

Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority

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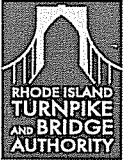
NOTICE

(Posted September 8, 2016)

There will be a Special Board Meeting of the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, at 8:00 A.M., at the Authority's office in Jamestown.

Agenda
Special Meeting
September 13, 2016
8:00 AM

1. Call to Order: Stephen C. Waluk, Chairman
2. Discussion/Approval: UBI Incident at Sakonnet River Bridge – Engaging Firm to Investigate



RHODE ISLAND Turnpike and Bridge Authority

Board Agenda Item Tracking System

AGENDA ITEM 2	DATE PREPARED: September 8, 2016	SUBJECT: UBI INCIDENT AT SAKONNET RIVER BRIDGE – ENAGAING FIRM TO INVESTIGATE
FOR THE MEETING OF: September 13, 2016		PREPARED BY: ERIC OFFENBERG

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION:

Request approval to hire an independent accident investigation company to look into the snooper accident on 8/29/16 on the Sakonnet River Bridge.

Financial Effect : NTE \$25,000

Instructions: The individual named at the top of this page as “preparer” indicates in boxes below which individuals and departments are to review and approve this document and its corresponding support (if applicable) prior to distribution to Board members. Then, each individual places his or her initials and date in the appropriate space in evidence of their review.

ROUTING	INITIALS	DATE	BOARD ACTION:
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR <i>EARL J. CROFT III</i>			<p>___ TABLED: UNTIL _____</p> <p>___ DISCUSSED: <i>Action Taken:</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">VOTE TAKEN: __ YES __ NO</p> <p style="text-align: right;">APPROVED: __ YES __ NO</p> <p>___ RATIFIED</p>
FINANCE <i>MAGGIE BAKER</i>			
√ ENGINEERING <i>ERIC OFFENBERG</i>	<i>EO</i>	<i>9/13/16</i>	
PLAZA OPERATIONS SAFETY & SECURITY <i>KATHRYN COLEMAN (ACTING)</i>			
DIRECTOR OF ELECTRONIC TOLLING <i>KATHRYN O'CONNOR</i>			
MAINTENANCE <i>JAMES ROMANO</i>			
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY <i>MICHAEL BONSIGNORE</i>			

Under Bridge Inspection Unit Investigation

As you know, on the afternoon of Monday August 29, 2016 a UBIU (Snooper truck) rented and operated by AECOM was involved in an accident on the Sakonnet River Bridge. AECOM is an engineering firm that conducts periodic inspections of bridges for RITBA. The Snooper truck rolled over on its side leaving 2 people stranded in the inspection bucket.

RITBA directed one of our other consultants, Ammann & Whitney, to do an emergency inspection of the bridge to determine the extent of any damage. The inspection revealed minimal damage only with an estimated repair cost of under \$50,000.

The accident is of great concern for a number of reasons. First, the accident could easily have been a tragedy with loss of life. Second, it is an event that the manufacturer of the Snooper truck had previously claimed could not happen. The equipment is supposed to operate in a way that it cannot be tipped over. Third, RITBA has purchased a similar Snooper truck from the manufacturer for our use. We have trained employees to operate it. Our employees are justifiably concerned that a similar accident could happen. Gaining a solid understanding of why this accident occurred is critical to our operation going forward.

There are multiple ongoing investigations taking place with OSHA, the Rhode Island State Police, the manufacturer, as well as AECOM, the rental company, Bridgeriggers, and others. The engineering consultants that we have on-call do not have the specialized skills to perform our own investigation of the incident, therefore, we would like to have RITBA hire our own expert to disseminate all of the information from the other investigations, as well as conduct what investigation is necessary for RITBA and assist in setting policy for future snooper use.

We would like to conduct the investigation through our attorneys to ensure that the proper legal process is followed. It is anticipated that we will hire one main consultant that will then contract with an individual inspection company that does ANSI inspections of cranes and snoopers. We are requesting approval to hire an independent consultant in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.