

Fishers Island Ferry District
MINUTES
Board of Commissioners

July 1, 2025
General Meeting at 4:00pm
Fishers Island Community Center and Zoom

Chair Reid called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the “Ferry District”) to order on July 1, 2025, at 4:01 PM at the Island Community Center and via Zoom.

Commissioners Heather Burnham, Tom Cashel, and Jim Reid were present at the Community Center, as were Geb Cook, Dave McCall and Jessica NeJame. One member of the public was also present in-person. Jon Haney was present via Zoom.

Chair Reid established that a quorum was present. Everyone in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

General Meeting Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comment/Correspondence: Susie Allen Letter; Fishers Island Fire Department
4. Marine Update: Traffic reports
5. Warrant: \$263,104.58
6. Budget modification: \$180,000
7. Minutes
8. HR Part Time to Seasonal
9. Airport Improvement
10. Other: Election August 12th, 2025
11. Executive: None
12. Next scheduled meetings –Monday July 14, 2025, 4:00pm- FICC and Zoom.
13. Adjournment

Public Comment:

Susie Allen submitted a letter thanking the ferry crews on both the Fishers Island and New London sides for their support and comfort when her grandchild took the ferry for a medical emergency last week.

Rod Rodriguez attended the meeting in-person to express the Fire District's interest in renting the Coast Guard House. Currently, that property is rented until early September, and the current tenants have expressed interest in continuing the lease.

Marine Update:

Tomorrow, July 2nd, is sold out. The fuel run was opened up to the public as fuel will not be transported on that boat tomorrow. Thursday is also busy, but opens up towards the end of the day. Friday is not busy. Sunday, there are still spaces in the evening. The first two boats on Monday are busy, but the early boats have spaces if people need to go no driver.

Later in the month, July 23rd, a Wednesday, is the Fishers Island Community Center's round-Island trip. The fuel run will be moved to Tuesday, the 22nd. July 30th will be the annual Fishers Island versus Hay Harbor softball game. The fuel run will be moved to the day before, the 29th. The crew will use the Munnatawket for the softball game.

There are no mechanical issues to report on either boat.

Numbers are up in the last two months. Passenger only was slightly down from May, possibly due to the weather; otherwise, everything was up, including vehicles and commercial.

The scheduling with the Fishers Island Waste Management District has been working out so far with five runs per week.

August 1st, a Friday, will have a lot of traffic with rental turnover, so this date will be on the radar.

Freight has been busy, but the staff is keeping up with it. The team is down one person from last year. Keeping people on during the winter has paid off because we do have strong people there now. If need be, freight could close for an hour, but this would need to be announced and consistent. The Ferry District will hold off on this for now.

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2025 –054

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated July 1, 2025 in the amount of \$263,104.58

Moved by: Commissioner Cashel

Seconded by: Commissioner Burnham

Ayes: Burnham, Cashel, and Reid

Nays: None

Budget Modification

RESOLUTION 2025-055

7.01.2025

TOS Resolution dated:

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District Hereby amends the

2025 Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Increase Expenditures:

SM5710.4.400.100	Expense: Marine Engineering	\$ 180,000.00
	Total	\$ 180,000.00

Decrease Expenditures:

SM5710.1.000.000	Payroll: Salaries & Wages	\$ 180,000.00
	Total	\$ 180,000.00

Moved by: Commissioner Cashel

Seconded by: Commissioner Burnham

Ayes: Burnham, Cashel, and Reid

Nays:

Minutes

RESOLUTION 2025-000

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the following minutes: April 7 and 22, May 5 and 19 and June 3 and 16.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

Tabled.

HR Part Time to Seasonal

RESOLUTION 2025-056

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional full-time Deckhands (FIFD), Junior Captains and Laborers during the peak season between May 29, 2025, and September 16, 2025;

Therefore it is RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect July 10, 2025 Jackson Hayes and Tim Silva as summer seasonal Deckhands (FIFD).

On September 15, 2025, Jackson Hayes and Tim Silva will terminate their summer seasonal positions and on September 16, 2025 be re-appointed to part-time Deckhands (FIFD).

Therefore it is RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect July 10, 2025 Vince Haring as summer seasonal Junior Captain (FIFD).

On September 15, 2025, Vince Haring will terminate their summer seasonal positions and on September 16, 2025 be re-appointed to part-time Junior Captain (FIFD).

Therefore it is RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect May 29, 2025 Geffen Lamar as summer seasonal Laborer (FIFD).

On September 15, 2025, Geffen Lamar will terminate their summer seasonal positions and on September 16, 2025 be re-appointed to part-time status (FIFD).

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel

Ayes: Burnham, Cashel, and Shillo

Nays: None

Airport Improvement

RESOLUTION 2025-057

Whereas C&S Engineers has submitted a proposal to the Fishers Island Ferry District (FIFD) for the preparation of documentation to obtain a determination of Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) for the Runway 7-25 Runway Safety Area (RSA); and

Whereas the cost for the CATEX is \$24,750.00 of which 95% is reimbursable by the FAA and 2.5 % is reimbursable by the NYSDOT; and

Now, therefore be it RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the FIFD approves the proposal by C&S Engineers, subject to the review of the Town Attorney and District Counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel

Ayes: Burnham, Cashel, and Reid

Nays: None

Other:

There is an election for the Board of Commissioners on August 12. A public announcement will be made on July 15th. If someone would like to run, they petition the ferry office and then collect signatures. This is a five-year term. Dave will collect the necessary materials from Southold.

Geb Cook shared cabin layout options with the BoC to review. The baseline of 150 seats looked crowded, so seats in the cabin will be reduced slightly. The construction drawings will be done in the next two to three weeks. Glosten has a connection who will provide an estimate for the fabrication of the boat once the construction drawings are complete. The money for this would come in part from federal grants, but it remains to be seen what will be available. It could also come from a town bond, but this would impact the taxpayers. Conversation ensued about additional methods of funding this, the need for financial models to provide data for this decision, and what the public engagement strategy about this project should be.

Executive Session:

There was no executive session.

General:

Commissioner Burnham moved to adjourn the meeting with Commissioner Cashel seconding.
Meeting adjourned at 4:54 pm.