



Bald Head Association ~ “The voice for BHI property owners”

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BHI Ferry Transportation Authority Update

October 2018

Nine members of the BHI Ferry Transportation Authority attended the October 2018 meeting with what appeared to be a renewed sense of determination after not having met since August due to Hurricane Florence.

Bald Head Island Limited CEO Chad Paul reported that all ferry system assets are intact and did not suffer significant damage through the hurricane. There were a few minor issues (i.e., a piling rose, some siding blew off at Deep Point Marina) but in all, no major impact was discovered.

Paul mentioned that ridership during the month of September 2018 (11,000) dropped substantially over the level seen in September 2017 (31,000). He attributed the drop to the two-week period when the Island was shut down. Barge and ferry revenue has increased since the Island re-opened after the storm.

The Authority’s statutorily required Annual Report was filed on October 1, 2018. BHA requested a copy on October 17, 2018, with a second request on October 23, 2018. Once received, the Annual Report will be posted on the BHA website (www.BaldHeadAssociation.com).

HMS Consulting has conducted a survey on the condition of the ferry fleet, and the final report is expected shortly. BHA received a redacted copy of the draft report on October 19, 2018, and it is available on BHA’s website on the News page (www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/news).

After a 30-minute open portion of the meeting, Authority members went into closed session. The group reconvened into open session at 11:00am. Kit Adcock read the two motions members agreed to in closed session:

1. First, the motion was for the Board to authorize the Executive Committee to negotiate and engage in contracts (not to exceed \$100,000) pursuing competitive bids and also pursuing a haul out survey of the floating assets and for the survey of the piers, terminals and waterfront structure of BHI Limited. The motion was approved.
2. The second motion stated that since the Executive Committee is doing the brunt of the work thus far, that the Board should consider exploring another variation of the committee structure to move issues along more quickly. No vote was taken on the motion, and the Chair stated that the Executive Committee would “take it under advisement.”

The meeting adjourned at 11:05am. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 21, 2018 at 9:15am at the Southport Community Building. Property owners are encouraged to attend.