

DRAFT AGENDA

**STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES
ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM: ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY OPERATIONS BOARD (AMHOB)**

August 5th, 2022 1:30-3:30

PHONE LINE: 1-855-925-2801 **Meeting Code:** 5612 *(If you call in during the meeting, you can stay on the line to listen to the meeting. To leave a voice message, press *2 (star, then the number 2). You can also request to speak by pressing *3 (star, then the number 3).*

PUBLIC FACEBOOK LIVE STREAM: <https://dot.alaska.gov/amhob/engage.shtml>

Board Members: Alan Austerman, Wanetta Ayers, Cynthia Berns, Norm Carson, Paul Johnsen, Shirley Marquardt, Captain Keith Hillard, Captain Edward Page, and Deputy Commissioner Rob Carpenter

Staff: Katherine Keith and Tera Ollila

Opening				
1:30	Item 1	Call to Order/Roll Call		
	Item 2	Minutes Approval (Item S4 attached)		
	Item 3	Report of Board Chair	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Information
	Item 4	Report of Members	All Board Members	Information
1:40	Item 5	General Public Comments		
New Business				
	Item 6	STIP Amendment #4 Comment for review	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Action
Old Business				
	Item 7	AMHS Short-term Plan	Katherine Keith	Discussion
Supplemental Information (Not on Agenda)				
	Item S1	AMHOB Meeting Minutes from 7/22/22	Katherine Keith	Information
	Item S2	Table of Concurrent Planning Efforts	Katherine Keith	Information
	Item S3	Report from AMHS Manager	John Falvey	Information
Pending Completion				
	Pending	Best recommendation for retirement status of Aurora or LeConte when Hubbard comes into service.		
	Pending	Basic level of service with the fleet make-up in the modernization plan.		
	Pending	Fare options/rate structures tried in the past ten years and what kind of success they did or didn't have based on past performance and rider response.		
	Pending	Possible third new vessel in the fleet to serve the 5 small market ports in the Icy Straits region.		

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	Pending	Outline of the AMHS Comprehensive Long-Term Plan
	Pending	\$100 change fee is a different question that is affecting riders in a different way, and we would like to understand why it was implemented and what has its impact on the system been
	Pending	Update on the Kodiak dock design for the new Tustusmena (based on comments and concerns by Trident recently).

AGENDA ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

[No Materials]

AGENDA ITEM 2: MINUTES APPROVALS

[Minutes Attached as item "S4: Meeting Minutes"]

AGENDA ITEM 3: REPORT OF BOARD CHAIR

[No Materials]

AGENDA ITEM 4: REPORT OF BOARD MEMBERS

[No Materials]

AGENDA ITEM 5: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

[No Materials]

[No Materials] **PHONE LINE: 1-855-925-2801 Meeting Code: 5612** *(If you call in during the meeting, you can stay on the line to listen to the meeting. To leave a voice message, press *2 (star, then the number 2). You can also request to speak by pressing *3 (star, then the number 3).*

AGENDA ITEM 6: STIP AMENDMENT #4 COMMENT PROCESS

[coming soon]

AGENDA ITEM 7: AMHS SHORT-TERM PLAN

[Packaged Separately]

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AGENDA ITEM S1: MEETING MINUTES FOR 7/22/2022

Meeting: August 5th, 2022

MEMORANDUM

STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES
 ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM: ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY OPERATIONS BOARD (AMHOB)
 MEETING MINUTES
 July 22nd, 2022 1:30-3:30
 UNAPPROVED

Board Members: Alan Austerman, Wanetta Ayers, Norm Carson, Paul Johnsen, Shirley Marquardt, Captain Keith Hillard, and Deputy Commissioner Rob Carpenter

Excused Board Members: Captain Edward Page and Cynthia Berns

Staff: Katherine Keith, Tera Ollila, Captain Falvey, Andy Mills, and James Marks

7/22/2022 Agenda				
1:30	Item 1	Call to Order/Roll Call		
	Item 2	Minutes Approval		
	Item 3	Report of Board Chair	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Information
	Item 4	Report of Members	All Board Members	Information
1:40	Item 5	General Public Comments		
New Business				
	Item 6	STIP Amendment #4 Comments Process	James Marks	Discussion
	Item 7	FTA Ferry Formula Funding Guidance	James Marks	Discussion
Old Business				
	Item 8	AMHOB CY22 HB63 Deadlines (<i>Tabled on 7/1/22</i>)	Andy Mills	Action
	Item 9	Outline of the AMHS Long-Term Plan	James Marks	Discussion
	Item 11	Modernization Plan/Short-Term Plan	Katherine Keith	Discussion
Supplemental Information (Not on Agenda)				
	Item S1	AMHOB Meeting Minutes from 7/1/22	Katherine Keith	Information

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Zoom Meeting Recording

<https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/XYyVq7ZDjtey8piKEB4lg9wVUEBwC2ujkfElsYmsiJQBLcKvUQebno1eH3irxzJU.24n3JXLCUs6m8NA9>

Passcode: ^vnU.M8a

Meeting Presentation and Material List

- AMHOB Meeting Minutes from 7/1/22
- Presentation by James Marks STIP Amendment #4
- Resolutions 2022-01
- AMHS Short-term Plan

Public Comments

Comments are incorporated below.

Transcription

<https://publicinput.com/Transcript/X36432>

Total To-Date Engagement Stats

1,106 Participants; 6,427 Views; 126 comments; 1,992 subscribers

Agenda Topics	Time	Speaker	Transcription
Items 1-5	1:30	Tera Ollila	Call to order/Roll call
	1:34	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Meeting minutes approved
	1:34	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Captain Ed Paige did accept the seat and will be sitting in as a board member.
	1:35	Paul Johnsen	Asked questions regarding crew quarters in Tazlina and why prices are more than they were in the Hubbard. The answer he received was 30% more for materials and supplies along with the wastewater plant that's going in. On Matanuska, found a 2020 vessel condition report which showed dead-end corridor project in 2020 over 33 million. Guess that cost will go up with materials but waiting for the project scope. Are we rearranging cabins, and refurbish what we have?
		Chair Shirley Marquardt	Acknowledged and said Captain John Falvey could provide an update in the future.
	1:35	Wanetta Ayers	Thanks, Katherine Keith for the learning session. Acknowledges challenges that the board is facing but focused on what it will take to get ACF vessels fully operational and able to serve communities.
1:37	Wanetta Ayers	AMHS Reshaping Working Group Report to the Governor https://dot.alaska.gov/comm/amh-reshaping-workgroup/docs/Report-to-Governor_AMH-ReshapingWorkGroup-10022020.pdf	

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	(Zoom Chat)	
1:39	Rob Carpenter	Thanks, everyone for volunteering, partnerships are important, and DOT is working to keep those going.
1:41	Wanetta Ayers (Zoom Chat)	See page 10 - 12 for the discussion of a long-term strategy. Provides public with information on how to call in with questions and announces Facebook live is streaming and commenting is open.
1:42	Kimi Boal (call in, public)	Was saddened to hear about the loss of the Malaspina and urged the board to consider the cultural ramifications of the loss of this ship. Hoping for more information on how these decisions are made and what considerations go into these decisions. What is the cost to put in a highway vs this ship and is that being considered?
1:44	Andy Mills (Zoom Chat)	Moving to another meeting - thank you members.
1:45	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Provides information on the AMHOB website of past information where this was discussed and how and why the decision was made.
1:45	Wanetta Ayers	States vessels all have age limits, and they are already being pushed. As far as Malaspina- it will be preserved, and the public can visit it.
	1:46 Katherine Keith	No other public comments at this time.
Item 6	1:47 Chair Shirley Marquardt	Announce the next item #6 STIP #4
	1:48 Katherine Keith	Asks James Marks to join and introduce himself.
	1:48 James Marks	Introduces himself and discusses planning and organizing upcoming plans. States a slide deck did not make it into the provided packet and will have to board members next time. STIP#4 included provisions and infrastructures jobs act capital budget and project and program funds as a part of IJJA. New federal and state programs are getting established; we would like feedback on these changes from the board. Mr. Marks announces new state programs and what is eligible.
	1:56 Wanetta Ayers	Question on Community Bridge Programs, some AHMS docks are state facilities but fall under bridge programs within DOT. Will community docs also fall under the community bridge program for potential funding?
	1:56 James Marks	Yes, both within the state and federally. There is a current federal grant for bridge investment, criteria is anything on the national bridge inventory. This also includes big culverts.

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	1:58	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Asks Mr. Marks to clarify how projects are funded and the timeframes on that budget. Mr. Marks clarifies and provides additional information that is available online. Comments by the board on STIP can be made at www.dot.alaska.gov/stip . The comment period is 30 days, STIP# 4 is currently 1 week in. Expects STIP to be approved and published by mid-August (8/15 – 8/24).
Item 7	1:59	James Marks	There is a lot of emphasis on increased partnerships and working with stakeholders. DOT&PF has signed an MOA with AML. Setting up a web-based grants clearing house. Will see the rollout of the new community transportation program. The new site is very interactive with the public. Will also have a funding opportunity archive.
	2:01	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Chair Marquardt suggests DOT puts out a stakeholder list for economic development groups to keep them informed of this information.
	2:02	Wanetta Ayers	The purpose of districts is to provide a planning entity where one does not exist. Partnering with these economic development groups is very important.
	2:03	James Marks	DOT&PF is working to build those relationships. Mr. Marks presents a new program breakdown and emphasizes the need for clear and consistent information that is easily accessible to the public and allows them to engage with input. DOT is actively seeking feedback and recently reached out to Roads & Highways board seeing input on priorities with not just transportation priorities but funding. Some projects have multiple funding sources, but we want to ensure fund source breakdown is correct and we are constantly reviewing to make sure they are correct.
	2:04	Katherine Keith (Zoom Chat)	If the chair allows, I would like to just highlight the table of contents to introduce the concept.
	2:04	Katherine Keith (Zoom Chat)	The intention and hope is that we can help orient the board to the layout and next week dig in to details as desired.
	2:06	Chair Shirley Marquardt	How many people will DOT&PF have to hire for STIP Projects?
	2:06	James Marks	These funding sources are very meticulous and require staff to do thorough work. We are looking to update regulations to allow for quicker turnaround times.
	2:07	Wanetta Ayers	In the past, there is confusion in the community on projects and funding with transparency. Mrs. Ayers details the importance of correcting this to Mr. Marks and asks the board to keep that in mind.
	2:08	James Marks	Mr. Marks acknowledges the importance of transparency and ensures this is something the department is working towards.

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		This month we received the federal transit administration's (FTA) notice of funding opportunities. It combined ferries into a single NOFO. One is for a low-no emission ferry project. One thing we are pursuing with IJA discretionary grants is an expansion of Shakwak provision where anything on Alaska highway is eligible at 100% including AMHS. Looking at what this will look like and working through Title 23 concerns. Zero-emission projects are prioritized as are projects that can obligate funds within 12 months.
2:11	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Board knows DOT&PF is working with Southeast Conference and Elliott Shipyard in Seattle on the NOFO. Operating and planning projects are not eligible; how does that shift the look ahead for next year's projects? Where is the funding for the 1-3 projects we have underway and when requesting the LRTP RFP for 900K, will those funds come from the State?
2:13	James Marks	No, we have planning funds and this is included in STIP#4 as ferry boat funds. This is separate, this is the competitive process where we would write a grant application to use the funding.
2:14	Wanetta Ayers	What is Shakwak eligibility?
	James Marks	That is the 100% match provision, anything on the AMHS could always be at 100% where the state did not have to provide 100% match. IJA expanded to also include discretionary grants. That only exist in title 23 because these funds are coming from title 49 we may not get flexibility.
2:15	Wanetta Ayers	Does that only include vessels servings Haines and Skagway?
2:15	James Marks	No, entire AMHS included.
2:16	James Marks	A lot of material in the rural ferries NOFO. States and territories in guidance, there has been analysis to identify what other entities might be eligible. One challenge is the match requirements for operating, capital & planning that you can apply for. Operating grants require a 50% match and you can't decrease state funding. FTA can place a cap on any individual entity without much guidance on how the decision was made. The secretary can create a waiver process where somebody who isn't eligible can submit and potentially receive a waiver. We are pursuing details on Shakwak eligibility.
2:17	Katherine Keith (Zoom Chat)	Would a subcommittee be helpful to dig into specific components?
2:17	Chair Shirley Marquardt (Zoom Chat)	Let's see what the board thinks at our next meeting.
2:18	Rob Carpenter	The potential for waiver applies to capital as well, it was a surprise that they could implement that much change in the NOFO from the intent of the legislature.

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2:19	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Agrees with Rob's statement. Asks if anyone from DOT has been in contact with Senator Murkowski regarding the new rules?
2:20	James Marks	The Governor's office has been in contact.
2:20	Rob Carpenter	Conversations are happening, but a lot of details still need to be worked out.
2:21	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Can the board comment on STIP#4 to support items for AMHS to be added?
2:21	James Marks	Yes, highly encourage you to comment on items. These responses are added to the record and sent to FHWA and FTA to show public support.
2:21	Katherine Keith (Zoom Chat)	https://wsdot.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-03/WSF-COVID19-ServiceRestorationPlan.pdf
2:22	Chair Shirley Marquardt	The Chair asks board members to weigh in and draft a one-page letter from board supporting items in STIP. Comments on the importance on future items and why this is important in the STIP process.
2:22	Katherine Keith Zoom Chat	Also, we have as an action to provide the table of concurrent and supportive planning efforts as a white paper.
2:23	Alan Austerman	It will be hard to comment on support when not aware of community conflicts. Would be helpful to receive this information sooner to review.
2:24	Wanetta Ayers	If it adds value to AMHS, the letter from AMHOB should prioritize projects and funding that are essential for operation.
2:26	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Agrees with Wanetta, reviewed amendments and need to be addressed in short and long term plans.
2:26	Rob Carpenter	In order to pursue grants, they need to be itemized in STIP. Need to add dead-end corridor itemized out, so we can pursue a grant.
2:27	Paul Johnson	Supports letter to show support.
2:28	Norm Carson	Add emphasis on projects where we hear from the community.
2:28	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Agrees with Norm, draft a short letter that supports STIP and items. Will need to have a letter by the next meeting.
2:29	Rob Carpenter	Agrees and encourages the board to draft letter.
2:30	James Marks	Nothing further on item #7.

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Item 8	2:31	Andy Mills	In the calendar year 2022, the resolution that was drafted and provided for review was to put consideration in front of the group to draft what needs to be relayed to legislators and the public. The drafted resolution was to bear in mind the statutory responsibilities that are listed as “shalls”. That is what you look for in legislative languages, what you must do according to statute. In House Bill 63. This board has a longer than usual term, which will eliminate turnover but creates longer than usual goals and planning. The board has the opportunity to acknowledge requirements for short and long-term plans. When providing information, you can explain how, what, and when you expect to complete plans and what needs are. If nothing else, pick a timeframe for the short-term plan and state what elements of a short-term plan you can put forward. That will give you something going into legislation.
	2:38	Alan Austerman	Mr. Austerman has confidence that DOT&PF will meet deadlines for budget regardless of board action. When reading through HB63 it doesn't talk about AMHS or recommendations. It does state the short-term plan as defined in the long-range plan. We need to put together a short-term plan to meet deadlines. DOT&PF needs to work on budget items and ask the board for input when necessary so the board can focus on deadlines.
	2:42	Rob Carpenter	A lot of planning is happening concurrently. The short term plan is critical, and statute states, mandatory. The resolution may not be necessary but needs to be discussed. The 9/15 deadline may not be not realistic.
	2:43	Andy Mills	People want to see input and action on AMHS. This requires attention and more expertise to allow decisions to be made. Because of priorities, deadlines are important to meet goals. We can cross years if needed, but will clearly show intent.
	2:45	Wanetta Ayers	Expresses the importance of deadlines and crossing years. Doesn't feel 9/15 deadline is realistic as a lot of items still need review. The board needs performance metrics. The board needs to hold ourselves accountable to the legislative process and establish realistic deadlines. In order to establish a short-term plan, the board needs long-range performance metrics.
	2:47	Paul Johnsen	Mr. Johnson is in favor of in favor of adopting deadlines.
	2:47	Chair Shirley Marquardt	The Chair agrees 9/15 isn't realistic, we need to look at the modernization plan update which is the start of a short-term plan. Immediate issues need to be addressed this next legislative session. Recommends changing to a 10/15 deadline and recommends board adopt the resolution for developing a short term plan. Also, the Chair suggest that the long-term plan deadline be changed to May. Does the board agree?
	2:49	Alan Austerman	I don't think a resolution is needed because we haven't had the opportunity to discuss plans. Need to start with that conversation and then dates can be established.

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	2:51	Chair Shirley Marquardt	If we aren't ready to make a decision, we still will need to set a deadline. We still have many things that need to be worked out, but we can shoot for October 15th as a realistic goal.
	2:53	Rob Carpenter	We may need to table this conversation about timeframes. The agency will do this either way because of requirements.
	2:54	Wanetta Ayers	It might be helpful to have volunteers from the board that can sit down and look at long-term questions in order to evaluate a short-term operating plan. The Reshaping Working Group, in the report to Governor, pages 10-12, addresses strategy. This may be a good starting point to develop short-term plan.
Item 9-10	2:56	Katherine Keith	Ms. Keith suggests that items 9 and 10 are discussed together and ask James Marks to return.
	2:57	James Marks	For the long-range plan (AMHS LRTP), a draft RFP is set to come out next week. DOT&PF is trying to include as much as possible while trying to have something out quickly without sacrificing quality. AMHS LRTP is expected to start in August; there will be data collection, traffic modeling, gap analysis & route and vessel analysis in the first phase. DOT&PF will work towards a level of service, which will include a range of scenarios. A planner from DOT&PF will be going to DC in September that will look at scenario planning. There is a high degree of coordination required because there are so many items at once. DOT&PF's statewide LRTP should wrap up this fall and winter, which will set high-level transportation policy and actions for the department for the next 20 years. After that concludes, we will be kicking off the Southeast, Southwest & Prince William Sound plans which all have to coordinate with the AMHS LRTP. Future stages will focus on public involvement and will be looking for a lot of input. What are the performance metrics, goals, and objectives are questions that need to be answered in the plans? DOT&PF will also include forecasting and scenarios mentioned earlier. We will build out a fiscal and investment plan, during development the planners will work closely with all of the other efforts happening. The planning department will be teamed up with AMHS staff. The cost is expected going to be near 700-800K, but we are hesitant to put a timestamp in terms of completion date until offers are all in and reviewed.
	3:04	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Thanks Mr. Marks for the efforts to bring this all together. Can you provide a summary of long and short-term plans so we can understand the process? Is the scope done on the LRTP and is an RFP out on street?
	3:05	James Marks	The scope is being drafted, ETA is next week. I will send the board a draft.
	3:06	Alan Austerman	This is the kind of information the board needs to study and move forward with planning. Understanding HB63, it seems a short-term plan is required by end of the year and should be put together by DOT&PF. The board can comment and recommend as needed. Providing details in advance will be helpful to have comments and questions ready.

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3:08	Chair Shirley Marquardt	A basic outline would be helpful when talking about a short-term plan and will allow the board to bring concerns forward.
3:09	Wanetta Ayers	Are we proactive or reactive? Is the board waiting for the DOT&PF to provide plans that the board can then provide comments on? We need clear goals to ensure metrics are being met and can report back if questions arise. We have proactive and useful resources we could be using, that we can bring to meetings for better use of time and a clear plan.
3:13	Paul Johnsen	Mr. Johnsen agrees with Mrs. Ayer's comment.
3:14	Rob Carpenter	The agency is being proactive, hoping to take the modernization plan to start forming a short-term plan.
3:15	Chair Shirley Marquardt	The board doesn't have time to go through the entire modernization & short-term plan today, all board members have not had a chance to review it. I read and like the plan. Chair Marquardt recommends that the board read through the document and discuss it at the next meeting. In the meantime, getting information on pending items would also be helpful.
3:16	Alan Austerman	I have not read through the entire document yet, but how will this document apply to the long-range plan? The board needs to have something to refer back to as we review this document.
3:17	Rob Carpenter	DOT&PF is proposing principles that guide the long-range plan for the short-term plan which is still early in the draft process.
3:18	Chair Shirley Marquardt	We have limited time, so let's keep questions to a minimum.
3:19	Katherine Keith	Ms. Keith introduces the short-term plan to board members. The table of contents can give a big picture summary of the plan. This is broken down into sections and includes the capital and operating program. In lieu of having the AMHS LRTP, we do have a Statewide DOT&PF LRTP. The draft document captures present-day information on what is happening and what is in the STIP. This document has the scope, schedule, estimate, and date of the SSE broke down for each project. It will help if board members agree with proposed goals. Common strategic themes are used within DOT&PF and you will hear the Commissioner talk about these. We use them to score proposed capital projects using the criteria. In this draft, we call out capital program performance metrics. These aren't included in the draft yet but will be developed as we work through the plan. The proposed winter schedule is not yet out but will be out for comment in August. Once information is available it will be added to this plan. DOT&PF acknowledges that a reduced level of service may be coming which will improve as fleet and crew become available. AMHOB will talk more about this in future meetings as we still have a lot to cover.
3:24	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Chair Marquardt asks the board what they would like to see on the agenda for the next meeting. The short-term plan with an outline to long-term goals is suggested.

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3:25	Wanetta Ayers	The walkthrough of this document is a helpful introduction to the short-term plan. If the strategic direction is set by funding source through IJA, the board will want a clear plan to align funding. Between now and the next meeting, this document is likely to change. How does the board stay on top of that, is there a living document available?
3:27	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Can a live document be available to the board?
3:27	Katherine Keith	Ms. Keith will consider methods of sharing the document with the board.
3:28	Wanetta Ayers	It would be great to see live commenting and how the document is drafted. This way we can see how the document is evolving.
3:29	Chair Shirley Marquardt	If a live document is not available; can Ms. Keith provide updates as they come?
3:29	Alan Austerman	Mr. Austerman agrees with a document posted in real-time so the board can engage easily. Meeting every 2 weeks for 2 hours isn't enough; we need to find a starting point and get where we need to be.
3:31	Rob Carpenter	Mr. Carpenter says that we will find a way to inform the board on the short-term plan updates. Once the legislative session starts, we can refer back to this document often. The short-term plan will be a great tool that tells the whole story and why we are doing what we are doing.
3:34	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Chair Marquardt wants to ensure that the agenda revisits the short-term plan. The chair also wants to draft a letter from the board with comments on the STIP.
3:36	Katherine Keith	Discretionary grant applications are being prepared and due September 9th. Ms. Keith asks if the board would like to provide a letter of support on projects. By September 6th, DOT&PF needs letters of support. Should this be added to the agenda?
3:37	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Chair Marquardt thinks the board would be supportive of this and asks for advanced notice and information on projects prior to the next meeting for review. Can all projects be grouped together on the agenda.
3:38	Wanetta Ayers	Are the grants for both vessel and shoreside? The board needs to understand project funding before discussing them.
3:38	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Chair Marquardt asks for any questions from the board. The next agenda items will likely be the short-term plan, long-term draft and stip.
3:39	Rob Carpenter	Mr. Carpenter asks if it makes sense to narrow the agenda to a particular section of short-term plan.
3:39	Chair Shirley Marquardt	The board can decide as we get closer to the next meeting as they work through items to see if certain topics have a lot of questions.
3:40	Alan Austerman	Mr. Austerman agrees with Rob to narrow the agenda and prioritize the needs of the department; asks for DOT&PF to provide priorities.

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	3:41	Wanetta Ayers	W. Ayers like to request key timeline and dates for full operational capacity of the ACF. We need to better understand and grasp details, for example when questions arise on things like retirement would like to understand service and community impacts. We need to prioritize decisions to get those two vessels up for full operations capacity.
	3:43	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Are there any public comments?
	3:43	Katherine Keith	No public comments
	3:45	Chair Shirley Marquardt	Meeting adjourned.
SOCIAL MEDIA COMMENTS		Name	Comment
Face book		Cindy Bettine	Where is the information on Matanuska dead-end corridors discussion? <i>(Alaska DOT&PF responded with requested information.)</i>
Face book		Kimi Boal	Could I please have a copy of this ST Plan Draft? <i>(Alaska DOT responded with information.)</i>
Face book		Christine Hutchinson	Is there is a link where stip amendment 4 comments could be sent? <i>(Alaska DOT responded with information.)</i>
Face book		Christine Hutchinson	What is IJA? <i>Susan Clemets response: The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (Public Law 117-58, also known as the “Bipartisan Infrastructure Law”) provides approximately \$350 billion for Federal highway programs over a five-year period (fiscal years 2022 through 2026).</i>

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AGENDA ITEM S2: AMHS CONCURRENT PLANNING EFFORTS

Meeting: August 5th, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: AMHOB Members
FROM: Katherine Keith, Change Management Director
SUBJECT: AMHS Concurrent Planning Efforts

Planning Effort	Point of Contact	Next Milestone
AMHS Short Term Plan	Katherine Keith / Judy Chapman	Immediate Decision Plan: 10 months
AMHS Grant Proposal Development	Katherine Keith	Grants due 9/7/22
AMHS Long-range Transportation Plan: Phase One	Judy Chapman	Phase 1: 5 months Phase One
AMHS Restoration Plan: Phase 1 and proposed winter Operating Plan	Katherine Keith	Draft 8/12/22 for operating plan public comment. 9/01/22 for the Phase 1 restoration plan.
AMHS Evaluation Project: Preliminary	Katherine Keith	6-week preliminary report 9/15/22
Low-No Electric Ferry FHWA Research Project	Katherine Keith	
DOT&PF Sustainable Transportation Roadmap (Modal Component for AMHS)	Katherine Keith	9/31/2022
AMHS Evaluation Project: Final	Katherine Keith	12/31/2022
Southeast Alaska Transportation Plan	Judy Chapman	Perhaps starting Fall 2022
AMHS Long-range Transportation Plan: Phase Two	Judy Chapman	Phase 2: Public Engagement with scenario modeling and analysis . Spring '23.
State DOT&PF LRTP 2050 Alaska Moves	James Marks	
Prince William Sound Plan	Judy Chapman	2023

AGENDA ITEM S3: AMHS GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Meeting: August 5th, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: AMHOB Members
FROM: John Falvey, General Manager
SUBJECT: AMHS General Manager Report

AMHS Priorities

- Continue with the next phase of upgrades to the terminal and uplands for Full Pre-Clearance approval in Prince Rupert, along with planning for a causeway to the BC Ferries dock.
- Winter schedule is being worked on with booking availability planned for Late August. Longer winter vessel overhauls will be required due to many vessel staff SMR requests.
- Continue to look into acquiring a SOLAS waiver for our Non- SOLAS vessels to call at Prince Rupert.
- RFI has been issued for Wi-Fi aboard vessels, with no responders, although continuing to pursue technology to provide onboard Wi-Fi.
- Dock projects at Pelican, Cordova, Chenega Bay, and Tatitlek to accommodate an ACF vessel continue to a priority.
- Continue to work with vessel crew job placement contractor PeopleAK, who has been under contract since 2/14/22. Since February many AB, Oiler, and Jr. Engineers candidates have been located, although to date, only 2 ABs have been hired. Skilled unlicensed positions continue to be a challenge to find and recruit.
- Continue to work on a recruitment and public relations video with our contractor.
- Continue to hire new entry-level passenger services crew. Approximately 78 new entry-level crew have been hired over the last 9 months, of which we have lost approximately 15 and we are now processing another 30 applicants.
- Continue to look at increasing training opportunities for vessel staff so as to allow crew to progress into higher on board positions quicker.

Operations and Maintenance

- Continue working towards a new online crew training delivery system and contract.
- Bars with beer, wine, and assorted mixed drinks continue operating on the Matanuska and Kennicott with limited hours.
- When Lituya commences revenue service following its CIP and overhaul, operational hours will be changed with an extended operating timeline of 9:00 AM to 5:15 PM. This was done at the request of Metlakatla.
- The Tustumena was taken out of revenue service for 6 days due to a crewing shortage.

Maintenance and Construction

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- Hubbard crew cabin install CIP project, and overhaul has been delayed due to supply chain problems acquiring HVAC microchip parts. Given this situation, the Hubbard will not be included in the upcoming winter schedule.
- Tustumena CIP has been completed and the ship is back in service.
- Lituya CIP includes complete exterior painting, maintenance, and overhaul. The vessel is on schedule for an August 15 back in revenue service.
- Kennicott generator re- power CIP is in the design phase.
- Management continues working to secure a Columbia new CCP installation contract via a sole source contract negotiation.
- Columbia now has a COI with minor USCG 835's, its shafts are in Seattle being inspected, repaired and re-certified, and the vessel hull has been painted while the ship is in the dry dock awaiting the return of its shafts. Columbia also continues to serve as a hotel ship for new entry-level vessel employees as needed.
- Currently ordering long-lead items for the upcoming winter overhauls due to supply chain concerns.
- The Kennicott will need to wait until its overhaul of winter 2024 to repair its stabilizer fin system due to supply chain problems in acquiring the needed stabilizer fin parts.

Business Office

- Terminals and the Juneau reservation center are beginning to see staffing challenges and having difficulties hiring for vacant positions. This may affect the ability to tie up ships in some ports where on-call staff are not available, as well as increase hold times for customers calling to make bookings.
- Cash flow report for the next 10 years for the modernization plan has been created, along with a comparison to actuals for the past few years.
- AMHS budget and finance as well as DOT finance and budget continue to experience frequent challenges with our operating budget due to Federal spending restrictions, including a significant increase in both the complexity and volume of previously routine tasks. Additionally, the process required to produce timely federal billings is arduous and has resulted in tolerance issues that subsequently restrict spending authority, as we have experienced on multiple occasions throughout the year. The transition to a calendar year budget also creates challenges for AMHS and has resulted in high overtime costs due to still having to do the same work as previous to close things out from a fiscal year. IRIS and ABS are not capable of converting to a calendar year from a fiscal year, which causes additional complications. The budget year vs. fiscal year issues have caused numerous payroll errors that need to be corrected. We are continuing to be faced with finding workaround solutions to SOA/DOT initiated fiscal year-end close-out restrictions and procedures to continue to function as we normally would with another 6 months remaining in our budget.
- Additional difficulties of the switch to calendar year is that revenue is posted on a fiscal year and a budget fiscal year, but expenditures are recorded on a calendar year and a budget fiscal year.
- The AMHS accounting group is short-staffed currently, although are working extra to clear out transactions for the fiscal year-end to match with the rest of DOT&PF. It is unclear at this time

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how this will work at calendar year-end when AMHS's budget ends and the rest of DOT is still mid-fiscal year.

Other Business

- A contract between the State and the City of Bellingham for the commencement of Police drug and bomb dog coverage has been signed and drug and bomb dogs are now working the Kennicott and Matanuska when loading in Bellingham.
- Continue to work on the development of an APP for handheld device use for vessel reservations.
- Have secured a new contract with a new operator for launch service between Ketchikan and Metlakatla. All Lituya crew now live in Ketchikan and need to be transported to and from the Lituya berthed in Metlakatla 5 days a week.
- Ketchikan Berth 3 used by the AMHS Lituya and IFA vessels will be out of service for repairs during October 2023, and management is working thru details and new agreement to allow the IFA to use the Ketchikan main berth and Lituya to use Ketchikan South Berth during the out of service month.
- The Matanuska is currently experiencing onboard satellite communications broadband issues affecting the onboard reservation system and other onboard communications. State IT programming staff and GCI are troubleshooting the situation.

End