

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority (“Authority”) was held at the Authority’s office in Jamestown on Wednesday, April 10, 2019.

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The meeting was called to order at 8:34 A.M. by Chairman Stephen C. Waluk

**Members Present:**

Stephen C. Waluk, Chairman  
Richard S. Humphrey, Esq., Vice Chairman  
Peter Alviti, Jr. P.E., Ex Officio  
Judith M. Morse

**Members Absent:**

Darrell Waldron

**Invited Guests:**

Buddy Croft, Executive Director  
Eric Offenber, Director of Engineering  
Toni Gubata, Controller  
Kathryn O’Connor, Director of Electronic Tolling  
Joseph Levesque, Chief Engineer  
Paul Sikorskyj, Manager of Safety and Security  
Frank Flowers, Manager of Maintenance  
Bill O’Gara, Legal Counsel

Item No. 2

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Item No. 3

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Peter Alviti, Jr., passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2019 board meeting.

Item No. 4

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Peter Alviti, Jr., passed unanimously to approve:

Pannone Lopes Devereaux & O’Gara LLC

Professional Services for the months of January and February 2019 \$48,122.64

Item No. 5

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Peter Alviti, Jr., passed unanimously to approve:

Adler Pollock & Sheehan P.C

Professional Services for the months of January and February 2019 \$5,174.37

Item No. 6

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Richard S. Humphrey, passed unanimously to ratify

Construction/Engineering invoices in the amount of: \$2,040,774.24

Item No. 7

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Richard S. Humphrey, passed unanimously to approve the professional engineering services of HNTB (under Contract 15-16) to update RITBA’s current Ten-Year Renewal and Replacement Plan at a cost of \$58,000.

Item No. 8

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Peter Alviti, Jr., to hear the proposal for CDM Smith (under Contract 15-13) to be awarded the task of providing On-Call Program Management Services to look at potential pedestrian and bicycle connections as well as revenue generation options at RITBA bridges at a base program fee of \$100,000. Motion was unanimously defeated noting that toll dollars should not be used for this purpose. As a result, staff will look into grant funding to explore this initiative and report back to the Board at the appropriate time.

Item No. 9

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Richard S. Humphrey, passed unanimously to approve the task order for HAKS/ATANE to perform the routine inspection of the Hummocks Avenue Bridge (under Contract 15-17) at a cost not to exceed \$8,980.40.

Item No. 10

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Richard S. Humphrey, passed unanimously to approve the task order for HAKS/ATANE to perform the routine inspection of the Jamestown Verrazzano Bridge at a cost not to exceed \$613,648.88.

Item No. 11

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Richard S. Humphrey, passed unanimously to ratify the procurement of 1,200 LF of construction barrier for the Mt Hope Bridge painting project at a cost of \$61,000.09.

Item No. 12

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Richard S. Humphrey, passed unanimously to approve a task order for Parsons (under Contract 15-16) to provide RITBA with an Operations & Maintenance Manual for the rebuilt/rehabilitated stormwater pump station in Jamestown for Route 138 at a cost not to exceed \$7,050.00. Parsons will utilize the services of Pare Corporation as a subcontractor to perform this task which will include meeting with staff to ensure all maintenance requirements are understood.

Item No. 13

Motion by Richard S. Humphrey, seconded by Judith M. Morse, passed unanimously to approve Phase III (Implementation) of WSP/Steere Engineering's proposal of the virtual reality model of the Mt Hope Bridge in an amount not to exceed \$14,000.

Item No. 14

Newport Pell Bridge Deck Project - Eric Offenberg, Director of Engineering provided an update on the Newport Pell Bridge Deck project. The contract is out to bid and will be awarded at the next meeting. Project work will take place from May 2019 – December 2020. 4,500 feet of deck along the East Approach will be rehabilitated. During construction, two lanes open going into Newport during morning rush hour and two lanes open leaving Newport in the afternoon rush hours. Travel will be single lane in and out during non-rush hours.

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Item No. 15

Customer Service Survey - A comprehensive customer service survey was conducted recently and Jim Malachowski of RDW Group provided a summary of the responses. An executive summary highlighting the results is included in the board packet posting for the April 10 meeting.

Item No. 16

Motion by Richard S. Humphrey, seconded by Peter Alviti, Jr., passed unanimously to issue revenue bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount of \$50,000,000 in order to continue to adequately maintain the bridges and facilities.

Item No. 17

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Peter Alviti, Jr., passed unanimously to approve a transponder replacement program which will result in an approximate decrease of \$68,000 in transponder revenue. Customers whose battery life may be low, starting with those who were issued transponders in 2008 and 2009 will be contacted within 12 months of May 1, 2019. The cost of a replacement transponder will be \$10.00 for an interior and \$15.00 for an exterior. This will become a permanent program whereby communications will be sent to affected customers on a monthly basis. The cost of transponders for new customers will be the same as the replacement cost for transponders.

Executive Director's Report:

- On April 15 Buddy will meet with Tim White of Channel 12. There have been a series of stories done in New England about toll violations and he wants to tell RITBA's story. Although we have 9.6 million in outstanding tolls, fees & fines, 85% of this figure is comprised of fees & fines alone. Less than 1% of our customers violate the system by not paying tolls. This represents .08% of the total revenue from tolls. It is an issue of fairness; everyone needs to pay the toll.
- There has been a complaint filed with the Attorney General. The complainant feels our Foundation is not doing some things in a public fashion. Our attorneys will be addressing the complaint.
- Plans are underway for the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Newport Pell Bridge on June 28. We will have information about events planned to mark the anniversary at our next meeting.
- Next Board Meeting is May 1 and this will be the Annual Meeting with the election of officers.

Motion by Judith M. Morse, seconded by Peter Alviti, Jr., passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 AM.

**Buddy Croft**  
**Secretary**