

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING OF THE GASPARILLA ISLAND  
BRIDGE AUTHORITY  
April 21, 2021

A Quarterly Board Meeting of the Gasparilla Island Board of Supervisors was called to order at 1:00 pm on April 21, 2021. The meeting was held in the GIBA administration building. Voting Board Members present were Jean Hoysradt, Jay Feinberg, John Reecher, Drew Tucker, and Ginger Watkins. Advisory Members present were Ron Drake, Randy Hicks, and Ken Richardson. Also present was Executive Director Kathy Banson-Verrico and GIBA attorney Rob Berntsson.

**Swearing In**

The first order of business was the swearing in of GIBA's newest voting Board Member Jon Reecher. Jon was recently appointed by the Governor to fill GIBA Board voting seat #4.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items**

None

**Chairman's Report**

Chairman Watkins reminded the Board that Members are welcome and encouraged to attend all Committee Meetings. Each Member received a copy of Form 1 – Statement of Financial Interest which needs to be filed with the State of Florida before July 1st.

**Executive Director Report:**

**Statutes**

At the last meeting there was a conversation regarding bidding requirement dollar thresholds for construction and maintenance contracts/agreements. Banson-Verrico, Watkins, and Berntsson researched and discussed the Florida Statutes that directly relate to GIBA's day to day activities. The statutes have been included in GIBA's governing documents.

**Operations Update**

For the first 6 months of fiscal year 2021 (Oct-Mar) cash tolls were up 9%, customer service tolls were down -6% due to the 6-month pass extension given during covid, and traffic is up 2%.

**Toll System - Website**

To date 2,000 accounts have web registered.

**Overhead Signs**

New overhead signs were installed in the toll lanes. The updated signs provide a wider range of font and color options which will provide improved communication directing traffic to the appropriate toll lane and provide important information in the event of an emergency on the island.

**Bridge Openings**

Bridge openings were up 15% compared to same period last year (October – March).

**Minutes Approval:**

The next order of business was the approval of minutes from the Quarterly Board Meeting held February 10, 2021. **On motion by Hoysradt and seconded by Feinberg the minutes were approved.**

**Audit Committee:**

Tucker reviewed the audit engagement proposal from *Suplee Shea Cramer and Rocklein* for the FY2021 audit. **On motion by Tucker and seconded by Feinberg the proposal was approved.** *Suplee Shea Cramer and Rocklein* has been auditing GIBA since 1999. This professional service was last advertised in 2016 and *Suplee Shea Cramer and Rocklein* was selected for continuing audit service. The GIBA Board is happy with the historical service provided by service. The governmental account standards do not

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require audit firm or partner rotation, but staff will reach out to the firm for clarification on the partner and peer review processes.

There was a discussion on the sale of fully depreciated assets. **On motion by Feinberg and seconded by Reeher the Board approved for the Audit Chairman to have approval authority for the sale of a disposed fully depreciated asset for any amount less than \$2,000.** As an audit requirement, a fully disposed asset listing is reviewed and approved by the GIBA Board each year at the November Board Meeting.

**Finance Committee:**

**On motion by Feinberg and seconded by Watkins the Board approved for the Executive Director to contract the SIB about prepayment options on the existing loan. The recommendation was approved at the Finance Committee Meeting on April 21, 2021.**

**On motion by Feinberg and seconded by Tucker the Board voted to approve current cash reserve investments be limited to government Bond and Bank obligations not to exceed FDIC insurance limits. The recommendation was approved at the Finance Committee Meeting on April 21, 2021.**

**On motion by Feinberg and seconded by Reeher the Board voted to approve an RFQ be created to search for a registered investment advisor. The recommendation was approved at the Finance Committee Meeting on April 21, 2021.**

Feinberg reviewed the FY21 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter financial statements.

**Engineering Committee:**

Hicks discussed the current paint touch up work being completed by GIBA maintenance. The Board had a discussion on touch up vs. repaint of the steel span structure. **On motion by Feinberg and seconded by Tucker the Board voted for the paint specialist division of Hardesty and Hanover to analyze and evaluate the Swing span painting needs and recommend an overall paint remediation plan for a not to exceed amount of \$15,000.**

**Old Business:**

**At the last meeting, the Board approved a bylaw change requiring that all standing committee chairmen must be current Board Members. On motion by Feinberg and seconded by Tucker the Board voted to adopt the change.** GIBA Bylaws regarding committee structures. The Board discussed and approved to also split the Finance/Audit Committee into two separate committees. This change will be adopted at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Ginger Watkins, GIBA Board Chairman