



# 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 BOARD

June 16, 2026

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The Members of the Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority Board met on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, in the ballroom of the Nantucket Hotel, 77 Easton Street, Nantucket. Four (4) members were present: Chair Peter J. Jeffrey of Falmouth; Secretary Robert F. Ranney of Nantucket; and Members Robert R. Jones of Barnstable and Edward T. Gavin of Dukes County. Mr. Gavin participated via Zoom videoconferencing.

1. Treasurer/Comptroller Mark K. Rozum reviewed the 2025 Cost of Service report. Among the many insights in the report was that, on the Martha's Vineyard route, the cost of vessel operations and of indirect non-vessel costs (net of indirect revenue) increased by \$2,771,242 during 2025 versus 2024, a 3.9% increase. On the Nantucket route, the cost of vessel operations and of indirect non-vessel costs net of indirect revenue, after the allocation of indirect expenses to the *M/V Iyanough*, increased by \$10,340,218 during 2025 versus 2024, a 27.6% increase. Mark also noted the excursion-fare vehicles were covering 30.5% and 37.2% of the per-vehicle cost on the Vineyard and Nantucket routes, respectively.
2. Madeline Pike and Maureen Glynn, the Authority's federal and state legislative liaisons, respectively, discussed recent legislative developments that are relevant to the Authority. Madeline also discussed the trip General Manager Alex Kryska recently took with Mr. Jeffrey to Washington D.C. to meet with Congressional leaders, staffers, and federal officials about various topics.
3. Joe Russas, the manager of the Operations and Communications Center, reviewed the Authority's staffing levels heading into the 2026 summer season. He reported that the Authority is at the budgeted number of pursers, bosuns, and ordinary seafarers, and above target for the number of captains, pilots, able-bodied seafarers, chief engineers, and oilers. He noted these levels position the Authority to meet its operational demands while preparing for future workforce concerns.

4. Director of Engineering and Maintenance Zach Lawrence reviewed the progress of the following engineering and maintenance projects:
  - The *M/V Aquinnah* repair period at the Authority’s Fairhaven Vessel Maintenance Facility, which is complete.
  - The upcoming dry dock of the *M/V Barnstable* at Thames Shipyard. The vessel is pierside at Thames and tentatively is expected to begin its dry dock on June 23, 2026. Work is in progress while the vessel is docked at the pier in the meantime.
5. Chief Operating Officer Mark Amundsen shared an update on the Woods Hole Terminal Reconstruction Project. The terminal’s occupancy permit was issued June 12, 2026, and the Authority expects the building to have a “soft opening” sometime the week of June 22, 2026.
6. Mr. Amundsen provided an update on the reservation system replacement project as part of the True North Initiative. The beta group held its first meeting May 28, 2026, and it was a very productive start to the testing process by a group of committed members of the public. Upcoming activities include additional procurement and policy matters, refining the date migration plan, additional testing, and development of a training plan.
7. Following discussion, the Board voted to approve a 2.5% salary structure adjustment, and a 3.5% total overall merit increase for the Authority’s nonunion employees, although individual adjustments will be subject to employee evaluations. The Board also directed staff to further investigate locally based wage data to determine if further adjustment to the salary structure is warranted.
8. The Members authorized Mr. Kryska to execute the following procurement items:
  - Contract 07,2026, Dry Dock and Overhaul Services for the *M/V Eagle*, to Thames Shipyard in New London, Connecticut, for a total price of \$1,951,802.
  - A purchase of TAG MOBI services, the software that is used by the Steamship Authority to track and plan maintenance projects on vessels and at terminals, from Integrato LLC at a cost of \$101,640.
  - The revision of the purchase price for a one-year subscription renewal of Granicus Targeted Messaging System service with Granicus at a cost of \$77,000. This is in addition to \$124,500 previously approved by the Board. The addition was due to further discovery of the Authority’s past usage rates, which necessitated an updated subscription.

The next monthly Board meeting is scheduled to be held Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at the Oak Bluffs Town Hall, 56 School Street, Oak Bluffs. The formal notice for the meeting will appear at [www.steamshipauthority.com/about/meeting\\_notices](http://www.steamshipauthority.com/about/meeting_notices).