

Fishers Island Ferry District
MINUTES
Board of Commissioners

September 29, 2025
General Meeting at 4:00pm
Fishers Island Community Center and Zoom

Chair Heather Burnham called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the "Ferry District") to order on September 29, 2025, at 4:03 PM at the Island Community Center and via Zoom.

Commissioners David Congdon, Jim Reid, Heather Burnham, and Tom Cashel were present at the Community Center, as were Geb Cook and Jessica NeJame. Jon Haney phoned in.

Chair Burnham 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: Steffen Kucsera letter
4. Marine Update:
5. Warrant: \$198,524.49
6. HR New Hire
7. PVA Conference
8. Marine Log Ferries Conference
9. Legal FAA Fund Distribution
10. Other: FI Student/Teacher Resident cards: fast track?
11. Executive: None
11. Next scheduled meetings –Tuesday October 14, 2025, 4:00pm- FICC and Zoom.
12. Adjournment

Public Comment:

A public comment was received from a couple stating that the ferry crewmembers were the nicest people they interacted with in their day trip to Maine. This compliment will be shared with the staff.

Steffen is interested in leasing the cement pad beyond Craig Schultz on the road to the beach. He'd like to put a hoop house on it with a generator and tools to restore his car. The pad is about 20'x40'. He offered to maintain the road to the beach. Covenants will be added to the lease that there can only be one car at a time, the structure must be a temporary one that can be taken down, and that this is for personal (not business) use only. Conversation ensued about potential environmental impacts and if

Marine Update:

Jon will finalize the yard package for the Munnatawket tomorrow. Jon gave the three shipyards a heads-up about the RFP, and they all responded. The RFP gets advertised tomorrow and Wednesday. Then, there's a site visit on Tuesday, October 7, and bids are due on the 21st.

In the past, the Caribbean was the standby boat in case something happened to the Race Point while the Munnatawket is under maintenance. That was sold, so now the backup is the Manitou – one of the Block Island ferry's backup boats. That would take 24 hours to get in service. Cross Sound has the North Star, but you can only have 16 passengers on it. In the past, we got an excursion permit to carry more passengers, but apparently that was issued erroneously and will not be issued again. Jon will confirm that the North Star will continue to be available, now and into the future, as that is also the boat we used for contractors.

The Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound will perform a cybersecurity assessment of the ferry's network and ticketing systems. There is a technical phone call this Wednesday and the assessment will take place the second week of November. This is free, though we will need to pay Star for their technical support.

Geb observed that the Munnatawket runs about 5-10 minutes slower than the Race Point.

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2025 –075

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated September 29, 2025 in the amount of \$198,524.49.

Moved by: Commissioner Congdon

Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel

Ayes: Burnham, Cashel, Congdon, and Reid

Nays:

Budget Modification

RESOLUTION 2025-076

9.29.2025

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:

SM5610.2.000.000	Airport CapEx	\$ 133,076.00
SM5710.4.400.100	Marine Engineering	\$ 50,000.00
	Total	\$ 183,076.00

Decrease Expenditures:

SM5709.2.000.200	Docks & Terminals	\$ 30,000.00
SM5710.2.000.000	Ferry: Repairs-All	\$ 20,000.00
SM5710.2.000.100	Ferry: Repairs-Munnatawket	\$ 20,000.00
SM1980.4.000.000	MTA Tax	\$ 7,968.00
SM5710.1.000.000	Payroll: Wages & Salaries	\$ 33,516.00
SM9030.8.000.000	Social Security Expense	\$ 1,859.00
SM9060.8.000.000	Medical Insurance	\$ 61,233.00
SM5711.4.000.000	Office Expense	\$ 1,500.00
SM1910.4.000.300	Workers Comp Exp	\$ 5,000.00
SM1930.4.000.000	Insurance Claims	\$ 2,000.00
	Total	\$ 183,076.00

Moved by: Commissioner Reid

Seconded by: Commissioner Congdon

Ayes: Burnham, Cashel and Shillo

Nays:

Discussion ensued about the need to monitor where the ferry is saving and spending so that next year's budget can be more accurate.

HR New Hire

RESOLUTION 2025-077

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional Deckhands (FIFD);

Therefore, it is RESOLVED to appoint, with effect October 9, 2025, Quinn McGregor as a part-time Deckhand (FIFD) at a rate of \$17.00 per hour.

Moved by: Commissioner Reid

Seconded by: Commissioner Congdon

Ayes: Burnham, Cashel, Congdon, and Reid

Nays:

Passenger Vessel Association Conference

RESOLUTION 2025 - 078

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby grants permission to up to three staff members, chosen at the discretion of District Manager Geb Cook, to attend the Passenger Vessel Association Original Colonies Regional Meeting from October 27-29, 2025, at Buffalo, NY. All expenses for registration and travel, including meals, not to exceed \$2500.00, will be a legal charge to the 2025 District budget.

Moved by: Commissioner Reid

Seconded by: Commissioner Congdon

Ayes: Burnham, Cashel, Congdon, and Reid

Nays:

The Board of Commissioners inquired as to if any other staff members might benefit from attending either of the two conference, and indicated that more funds could be allocated for this if need be.

Marine Log FERRIES Conference and Expo

RESOLUTION 2025 - 079

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby grants permission to up to three staff members, chosen at the discretion of District Manager Geb Cook, to attend the Marine Log FERRIES Conference and Expo from November 4 -5 2025 at Jersey City, NJ. All expenses for registration and travel, including meals, not to exceed \$2500.00, will be a legal charge to the 2025 District budget.

Moved by: Commissioner Cashel

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

Ayes: Burnham, Cashel, Congdon, and Reid

Nays:

LEGAL - Tabled

RESOLUTION 2025-000

WHEREAS, The Town of Southold and the Fishers Island Ferry District, a non-profit entity providing public services, including the equipping, maintaining, repairing and operation of the Elizabeth Field Airfield for the purpose of transporting persons, goods, wares, and merchandise to and from Fishers Island.

WHEREAS, The Town is the recipient of infrastructure grants made available through the Federal Aviation Administration and is desirous of distributing such funds to the Fishers Island Ferry District ("District") and the District is willing to accept such distribution and become a subrecipient.

NOW THEREFORE, The Fishers Island Ferry District Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes and directs George B. Cook, District Manager, to execute all such subrecipient agreements.

Moved by: Commissioner

Seconded by: Commissioner

Ayes: Burnham, Cashel, Congdon, and Reid

Nays:

This refers to a subrecipient agreement that the auditors told the town they should have in place, as the FAA grant money goes directly to the town and then they allocate it to us. The commissioners reviewed the language of the sub-agreement and determined that it should be reviewed by an attorney before it is signed.

This motion was tabled.

Executive Session:

There was no executive session.

Other:

There are three student/ teacher resident cards to approve. One is a new Fishers Island School staff member, two are students enrolled in the school. Management will move forward with these.

Commissioner Congdon moved to adjourn the meeting with Commissioner Cashel seconding. Meeting adjourned at 4:49 pm.