

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES  
for the  
DERELICT AND ABANDONED VESSEL AND OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL COMMISSION  
MEETING  
held on Tuesday, September 22, 2020  
At the RIDEM, Wickford Marine Base  
150 Fowler Street, North Kingstown, RI 02852

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:</u></p> Kurt Blanchard, DEM, Div. of Law Enf., Chair Tim Mills, RI Harbormasters Assn., Member Dave Prescott, Save the Bay, Member Mac Cooper, RIMTA, Member	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:</u></p> Christine Hoefsmit, Legal Counsel to DAVOR Comm.; via teleconferencing JoAnne Scorpio, Secretary to DAVOR Comm.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>EXCUSED FROM ATTENDANCE:</u></p> Dan Goulet, CRMC, Member	

I. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Derelict and Abandoned Vessel and Obstruction Removal Commission was called to order at approximately 9:10am on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at the RIDEM, Division of Law Enforcement, Wickford Marine Base, 150 Fowler St., No. Kingstown, RI. Kurt Blanchard, Chair presided over the meeting. A quorum was present that included the above-listed members.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Draft Meeting Minutes Review and Vote:

Commissioners reviewed the draft meeting minutes from Thursday, January 23, 2020. The Chair entertained that a vote be taken to approve the draft minutes with no amendments. Member Tim Mills **MOVED** to accept the Chair’s MOTION to approve the (1/23/20) meeting minutes; Member Dave Prescott **SECONDED** the MOTION. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**, 4-0 in favor.

2. Boat Incident that Occurred on 6/14/20 in the Newport Harbor: The Chair handed out a state boating-incident report and other documents involving an uninsured 56-ft. Sea Ray (and tender) that caught fire and subsequently sank in the Newport Harbor. Commissioner Mills/Newport Harbor Master who responded to the scene at the time of the incident (6-14-20) briefed the Commissioners on the events that took place. Commissioners then discussed options available to the state to recover funds from the vessel owner on costs incurred by the state for the removal and salvage of the vessel. Atty. Hoefsmit advised sending a “demand letter” and offer a payment plan for reimbursement to the state. If the owner, however, is unable to repay the state or does not agree to a payment plan, then the case will be referred to the AG’s office.

*Continued from Pg. 1*  
*Derelict and Abandoned Vessel and Obstruction Removal Commission*  
*September 22, 2020 meeting minutes draft*

The Chair entertained that a **MOTION** be made to approve the emergency action that the state had taken on 6-14-20 for the removal and salvage of the 56-ft Sea Ray (“Never Say Never” owned by Ken Andrade) from the Newport Harbor. Commissioner Cooper **MOVED** to accept the Chair’s **MOTION**. Commissioner Prescott Seconded the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**. 4-0 in favor.

The Chair then entertained another **MOTION** for the Commission to approve a “demand letter” from the state to Ken Andrade requesting full reimbursement for the removal and salvage of said vessel, “Never Say Never”. In the event Mr. Andrade does not accept the state’s offer to repay the state with an installment plan for the amount of \$28,800, then the matter will be turned over to the Attorney General for further action.

Commissioner Prescott **MOVED** for Commission Counsel to draft a demand letter and if necessary, seek further action from the AG’s office if the vessel owner does not agree to a payment plan. Commissioner Mills **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**. 4-0 in favor.

**III. NEW BUSINESS:**

No new business

**IV. 2021 SCHEDULED MEETINGS:**

Tuesday, January 19, 2021  
Tuesday, September 29, 2021

**V. MEETING ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to discuss, The Chair made a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Cooper **MOVED** to adjourn; Commissioner Prescott **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**, 4-0 to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at approximately 09:45a.m.

/Js