



## Southeast Conference Transportation Committee Meeting Thursday, August 28, 2023, 10 AM

### Minutes

**Call to Order/Opening Remarks:** Chair Dennis Watson opened the meeting at 10:00 am via Zoom with more than 30 participants, including Dave Kensinger, Morgan B, Chris Goins, Judy Dubose, Emily Deach, KC Hostetler, Sherry Aitken, Nikki Navio, Marie Heidemean, Ron Curtis, Dennis Watson, Craig Torrega, Dave Wartner, Melissa Henshaw, Aurah Landau, Ed Page, Joe Spencer, Alexandria Lawrence, Representative Dan Ortiz, and SEC staff Jon Bolling, and Robert Venables.

Motion/Second to approve agenda Hostetler/Kensinger. All Approved.

Motion/Second to approve minutes from June 8, Kensinger/Hostetler. All Approved.

SEC Transportation and Special Projects Manager, Jon Bolling introduced Marie Heidemann from DOT to walk the committee through interacting with the State Transportation Improvement Plan website, highlighting the maps, dashboard, videos, etc. available through the DOT website:

<https://dot.alaska.gov/stwdplng/cip/stip/>

Bolling asked the committee to review the letter that SEC has drafted for the State of Alaska DOT regarding STIP. The committee made suggestions and edits to the draft letter. Motion/second to finalize the letter with the comments received and recommend that the SEC Board of Directors sign and submit it to the State DOT, Kensinger/Curtis. Watson asked Heideman for a copy of the letter of the agreement between the state and Federal government on this issue. Heideman said she'd ask and respond to Watson and Bolling. Motion passed unanimously.

Curtis gave a brief update from the IFA, which saw the biggest ridership and car transport numbers ever in FY23. The IFA partnered with Alaska Airlines to reward the 1 millionth rider with round trip tickets. Aura Landau forwarded on a list of the major transportation NOFOs. Ed Page with Marine Exchange said that there are a lot of good things happening with AMHS. Venables encouraged committee members to attend the upcoming Southeast Conference Annual meeting and gave a brief update on speakers from the transportation industry and topics to be discussed.

AMHS Winter Ferry Schedule is now available to make reservations for the winter schedule. Ron Curtis discussed the IFA closure schedule in October/November due to renovations. No sailing October 9, 13, 16, 23, 27, 30 and November 6. Sherry Aitken gave a heads up that the AMHS reservation centers are on a 3pm quit time due to staff shortages.

Bolling encouraged the committee to attend the annual meeting in Sitka. Watson thanked all the committee participants for attending. With no other announcements **the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 am.**