

AMH Reshaping Work Group Summary Minutes – June 11, 2020

Members Present: Admiral Tom Barrett(Chair), John Torgeson, Wanetta Ayers, Lee Ryan, Robert Venables, Tony Johansen, John Torgerson, Ben Goldrich, , Representative Louise Stutes, Tera Ollila (Admin)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2 pm. Roll call.

Excused absence: Senator Bert Stedman

The agenda consisted of acknowledgement of public input, work group check-in, information requirements for finance/governance reshaping, and work group future meeting schedule.

Admiral Barrett acknowledged the public comments that the work group has gotten so far. They are very much appreciated and shared with the entire work group. Anyone who wants to share ideas or thoughts about reshaping the Marine Highway System is encouraged to email the work group at dot.amh-reshaping@alaska.gov.

The work group discussed what information would be helpful to have as recommendations for finance and governance reshaping are developed. Information highlighted included:

Finance:

- Cost of maintenance, maintenance policy and processes, what's working and what's not.
- Best practices for long term, condition based maintenance with real time information
- Legislative processes that would be more stable
- Forward funding that is sustainable
- Separate board that manages the money
- Line item funding source list (with amounts from multiple administrations)
- Ridership and fare box recovery history
- Monthly financial statements (revenue/expenses with variance analyses from budget plan)
- Organization chart
- Funding sources available and what restrictions do they have
- Basic level of essential service for customer base
- Economic service perspective, which routes have high volume
- What federal funds are available
- What operating cuts might be coming forward
- Funding for transition period

Governance:

- Options to change from political landscape to one more business oriented
- Look at other models that have made transitions

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- Better understanding of system financial management and controls
- Better understanding of union contracts
- Legal standpoints regarding an empowered board and/or a transportation commission
- Individual budget per vessel

Discussed in person meetings in Juneau June 24-25, Anchorage July 8, 9, 10, and Ketchikan July 23-24. Also talked about including live public comment and desirability of focusing it on finance and governance.

Approved summary minutes for June 4, 2020 meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2020 at 2:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 3:22pm.

An audio recording of the meeting including all member comments is available at <http://dot.alaska.gov/comm/amh-reshaping-workgroup/agenda-minutes.shtml>