



# Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority

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## SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE WOODS HOLE, MARTHA'S VINEYARD AND NANTUCKET STEAMSHIP AUTHORITY

August 24, 2021

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The Members of the Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority Board held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting Tuesday, August 24, 2021, the first-floor conference room of the Authority's administration building, 228 Palmer Avenue, Falmouth. Four Board Members were present: Chair Kathryn Wilson (Falmouth); Secretary Robert F. Ranney (Nantucket); Robert R. Jones (Barnstable); and James M. Malkin (Dukes County). All members participated in the meeting via Zoom videoconferencing. Vice Chair Moira E. Tierney (New Bedford) was absent.

1. General Manager Robert B. Davis reviewed with the Board the excellent team effort put forth the previous weekend to minimize the effects of Tropical Storm Henri on the Authority's operations. He extended his thanks to the Authority's vessel crews, who worked up to and through the storm to provide service; its terminal personnel, who remained maintain calm during stressful situation; its reservation staff, who stepped up to provide additional support on the phones; its maintenance staff, who took preventative measures to secure the Authority's facilities; its parking and bus operations staff, who worked efficiently to get customers to and from the terminals; and its administrative staff, including fleet operations, MIS, accounting, marine operations, shoreside operations and communications, all of whom worked to address items before they became issues. He also thanked the Authority's customers, who understood the situation and, despite anxiety, remained calm during the storm. The Members also expressed their thanks to everyone for a job well done.
2. Mr. Davis and Woods Hole Terminal Project Manager William J. Cloutier provided an update on the Woods Hole Terminal Reconstruction Project. Since the last Board meeting, marine contractor Jay Cashman Inc.'s crew installed the fender and mooring bollard on the north head dolphin. Cashman worked on the north head dolphin access platform and grouted the north bulkhead railing in place. Cashman's crew then completed the north head dolphin access platform and installed the ticket booth.

Lawrence Lynch Corp. poured concrete around the steel castings in the ground and

installed the concrete foundations for the vehicle bollards. Lawrence Lynch Corp. then prepared the work site for the finish course of pavement, completed the paving and then began installing the vehicle bollards.

The electricians connected the permanent power to the transfer bridge and pulled the lighting cables and communication cables.

The canopy carpenters continued working on and completed the canopy trim woodwork. The canopy glass contractor completed installation of the glass hardware and is installing the glass roof panels.

The fencing contractor continued to work on the fence at the south property line.

Thus far, the Authority has sent out 161 community emails updates for the project.

3. Regarding the landside portion of the project, the project's design team, led by BIA.studio, has begun moving into the Design Development phase. As part of this phase, the mechanical systems subcontractor has been developing the specifications for the HVAC system. For the evaluation for the HVAC systems, a lifecycle cost study was performed to identify the initial capital cost and annual operating costs to determine the benefits of a conventional HVAC system versus the geothermal/photovoltaic system being considered in order to make this a "net zero energy" project. The initial analysis shows both initial capital savings plus lower utility costs for the geothermal/photovoltaic system. The Board voted to support that concept as the Authority moves forward in the Design Development phase of the project.
4. Health, Safety, Quality and Environmental Manager Angela M. Sampson provided an update on the Safety Quality Management System (SQMS) project. The project vendor, SMSLLC, will be on-site this week for "hard implementation" of the Vessel Operations Manual (VOM) and Terminal and Facilities Operations Manual (TFOM). The Support Operations Manual (SOM) remains under review; certification of the entire SQMS is scheduled for December 2021.
5. Communications Director Sean F. Driscoll provided the following updates on the website redesign project:
  - More than 30 agencies requested the RFP after it was issued June 1, 2021.
  - The bids were opened on August 16, 2021. The Authority received 16 proposals for the project.
  - The project team is now in the process of individually reviewing and scoring each proposal.
  - The project team plans to meet September 10 to review its work and determine if more review is needed, or if it is ready to make a recommendation.
  - The project team expects to bring a recommendation to the Board at its September or October meeting.

6. Director of Marine Operations Mark H. Amundsen provided an update on the dry docking of the *M/V Gay Head* at Thames Shipyard in New London, Connecticut, which is now complete, and the vessel is preparing to return to the Fairhaven maintenance facility. Highlights of the project include installation of a new fire detection system, blasting and coating of potable water and ballast tanks, and an overhaul of the anchor windlass. The project cost, with credits and change orders, is \$1,278,594.
7. The Board approved the 2022 Summer and Fall Operating Schedule for the Nantucket route, the highlights of which are as follows:
  - The Summer Operating Schedule will run from May 17, 2022, through October 19, 2022, starting two (2) days earlier and one (1) day later than in 2021. The schedule is essentially the same as 2021 except for the assigned vessels and the start and end dates of those vessels. Additionally, the M/V Sankaty will be triple crewed during the Early Summer Operating Schedule (May 17, 2022 through May 25, 2022 and June 1, 2022 through June 21, 2022), as will the M/V Gay Head for the late summer schedule (September 8, 2022, through October 19, 2022).
  - The Fall Operating Schedule will run October 20, 2022, through January 2, 2023, starting one (1) day later and ending two (2) days earlier than in 2021. The schedule is essentially the same as 2021 except for the assigned vessels and the start and end dates of those vessels.
  - The 2022 high-speed ferry schedule will run March 30, 2022, through January 2, 2023, starting two (2) days earlier and ending two (2) days earlier than in 2021. The vessel will be triple crewed from May 19, 2022, through October 18, 2022; it will be double crewed otherwise.
8. The Board approved an extension of the 2021 reservation-only days for the Vineyard route to include Fridays-Mondays until Monday, October 11, 2021, which is Columbus Day. The weekend reservation-only days typically end on Labor Day weekend, but the extension was sought to help alleviate traffic concerns at the terminals. During these extended reservation-only days, the Mashpee Reservation Office will have extended hours until 6 p.m.
9. The Board authorized Mr. Davis to execute Change Order No. 175 for Contract No. 16-2017, Woods Hole Ferry Terminal Reconstruction – Waterside, at a total cost of \$3,487,286, which encompasses additional waterside work needed at the site, including modifications to the fenders on Monopile No. 19 and modifications to Monopile No. 31. The work is planned to begin in mid-September and run through January 2022. The Board expressed its thanks to the following Authority personnel who recently retired:
10. The Board approved Mr. Davis' goals for the year ending June 30, 2022, with the addition of a 12th goal. The goals are the following:
  1. Complete Phase 4 of the reconstruction of the Woods Hole Terminal (marine work) before the start of the 2022 Summer Operating Schedule on May 17, 2022.
  2. Complete the design development phase, for the Woods Hole Terminal Building and Utility Building including opportunities for community engagements and obtain the necessary permitting for the construction of the same.

3. Issue an invitation for bids and the award of a contract for the construction of the Authority's new maintenance warehouse, shops and office facility at the Authority's Falmouth Maintenance site on Bernard St. Jean Drive, subject to availability of funding.
4. Oversee the solicitation of proposals and award of a contract for the update/redesign of the website and/or development of a mobile app to begin in fall 2021.
5. Oversee the solicitation of proposals and the award of a contract for a qualified solar developer to develop solar array canopies at the Authority's Thomas Landers Parking Facility to begin in fall 2021.
6. Complete a Fleet Useful Life, Functional Obsolescence Survey as the initial stage in the Authority's vessel replacement program by December 31, 2021.
7. Complete an evaluation on the feasibility for alternative power technology systems for the Authority's vessel replacement program by December 31, 2021.
8. Complete the development and implementation of the Safety Quality Management System (SQMS) in order to achieve certification by December 31, 2021.
9. Issue an invitation for bids and the award of a contract to, incorporate findings of the independent review conducted by HMS Consulting & Technical, LLC to improve operations with regards to the Strategic Planning initiative.
10. Pursue capital grant funding opportunities from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration and other federal and state agencies.
11. Strive to improve community relations through regular opportunities for public engagement and effective communications.
12. Develop a plan to aid in the eventual hiring of a successor general manager.

The next regularly scheduled monthly Board meeting is currently scheduled for 9:30 a.m. September 28, 2021. Please look for the formal notice for the meeting that will appear on this website next month. Thank you.