the SSA can review those provisions and, if possible and appropriate, address any concerns." However, no potential proponents chose to do so.

Authority staff have reached out to those potential proponents who requested a full copy of the RFP for their input on why they did not submit proposals.

With regards to what next steps should be taken in this process, staff will be seeking to have a meeting of the Long-Range Vineyard Task Force and then add it to the agendas for the Port Council and Board to consider what feedback has been have received.

5. The Board authorized Mr. Davis to purchase, subject to satisfactory additional inspections, two (2) used offshore supply vessels (OSVs) from Hornbeck Offshore Services LLC for a total contract price of \$11,275,000, inclusive of a two and one-half percent (2.5%) brokerage fee. The overall cost estimate for the project, including acquisition, broker fees, inspections, conversion, reactivation, design and engineering, and SSA shipyard representatives, along with a 20% cost contingency, is approximately \$32 million. Authority staff anticipates that the first vessel would be available for the summer 2023 schedule and the second vessel by early summer 2023.

A public contest for naming the vessels will be announced in the next several days, and a “short list” of finalists will be presented to the Port Council and Board at their respective September meetings.

The Board also voted to adopt a Bond Anticipation Notes Resolution as prepared by the Authority’s bond counsel, Locke Lord LLP, to issue and sell on a competitive basis up to \$33,000,000 in Bond Anticipation Notes no later than September 27, 2022, to fund the project.

6. The Board authorized Mr. Davis to execute two (2) procurement items:
 - The purchase of two (2) 24-foot electric shuttle buses from the lowest responsive contractor, Creative Bus Sales of Hudson, New Hampshire, for a total price not to exceed \$560,704.
 - Contract No. 15-2022, Dry Dock and Overhaul Services for the *M/V Woods Hole*, to the lowest eligible and responsible bidder, Senesco Marine LLC of North Kingstown, Rhode Island, for a total contract price of \$1,380,619.
7. The Board authorized the request by licensee Cape & Islands Transport Inc. to charter its licensed vessels, the *M/V Pied Piper* and the *M/V Sandpiper* to the organizers of the Beach Road Weekend Music Festival and provide passenger service between Vineyard Haven’s Tisbury Wharf, North Dock, and Falmouth Inner Harbor, Falmouth, from Friday, August 26, 2022, through Sunday, August 28, 2022.

The next monthly Board meeting is currently scheduled for 9:30 a.m. September 27, 2022. Please look for the formal notice for the meeting that will appear on this website. Thank you.