

Fishers Island Ferry District
MINUTES
Board of Commissioners

May 15, 2026
General Meeting at 2:00 pm
Fishers Island Community Center and Zoom

Chair Burnham called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the "Ferry District") to order on May 15, 2026, at 2:00 pm at the Fishers Island Community Center and via Zoom.

Commissioners Heather Burnham, David Congdon, Jim Reid, and Dianna Shillo were present at the Community Center, as were Geb Cook and Dave McCall. Jon Haney was present via Zoom.

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: Museum Fare Letter
4. Marine Update: Wedding boat prep, Corner ramp
5. Fuel surcharge – summary in Board pack
6. Insurance proposals – summary in Board pack
7. New Ferry update – grants, cost analysis,
8. Warrant: \$60,874.44
9. Legal Settlement – D Thomas vehicle
10. Other: Airport signage
11. Executive: Legal
12. Next scheduled meetings – May 26, 2026 4pm Tuesday
13. Adjourn

Public Comment:

Jessica NeJame of the Henry L. Ferguson Museum requested that two summer youth employees receive their student rate when they commute to the island for work this summer. This was approved, though discussion ensued about establishing a policy for fare abatements rather than on an ad hoc basis. A few BD employees asked about fare abatement to come over for the Sea Stretcher Marathon. This was not a formal request, but the Board was disinclined to grant it.

Marine Update:

Last meeting, the Ferry District discussed the Fishers Island Community Center cruise, which will be about \$3,200 - \$3,500 to cover the cost.

Commissioner Burnham noted that the 8/1 birthday charter will be following a different party during the day. Commissioner Congdon asked if a bar will be present on the boat and brought up the issue of safety. Commissioner Burnham questioned if charterers should have event insurance. Discussion ensued.

The Gruner wedding charters turned into regular schedule additions, reserving deck space that the wedding needs and saving them money while also allowing for movement of other passengers.

Three boats have been added to the schedule in the first week of June to allow for more commercial bookings.

We added an earlier trip off the island on Monday this year for Memorial Day, but it ended up being under booked. Everyone wants to leave midday, and there's no way to add a boat there.

Coast Guard inspections got pushed back to the 28th and 29th.

The Harbor School is coming over the same weekend as the weddings.

Munnatawket is squared away, and the Ferry District is working on Race Point. We are set on new hires, though some people will be shuffled around.

We've been trying to plug the Munnatawket into the schedule, but with less deck space, it doesn't work with commercial reservations.

The last boat on Sunday has been moved from 7:15 pm to 7:45 pm because of the golf tournament.

For the fuel surcharge update, the bills aren't in yet, but we're up to \$26,000 that was made from the surcharge. We're catching up.

Two insurance proposals were received, and a third is incoming.

The Ferry District submitted the Federal Transit Administration grant and is working on the projected cost analysis to help decide how to pay for the new boat.

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2026 –054

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated May 15, 2026 in the amount of \$60,874.44.

Moved by: Commissioner Congdon

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

Ayes: Commissioners Burnham, Congdon and Reid

Nays:

Legal/Settlement

RESOLUTION 2023 – 055

WHEREAS the District was presented with a claim from Dianne Thomas for the sum of \$983.74 as reimbursement for the damaging front right fender of a 2023 Tesla Model Y Long Range 4DR Wagon that was damaged on our boat Munnatawket on June 27, 2025, while in the custody of the Ferry District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District has determined that it is in the best interest of the District to resolve this claim to avoid the expense and uncertainties of litigation; and

Therefore, be it RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District approves the settlement of this claim and directs management to make payment of the settlement in the amount of \$983.74 subject to the approval of District Counsel and the Southold Town Attorney.

Moved by: Commissioner Reid

Seconded by: Commissioner Congdon

Ayes: Commissioners Burnham, Congdon and Reid

Nays:

Other:

Geb asked if we should get a sign for the airport. The Board approved.

Executive Session:

At 2:08 pm, the following resolution was proposed:

RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing legal matters.

Moved by: Commissioner Congdon

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

Ayes: Commissioners Burnham, Congdon, and Reid

Nays: None

At 2:28 pm, the following resolution was proposed:

RESOLVED, that the Commission exit from Executive Session and resume Public Session.

Moved by: Commissioner Reid

Seconded by: Commissioner Congdon

Ayes: Commissioners Burnham, Congdon, and Reid

Nays: None

Next meeting is May 26, 2026, at 4 pm.

Commissioner Congdon moved to adjourn the meeting with Commissioner Reid seconding.

Meeting adjourned at 2:54 pm.