

# Marine Transportation Advisory Board

DOT&PF Headquarters  
Commissioner's Office, 3132 Channel Drive, Juneau

Monday - March 12, 2012

## MINUTES

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Robert Venables called the meeting in Juneau to order at 1:00 pm

### 2. BOARD ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

*MTAB members present in room and participating:* Shirley Marquardt, Tim Joyce, Joshua Howes, Gerry Hope, Maxine Thompson and Chair Robert Venables. *MTAB members participating via teleconference:* Daniel Kelly and Mike Korsmo. *MTAB Members excused:* Captain Ron Bressette, Cathie Roemmich, and Vice Chair Mark Eliason. A quorum was established.

### 3. PHONE ROLL CALL

Other participants via teleconference include Bob Doll; Captain John Falvey (AMHS, Ketchikan); Neal Christensen; Cynthia Lopez; Jeff Campbell; Rick Berns (Mayor, Old Harbor); Wanda Price (Old Harbor); Melissa Berns (Old Harbor); Stella Krumrey (Vice Mayor, Old Harbor and Tribal President); Christa Hagan (AMHS, Ketchikan); Ed Schoenfeld (Regional News Director at Coast Alaska); and others undeclared.

4. **INTRODUCTION OF THOSE PRESENT:** Deputy Commissioner Mike Neussl and secretary, Lisa Shrestha (DOT&PF); Doug Ward (Alaska Ship and Drydock); Dru Fenster (Alaska State Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Development); Zoya Johnston (City Council Member, City of Unalaska); Daniel Gregory (City of Unalaska); Dennis Watson (IFA); Ginny Watson (IFA); David Oregon (Unalaska); David Kensinger (former and first chairman of MTAB); Jack Mussallem (Mayor, Prince Rupert) and Jeremy Woodrow, Public Information Officer, DOT&PF.

**SPECIAL INTRODUCTION OF THOSE PRESENT:** Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' Commissioner Marc Luiken was introduced and welcomed to the meeting. He said he was pleased to be able to attend, and he would like to be present at more meetings of MTAB in the future, as his schedule allows.

### 5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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**MOTION:** Board member Gerry Hope moved to accept the agenda as submitted, Shirley Marquardt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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### 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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**MOTION:** Gerry Hope moved to accept the Minutes of 12-15-11 as submitted. Shirley Marquardt seconded. Gerry Hope commented that he appreciated the thoroughness of the Minutes of 12.15.11. Deputy Commissioner Neussl said that, as suggested by Board Member Thompson at the 12-15-11

meeting, the agenda items on the Minutes have now been organized to correspond with the agenda for easy referral, and board members appear to be pleased with the new format. The motion passed unanimously.

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## **7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chair Robert Venables opened the meeting to Public Comments.

Mayor Jack Mussallem (Prince Rupert) spoke about an ad hoc committee he was involved with in the late 1990's for the purpose of discussing Prince Rupert, sister city to Ketchikan. Being part of the mainline with regard to ferry transportation is critical, and that first year of ferry service, back in 1963, was an exciting time. He wanted to know what plans were underway to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ferry service. Deputy Commissioner Neussl said that DOT&PF will be definitely acknowledging this important milestone in the ferry service, and Prince Rupert will be included in the anniversary plans.

Shirley Marquardt introduced her guests from Unalaska and spoke of the ferry service to Unalaska being an important service and connection for the families, with a long history of providing not a luxury but an integral piece for the economy. Guest Zoya Johnston asked about the possibility for a ferry connection along the Aleutian Island chain and how much it would be appreciated by the residents if pursued. Chairman Venables said that MTAB has supported ferry service to this area. He also mentioned that MTAB has taken the requests and needs of specific areas under their long-range planning goals. Furthermore, he reported that he had been in direct dialogue with the planners of the Southwest Transportation Plan and he appreciated hearing from specific communities with requests for service or needs and the details of these requests.

## **8. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR:**

### **A. Denali Commission Appreciation:**

Chair Venables testified on behalf of the MTAB, to the Denali Commission Board of Directors on February 23, 2012, giving specific thanks for funding improvements at Kake, Angoon, Ouzinkie and Tenakee Springs. The testimony (**attachment #1**) was read in entirety by Chair Venables, for the benefit of phone participants, and is now an official attachment of the Minutes.

### **B. Legislative Commendation for AMHS:**

Chair Venables mentioned that commendations have been issued and will be addressed at the SE Conference meeting later in the week. These are special commendations, recognizing Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) vessels and staff involved in several rescue operations, and in which staff aboard the ferries displayed conduct above and beyond.

## **9. ALASKA CLASS VESSEL UPDATE - AMHS, AK SHIP & DRYDOCK**

Chair Venables recognized Doug Ward, from Alaska Ship and Drydock (ASD), and welcomed him to the meeting. Deputy Commissioner Neussl commented that DOT&PF is enjoying a good relationship with ASD as they work forward with plans to design and build the Alaska Class Ferry. Deputy Commissioner Neussl also added that a professional service agreement (PSA) has been

drafted and forwarded to ASD in order to move ahead with procurement. ASD will soon be working in partnership with the design team at Elliott Bay Design Group and the State.

Deputy Commissioner Neussl spoke briefly about meeting with the chief architects at Elliott Bay Design Group when he was in Seattle recently. Currently Elliott Bay has a contract with the State to keep them moving forward with plans. Mr. Ward acknowledged receipt of the PSA and said that using the CMGC process will be “a sea state change” and the best development method for building the best vessel for the best price. Mr. Ward added that he is working closely with Elliott Bay and feels this is an excellent procedure to be using. With the purchase of ASD by Vigor there may have been a momentary adjustment, but Venables said that DOT&PF and MTAB feel that they’ve found the right partner in this endeavor. Vigor is a company based in the Pacific Northwest and operates six other shipyards – in Portland, Bremerton, Seattle, Port Angeles, Tacoma and Everett. Vigor lends significant financial capabilities to the project, and this will be beneficial in more easily meeting requirements. It also may allow modules to be built and to retain a qualified workforce in Ketchikan.

Deputy Commissioner Neussl said that both he and Commissioner Luiken recently met with Adam Berg and Randy Johnson from ASD and felt secure that the shipyard owners are on board with the situation and all parties appear to be moving ahead as initially planned. Chair Venables asked the Deputy Commissioner about design completion percentages and timelines, and while it is difficult to anticipate specific timelines, Deputy Commissioner Neussl said that the project appears to be on target, at least a year out with design.

Commissioner Luiken addressed MTAB, saying that it is encouraging to hear of the Board’s impressive leadership and recent work. He gave appreciation to both Doug Ward and Randy Johnson in making the transition to Vigor and staying on target with the project underway. It is felt that this change in ownership can only be beneficial.

The Commissioner and Chair Venables noted that the AMHS Systems Analysis has been released and posted to the AMHS website under the “Reports” tab. With regard to scheduling and routes, Chair Venables said that the general plan is to continue service to areas, and try to accommodate residents’ needs while working within certain budgetary constraints. While the Alaska Marine Highway System is not intended to be a money-making operation, officials and workers alike are always mindful of ways to look for efficiencies.

The Commissioner noted the State’s commitment to continue to provide exemplary ferry service, and thanked everyone for their hard work on behalf of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

#### 10. **AMHS STAFF REPORTS**

Deputy Commissioner Neussl distributed additional copies of the 4-page AMHS Project Update (dated March 2012) and the Memo to MTAB from Captain John Falvey, General Manager of AMHS Re: AMHS Update for MTAB Mtg. of 12 Mar 2012 (dated 2 March, 2012) and said the reports are a good way to have a current status of operations. These two documents are entered as part of the Official Minutes of 3.12.12 and are attached (**attachment #2**). Deputy Commissioner Neussl mentioned that the upcoming Annual Traffic Volume Report for 2011 will soon be released. This report will also be posted on the AMHS website.

Deputy Commissioner Neussl addressed the recent newspaper articles regarding the IFA day-boat and the quotes by community members who believed the State could use the vessel in their current fleet. He said there are limitations with a day-boat, given that there are no crew quarters, for instance. Community input regarding ferry scheduling has been set up in a series of teleconferences on March 27 at 10:30 am and 1:30 pm, for each region, with prior comments requested by March 22<sup>nd</sup>. This has already generated some responses. There was a general discussion of schedules and vessel capabilities, including planned vessel repairs.

The winter schedule was discussed, including the Tustumena, which will be out of service for 5.5 months for repairs from November 2012 to April 2013.

The Board was updated on the current status of the FVF Lawsuit and the recent filing for Bankruptcy by one of the defendants, Derecktor, Inc.

Terminal Projects: Mayor Jack Mussallem (Prince Rupert BC) brought up additional discussions regarding the long-term Prince Rupert property leases and indemnification. He believes it is important to get a new long-term lease in place, and then it will be easier to consider putting more money into the system. Chair Venables asked about federal funds, saying that they could lend some assistance if it appears necessary. Deputy Commissioner Neussl said he would be checking on that.

Maxine Thompson began a brief discussion of the Cordova dock, and Deputy Commissioner Neussl indicated that DOT&PF made emergency funds available for the repairs necessary due to storm damage. He also said he will be going to Cordova to meet with Mayor Kallander and discuss ferry service issues.

Deputy Commissioner Neussl spoke briefly on the contract with American Express Credit Card Company and the suggestion to stop accepting AMEX. After speaking with representatives in the credit card company, and with the knowledge that many international travelers use AMEX, Captain Neussl said he has re-negotiated the contract with the credit card company. With the new system in place, AMHS will continue to accept AMEX, but a money savings was negotiated with the new agreement.

Deputy Commissioner Neussl also spoke about the Chignik dock. It technically belongs to Trident Seafoods, but is used by both Trident vessels and AMHS vessels. AMHS does not use this particular dock very often but in reviewing the structural engineering reports on the dock, it is in poor shape and in need of repair. Arrangements for an AMHS use agreement for the facility are actively being worked on before the mid-April deadline when the first ferry is supposed to arrive.

Gerry Hope wanted to recognize the considerable work it took to reschedule and resume service from Juneau to Angoon and Sitka. He has been in touch with Marlene Campbell (Sitka Government Relations Manager) and she's been keeping up to date on the endeavors with regard to recommencement of this route. Gerry Hope announced that May 3, 2012 will be the first "run" for the route, and the city and community would like to have some sort of celebration to show their support for this. He is currently working on plans for that date.

## 11. LONG-RANGE PLANNING

#### A. Old Harbor Service Request

Mayor Rick Berns, (along with others from Old Harbor) informed the MTAB of the community's new dock facilities constructed to accommodate AMHS vessels. Old Harbor has worked with both the Native Corporation and the Tribal Council on the many challenges that face the community such as high unemployment, high cost of living and transportation and a low economic base. There is strong support for any level of ferry service that could be provided. They had a very positive meeting with the Deputy Commissioner recently and voiced their appreciation and efforts of AMHS to provide service.

Deputy Commissioner Neussl said that he has seen much support for Old Harbor. Chair Venables said that after the community survey period is complete, the input received will be helpful in making additional plans as well.

There was a general discussion of the ferry service, the need to link specific communities, but getting the specific pieces in place and fitting them into the existing service is the more challenging part. Gerry Hope specifically asked the Mayor of Old Harbor what his expectations and hopes were regarding the dock issue. There was a discussion of the needs for both the community of Old Harbor and the dock, specifically, and with regard to State ferry use, and for State ferry use requirements. Both parties discussed the need for an AMHS Dock Use Agreement at Old Harbor.

Chair Venables assured the communities present that the DOT&PF will be looking at the situation with regard to Old Harbor. Senior staff is working with regard to specific use agreements in any community in which unusual circumstances present themselves and will ensure that proper paperwork is in place wherever these situations arise.

Chair Venables thanked the Mayor of Old Harbor for taking the time to attend the meeting and present his thoughts. Chair Venables re-emphasized that the mission of MTAB is the same as it has always been, to have a broad group with a statewide emphasis, and with a long-term vision.

#### B. Whistle-Stop Policy:

Deputy Commissioner Neussl said he is currently checking with the Civil Rights Office regarding policy on "whistle-stop. There is considerable time involved as well as risk associated with port calls where there is no traffic, and it appears to make good sense to bypass a port if there is no indication that passengers are getting off or coming aboard. There have been situations where this has occurred ten times in 2011. The proposed policy for whistle-stop service is that unless there is traffic inbound or outbound from a port, that port would be bypassed on the route. Community members often come aboard to have a meal in the cafeteria during port calls, but the ferry service is not intended to provide a food service. Having this system in place would result in a fuel savings as well. Gerry Hope suggested a name change from whistle-stop if the policy were put into place.

Some general questions and comments ensued about AMHS reservations. Captain Falvey confirmed that a person can get an AMHS reservation online 24/7, and he additionally added that the reservations line is dependable, and rolls over until answered. The AMHS reservations line is

answered during normal working hours. It will be modified to provide the phone number of the Juneau terminal which is open on weekends.

C. Southwest Transportation Plan:

Bob Doll was available to give a brief update on the Southwest Transportation Plan. The Southwest Region has only about 5% of the statewide population. Information was compiled at the beginning from public meetings and this data and information was presented in a report to the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC) and many interested parties added material as well. Mr. Doll believes that MTAB will be interested in what finally emerges from the plan. He commented on the bottleneck concern at Kodiak during the Aleutian Chain run. This document is rather broad in scope, and there are federal requirements to take into consideration as well. It was commented that often short-term goals are more easily and readily attainable than long-range planning. Tim Joyce spoke about a possibility of putting in a Homer-Kodiak connection to avoid the bottleneck situation. The chair thanked everyone for their comments.

D. Southeast Transportation Plan:

DOT&PF Planner, Andy Hughes, briefed the status of the Southeast Transportation Plan. He said there were also comments received during the public commentary period. Deputy Commissioner Neussl said that he met with the DOT&PF planners at some length and went over the comments. With regard to the released Scoping Report, there was some concern. Dan Kelly felt that it was a good opportunity for MTAB to give insightful dialogue as well. Deputy Commissioner Neussl said he was listening to input from both MTAB and DOT&PF officials in order to craft a more feasible plan. Maxine Thompson said that if we leave the plan as it is, or “status quo,” that it is necessary to have training and a strategic plan with priorities down the line, every 5-10-15-20 years. She also asked if the whistle-stop plan was a method of “tightening our belts.” And she felt, in general, that it would be a good feeling to actually move forward and implement some of the plans proposed. She additionally felt that training was important as a productive board so that there can be an archived record for future boards. Shirley Marquardt felt that it was valuable to sit down with Jeff Ottesen in Program Development and focus on what has a realistic chance to work before suggesting to legislators.

Chair Venables said that for this reason, the October MTAB Scoping Workshop prior to the board meeting was a good approach. Maxine Thompson agreed, and commented that with respect to her town of Angoon, prioritization seems like the best approach.

12. **BOARD ACTION/APPROVAL OF LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR FY13**

Chair Venables presented the one-page Legislative priority sheet (**attachment #3**). He confirmed that the first four bulleted items are already in the budget.

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**MOTION:** Gerry Hope moved to adopt the Legislative Priorities One-Pager. Shirley Marquardt seconded. There was a question regarding the Columbia Repower Project and if it was necessary to

indicate that federal funds are involved. Shirley Marquardt felt that it was indeed important to indicate that federal funds were involved. Deputy Commissioner also recommended that “federal receipts” be placed in parentheses directly after the heading “Columbia Repower Project” and “Engine Replacements for the Fast Vehicle Ferry.” Shirley moved to amend the motion to adopt the Legislative Priorities One-Pager with the addition of “federal receipts” to follow those two topic headings. Gerry Hope seconded the amended motion. Tim Joyce was in full agreement with the addition and felt it was important. Shirley Marquardt and Gerry Hope also thanked the chair for producing the one-page priority list and said it was important with busy legislators to keep the format tight and down to only one page, as it was. The Chair called for any additional comments; there were none. The Motion passed as amended, unanimously.

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### 13. **BOARD COMMENTS**

Chair Venables opened the meeting to general board comments. Shirley Marquardt said she was pleased to be able to attend the meeting in person and to meet new board members, Josh Howes and Tim Joyce.

Mike Korsmo said that his priorities were to basically “keep the eye on the ball” with regard to funds getting depleting, and to stay resolute about what is needed for funding the best transportation system we can have in Alaska. Tim Joyce believed that the board had exercised good communication skills and a united front. Maxine Thompson said that it was always good practice to focus on the positives. Chair Venables felt encouraged by the Board endorsement of the legislative priorities sheet, and was looking forward to meeting with various legislators to garner solid support of the MTAB’s priorities. Josh Howes said he had been serving on the board for less than a year, but he was encouraged by the work already done and was pleased to be a part of it. Gerry Hope spoke to the importance of having a clear vision, and that in addition to training -- a strong commitment is equally critical and tends to be transmittable -- that having the same general goals with a strong and dedicated board is crucial.

Dru Fenster, Communications Coordinator for Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, said that she had attended the meeting to see how the board worked, and that it was encouraging seeing how smoothly the board functioned, working methodically through the agenda and addressing issues directly.

### 14. **NEXT MEETING AND MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2012**

Chair Venables gave some closing thoughts at the meeting, thanking everyone for attending and for their involvement. He said that he was working on setting up a schedule for meetings for MTAB.

#### A. Summer Meeting in Petersburg or Wrangell:

Chair Venables said he was working on selecting either Petersburg or Wrangell for a summer meeting, most likely to take place in early or late June. He would be checking with board members on availability for specific dates.

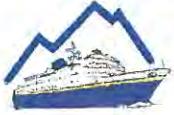
#### B. Winter Meeting in Anchorage or Fairbanks – December 18, 2012:

Chair Venables suggested that the Board meet again in Anchorage, to coincide with the release of the Governor's Budget. This year, with December 15<sup>th</sup> falling on a Saturday, he was considering a board meeting in Anchorage on Tuesday, December 18, 2012.

15. **ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** Tim Joyce moved to adjourn the meeting, with no further business on the table. Gerry Hope seconded the motion. The Board passed the motion unanimously. MTAB stood adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Shrestha



# Marine Transportation Advisory Board

**Robert Venables**  
Chair  
Northern Southeast  
Haines

**Mark Eliason**  
Vice Chair  
Travel & Tourism  
Anchorage

**Ron Bressette**  
Union  
Juneau

**Gerry Hope**  
Central Southeast  
Sitka

**Joshua Howes**  
At-large  
Anchorage

**Tim Joyce**  
Prince William Sound  
& Kenai Peninsula  
Cordova

**Dan Kelly**  
Southern Southeast  
Ketchikan

**Mike Korsmo**  
Retired Marine Captain,  
not affiliated with AMHS  
Skagway

**Shirley Marquardt**  
Southwest AK, Aleutian Chain  
Unalaska

**Cathie Roemmich**  
At-Large  
Juneau

**Maxine Thompson**  
Hoonah, Kake, Pelican and  
Tenakee  
Angoon

## Testimony Given to the Denali Commission Board of Directors February 23, 2012

Thank you Mr. Chairman. My name is Robert Venables, Chair of the Marine Transportation Advisory Board (MTAB). MTAB was first established through an Executive Order by Governor Murkowski, reauthorized by Governor Palin, then established into law by the Alaska State Legislature in 2008.

The Marine Transportation Advisory Board is comprised of 11 members from across the state, ranging from Unalaska and Prince William Sound to Anchorage and throughout southeast from Haines/Skagway down to Ketchikan. The board advises and makes non-binding recommendations to the State and Alaska Marine Highway System, providing community input and collaborating with the State on strategic long-range planning.

Because our board members have deep roots in the communities and regions served, we are keenly aware of both the needs of the traveling public and the needs of the ferry system. Too often the smaller communities with the most transportation system needs are the least able to provide it themselves or find funding partners to develop needed infrastructure. When funding partners step up to fill such needs, it is greatly appreciated.

The MTAB Board of Directors was recently made aware of the Denali Commission's funding participation in four AMHS related projects:

1. Passenger Facility Design for Angoon.
2. Passenger Facility Design for Kake.
3. Loading ramp improvements in Tenakee Springs.
4. Ouzinkie - \$1M for the cost of a new dock that will be used by AMHS.

The Marine Transportation Advisory Board unanimously expresses its appreciation for the Denali Commission's investment in these much needed infrastructure improvements. If ever the MTAB can be a resource of information for any future partnering opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact us.

On behalf of the MTAB Board of Directors – thank you!

Robert Venables, Chair

Contact: Robert Venables  
PO Box 50  
Haines, AK 99827

attachment # 1  
3.12.12 MTAB Minutes

# MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska  
Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities  
Alaska Marine Highway System  
7559 No. Tongass Highway  
Ketchikan, AK 99901-9101

To: MTAB Members                      Date: 02 March 2012  
From: Captain John Falvey              Subject: AMHS UPDATE for  
General Manager                              MTAB Mtg of 12 Mar 2012

## VESSEL UPDATE:

### KENNICOTT

- Currently in State overhaul - April 12 commence Bellingham cross-gulf

### COLUMBIA

- Currently in new engine design process – Currently in State overhaul
- Bellingham run starts April 1

### MATANUSKA

- During the MAT's recent State overhaul & drydock hull inspection, concerns have been expressed regarding cracks located on the propeller shaft struts. Temporary repairs to the struts were made – yearly inspections will continue with the eventual necessity of replacing the struts.

### MALASPINA

- Installed new propeller shaft struts during the Dec 4, 2011 State overhaul. The struts which had been in place on the vessel had cracks & needed replacement. These struts are cast to specification & required extensive steel hull work and alignment associated with the installation.
- Start No. Lynn Canal dayboat run May 11.
- MSD Space Fire cleanup and repair assessment ongoing.

### TUSTUMENA

- State overhaul in Seward (Dec. 30, 2011 to Feb 26, 2012) experienced many challenges while conducting the State overhaul due to cold weather in Seward. Vessel back in service.

### AURORA

- Entered its 2011-12 winter Capital Improvement Project on Sept 15, 2011 at Vigor Shipyard in Portland & will return to service in Prince

William Sound on April 1, 2012. Project on time with 1.26% growth due to discovery work.

#### FAIRWEATHER

- Currently operating in Prince William Sound during winter 2011-12 as backfill for Chenega.
- Current engine classification extension until 10/18/12.

#### CHENEGA

- Currently in lay-up status in Juneau - engine cylinder inspections completed - additional cylinder boring is not needed at this time.
- Current engine classification until 01/14/13.

#### **PROJECTS:**

##### FLEET ELECTRICAL GENERATION UPGRADE – FEDERALLY-FUNDED

- Engineering consultant is currently reviewing vessels' electrical documents and will prepare additional documents and make recommendation along with estimated costs for the modification and upgrade of aspects of electrical generation and distribution systems.

##### FEDERAL CIP OVERHAUL

- The Tustumena and Malaspina will be in Federal CIP Overhaul during winter of 2012-2013.

##### RESERVATIONS SYSTEM

- RFP is currently drafted & now waiting for 2012-15 STIP to be set in place. Once that occurs, the RFP can be put out so as to secure a contract.

##### POINT-OF-SALE SYSTEM

- This contract has been awarded to the Forum Systems Group. The POS System will offer the Radiant System software & National Cash Register hardware & will streamline and computerize all vessel points-of-sale including gift shops, dining room management, ordering, customer sales, inventory, pricing, receipts, menu costing along with nutritional analysis reporting.
- Currently installing cash register hardware. Twenty-six Chief Pursers & Stewards have been trained in the use of the new system & they will train the remainder of crewmembers who will use the system.
- We plan to have Point-of-Sale cash register system running on all ships by the summer season 2012.

##### K-9 SECURITY

- Continue to work with Homeland Security (TSA) in drafting an agreement which would allow for the use of their canine bomb-

#### FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR WARD COVE

- Currently AMHS management has commenced a feasibility study which will look into the possibility of an AMHS lay-up/working berth facility along with additional dockage which could be used by NOAA for the home-porting of selected NOAA research vessels.
- The feasibility study should be completed in the next 10 months.
- AMHS management has also had dialog with AIDEA to explore the possibility of that agency's assistance with this project.

End

**AMHS Project Update  
(Not including Overhaul and Maintenance)  
March 2012**

**AMHS Projects under Design Phase**

73111: Ward Cove Feasibility Study

- Scope is being finalized
- RFP for consultant to be advertised in March 2012

68704: Ward Cove Facility

- McGraw Construction has been awarded contract. Preconstruction Meeting forthcoming; estimated completion date is end of June 2012.

73098: Reservations and Manifest System

- Waiting on Phase 4 funding approval from FHWA

73100: K-9 Explosive Detection

73130: Fleet Condition Survey

- Project is an on-going effort to document each vessel's condition using an Access Database and generating work packages for maintenance and refurbishments by collecting ship's maintenances request (SMR's) and on-site data collection.

80729: Terminal Security Cameras

**Vessel Projects under Design Phase**

73028: Fleetwide MSD Upgrades

- All vessel projects have been completed. Taku is in warranty phase until spring of 2012.

73068: Tustumena Refurbishment

- Art Anderson has been awarded design contract

73073: Alaska Class Ferry

- ASD selected as CMGC thru design phase

73086: Malaspina Refurbishment

- Beacon has been awarded design contract

73093: FVF Re-engine project

- Elliott Bay Design Group is working on the Purchase Tech Specs and torsional analysis. AG's office has given clearance to engage with MTU.

73108: Fleetwide Lifesaving Equipment Upgrades – Art Anderson selected contractor

73117: Aurora Security Systems Upgrade

- Currently being implemented during CIP in Portland

73120: Columbia Repower & Ship System Improvement

- Professional Service Agreement (PSA) with Elliott Bay Design Group.
- Engine selection and detailed estimate

73168: Fleetwide Marine Evacuation Slide Installation

- Design completed for both M/V Columbia and M/V Malaspina. Construction being completed under Project 73200

- Design of Tustumena installation is being completed by Foss Maritime and installation is planned to be completed as part of M/V Tustumena Refurbishment Project 73068

73171: Fleet Electrical Upgrades

- Phase 2: Consultant is reviewing documentation and reports provided by AMHS

**Vessel Projects under Active Construction Phase**

73165: Aurora

- The Aurora is in the Vigor Shipyard in Portland Oregon. The project is in the 23<sup>rd</sup> week of 26 week contract performance period. Contractor is on track for an on time completion of contract and redelivery of vessel

73200: Fleetwide MES Installation

- Contract issued to Alaska Ship and Drydock (ASD) for replacement of Marine Evacuation Chutes (MEC) with New Marine Evacuation Slides (MES) and associated equipment on MAL and COL

**Vessel Project under Construction Close out or Warranty**

73015: LeConte Refurbishment

- Warranty Period Underway: Vigor Marine has arranged for ASD to correct several warranty deficiencies during the ship's availability in September

73039: M/V Matanuska SOLAS upgrades & Renovation / Overhaul

- Warranty Period Complete – Project Closeout is in progress

73046 – Chenega Hull Survey Improvements

- Warranty Period Complete – Project Closeout is in progress

73052: Fairweather Hull Survey Improvements

- Warranty Period Complete – Project Closeout is in progress

73062 - Tustumena Refurbishment

- Project close out is complete

73082: Lituya Post Delivery Refurbishment

- Project is in close out status with final documents being generated

73091: Kennicott SOLAS Upgrades – Close out

73115: Fleetwide Marine Sanitation Device Upgrade – Final Taku under Warranty

73226: M/V Taku SOLAS Upgrades and Renovation

- Construction completed. Vessel is in Warranty Period.

Warranty issues with MSD System Ventilation and Power Management Interface with VDR will have to be corrected during vessel annual overhaul in April.

**Terminal Projects under Construction Phase**

69433 Pelican FT Renovation –

- awarded 1/4/12
- Preconstruction conference conducted on Feb 13, 2012.
- Contract completion date required by 12/1/2012 but will likely be by 10/2012.

- 69200 Annette Bay FT –
  - Under construction. Work ongoing on both uplands and marine facilities as of mid February.
  - Contract Completion date required by 9/30/12
- 68502 Angoon FT Improvements –
  - additional work requested of contractor: wireless communication and roof over controls area
  - estimated completion April 2012
- 69617 Cordova FT Float Repairs –
  - All work complete as of 12/20/11.
  - Project closeout process ongoing.
  - Waiting for notification that additional funding was secured.
- 67813 Hoonah FT Imp -
  - New Pursers shack work completed Dec 2011
  - Project closeout process has started.
- 69054 Homer AMHS SW Warehouse –
  - Contract work complete August 2011
  - Project closeout process in progress
- 69311 Hoonah FT Marine Structures –
  - Contract work complete August 2011
  - Project closeout process in progress

### **Terminal Projects under Design Phase**

- 68433: Haines Terminal Improvements
  - Preliminary Design, Environmental Analysis & Permitting ongoing
  - Obligate for construction by Aug, 2012.
  - Anticipate field construction could begin by fall of 2012. Completion by fall of 2013.
- 68531: Prince Rupert Ferry Terminal Refurbishment
  - Long term ROW lease negotiations ongoing.
  - Draft RFP for consultant engineering services prepared and under review.
  - Preliminary design (by consultant to be selected) expected to begin early 2012.
  - Construction obligation expected 2013.
- 68938: Kodiak Ferry Terminal
  - City of Kodiak owned facility. Project will be at Pier 1.
  - Project funding limited to the earmark amount of \$7.3M.
  - Working on consultant RFP to provide environmental and design services. RFP ready for advertising in March, 2012.
  - Anticipate project could be ready for construction advertisement by late 2013.
- 69422: Petersburg Ferry Terminal Improvements (Dolphin Replacement)
  - Environmental document and permitting completed.
  - Final design ongoing to remove and replace 4 dolphins. PIH/PSE review docs ready by March 5, 2012.
  - Anticipate ready to advertise for construction in April, 2011.

69432: Wrangell Ferry Terminal Improvements (Dolphin Repairs)

- Scope changes resolved to include additional work. Project now to include restoration of four dolphins, replacement of one dolphin, and refurbishment of bridge support lift beam, reconstruction of electrical conduits and placement of new pursers shack structure.
- Environmental document re-evaluation and permitting work to resume by March 1. Design activities ongoing.
- Anticipate ready to advertise for construction by June, 2012.

69440: Angoon Ferry Terminal Passenger Facility

- Denali Commission – Design funding only
- Preliminary design completed. Environmental document work nearly completed.
- Architectural consultant selected and started work in Jan, 2012.
- Final design to be completed by May, 2012.

69446: Kake Ferry Terminal Passenger Facility

- Denali Commission – Design funding only
- Preliminary design and environmental document work completed.
- Architectural consultant selected and started work Jan, 2012.
- Final design to be completed by May, 2012.

69624: Skagway Ferry Terminal Modifications

- Consultant selected for project (Berger/ABAM). Fee negotiations began Feb 27, 2012.
- Project expected to refurbish or replace existing concrete bridge float which has deteriorated surfacing and other potential issues.
- No construction schedule established pending determination of scope of work.



March 12, 2012

*Marine Transportation  
Advisory Board*

## MTAB Legislative Priorities for 2012 Session

Robert Venables  
Chair  
Northern Southeast  
Haines

Mark Eliason  
Vice Chair  
Travel & Tourism  
Anchorage

Ron Bressette  
Union  
Juneau

Gerry Hope  
Central Southeast  
Sitka

Joshua Howes  
At-large  
Anchorage

Tim Joyce  
Prince William Sound  
& Kenai Peninsula  
Cordova

Dan Kelly  
Southern Southeast  
Ketchikan

Mike Korsmo  
Retired Marine Captain,  
not affiliated with AMHS  
Skagway

Shirley Marquardt  
Southwest AK, Aleutian Chain  
Unalaska

Cathie Roemmich  
At-Large  
Juneau

Maxine Thompson  
Hoonah, Kake, Pelican and  
Tenakee  
Angoon

### *We Strongly Recommend Funding for FY 2013:*

#### **Funding for AMHS operations at current levels of service**

- ✓ Public expects and appreciates a consistent schedule
- ✓ Due to maintenance schedules, replacement ships cost more to operate
- ✓ Customer satisfaction approval rating for current service level is high

#### **Alaska Class Ferry Construction**

- ✓ Next generation ferry to start replacement of aging AMHS fleet
- ✓ CM/GC Process to be used for efficiency
- ✓ Following legislative intent to build in Alaska

#### **Columbia Repower Project (federal receipts)**

- ✓ Unexpected engine casualty in May 2011 caused 4-day service outage
- ✓ Ship is due for mid-life repowering
- ✓ Catastrophic casualty of an engine would cancel entire operating season

#### **Engine Replacements for the Fast Vehicle Ferry (federal receipts)**

- ✓ Fairweather engines have reached maximum cylinder bore oversize limit
- ✓ No proven permanent solution to problem exists
- ✓ Potential for year+ service gap due to long lead time engine production

#### **Annual Appropriations to the Vessel Replacement Fund of at least \$60 Million**

- ✓ Systematic annual investment needed to replace aging fleet
- ✓ Current commitment to AK Class Ferry means zero balance in fund
- ✓ Retaining fund's interest earnings could protect against inflation

Contact: Robert Venables, Chair  
[venables@aptalaska.net](mailto:venables@aptalaska.net)

attachment # 3  
3.12.12 MTAB Minutes