MINUTES
OF THE
WOODS HOLE, MARTHA'S VINEYARD
AND NANTUCKET STEAMSHIP AUTHORITY

The Meeting in Public Session

July 21, 2026

The Members of the Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority met at 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 21, 2026, in the Select Board meeting room at Oak Bluffs Town Hall, 56 School Street, Oak Bluffs. All five (5) Members were present: Chair Peter J. Jeffrey of Falmouth; Secretary Robert F. Ranney of Nantucket; and Members Kreg R. Espinola of New Bedford, Robert R. Jones of Barnstable and Edward T. Gavin of Dukes County. Messrs. Espinola, Jones, and Ranney participated in the meeting via Zoom videoconferencing.

Port Council Chair Gordon M. Carr of New Bedford participated in the meeting via Zoom videoconferencing, and Secretary Joeseph E. Sollitto Jr. was present. The following staff members were present: General Manager Alexander T. Kryska, General Counsel Terence G. Kenneally, Treasurer Mark K. Rozum, Chief Operating Officer Mark H. Amundsen, Communications Director Sean F. Driscoll, Director of Information Technologies Stephen M. Colman, Director of Shoreside Operations Alison A. Fletcher, Director of Human Resources Janice L. Kennefick, Director of Engineering and Maintenance Zachary A. Lawrence; Operations and Communications Center Manager Joseph J. Russas; Creative and Marketing Specialist Sheila Corcoran; and Marketing and Communications Intern Jocie Cohen. Messrs. Lawrence and Russas appeared via Zoom videoconferencing.

Video and Audio Recording of Today's Meeting:

Mr. Jeffrey announced Mr. Driscoll and Falmouth Community Television were making an audio and video recording of the meeting; Louisa Hufstader (representing the *Vineyard Gazette*), Eunki Seonwoo (representing the *Martha's Vineyard Times*), Jason Graziadei (representing the *Nantucket Current*), and Kaie Quigley (representing the Nantucket *Inquirer and Mirror*) indicated they were making audio recordings of the meeting.

Statement Regarding Remote Participation:

Mr. Jeffrey announced that, pursuant to Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, as amended, Messrs. Ranney, Jones, and Espinola were participating in the meeting remotely because their physical attendance would be unreasonably difficult. Messrs. Ranney, Jones, and Espinola were participating in the meeting by the Zoom videoconferencing app and all members would be clearly audible to each other.

As a result of the remote participation, any and all votes taken by the Members shall be by roll call vote, he said.

Welcoming the New Bedford Member:

Mr. Jeffrey then welcomed Mr. Espinola to the Board. Mr. Espinola thanked Mr. Jeffrey and said he wished he had been able to attend in person. Mr. Espinola said he was ready to get to know the Members and get to know the needs of the Board.

Minutes:

IT WAS VOTED — upon a motion by Mr. Gavin, seconded by Mr. Jones — to approve the minutes of the Board's June 16, 2026, meeting in public session.

VOTING	**AYE**	**NAY**
Mr. Jeffrey	**10 %**	
Mr. Ranney	**35 %**	
Mr. Jones	**10 %**	
Mr. Gavin	**35 %**	
TOTAL	**90 %**	**0 %**

Mr. Espinola abstained from the motion.

Port Council's Report on Its July 7, 2026, Meeting:

Mr. Carr noted the Port Council discussed the following items:

- An update on the recent MarineLog conference that staff and Port Council Member Robert S.C. Munier attended.
- The recommendation of staff to grant a trial license to Offshore Tug & Transportation for freight service from New Bedford to Nantucket, which the Port Council voted to recommend to the Board.
- A discussion of various items related to veteran travel, including passage by honor guards, fares, and potential service for health-care trips.
- Schedules for the Governance and Capital Projects committees.
- The general manager's review.

Results of Operations:

Mr. Rozum reviewed the results of the May 2026 business summary via a PowerPoint presentation, which showed the Authority's operating revenue was approximately $15,107,000, and its operating expenses were approximately $12,684,000, that, when combined with other income and income deductions, resulted in a net operating income of $3,565,000, about $477,000 higher than budgeted.

Mr. Rozum then reviewed the cash status summary and advanced bookings, as well as the June traffic reports, which showed the Authority carried fewer passengers (down 1.8%) and essentially the same number of vehicles across both routes.

Mr. Jeffrey asked if the decrease in fast-ferry revenue was primarily due to the cancellations in May or if bookings were also down. Mr. Rozum said the Authority is up on fast-ferry revenue; he noted the fifth trip of the *M/V Iyanough* was running this year, whereas it was not in 2025.

Mr. Jeffrey asked what the mix of standard fare versus excursion fare travelers was for advanced reservations; Mr. Rozum said the report uses the type of vehicles, not the fare category. He said he could see if that could be reported but he did not want to promise that he could get accurate data.

Mr. Rozum said staff have started work on the 2027 Operating Budget, which uses the last twelve (12) months of traffic data as its baseline, and the preliminary budget is expected to be brought to the Port Council and Board in September.

Mr. Jeffrey said discussion of projected fares needs to begin sooner than later. He said the only reason the Authority isn't behind financially is due to the expense side of the ledger; otherwise, the Authority would be worried about shortfalls. Mr. Rozum concurred and said there is a downward trend on revenue categories that the Authority wants to see go up.

Mr. Gavin said the inevitable discussion will be an increase to the excursion rate and additional data on whether travel patterns changed following the last set of fare adjustments.

Mr. Jeffrey asked if a reforecasting of revenue for the year was in order and what the Authority would do if a shortfall was expected. Mr. Rozum noted travel was off for the first week of July, which may be due to the timing of the July 4 holiday weekend.

Marine Operations Updates:

Mr. Russas provided a report of the Authority's crew retention and succession planning. He reported that the current attrition rate is 3.3%, significantly lower than many transportation and maritime averages. He noted the Authority began the able-bodied mariner (AB)-to-mate program in 2017 in response to future retirement risks, which has resulted in the successful replacement of many retiring vessel officers and the development of pilots from within the organization. Additionally, fifty-one (51) employees have gone through the ordinary seafarer to able-bodied mariner program, and sixteen (16) employees have gone through the wiper to qualified member of the engine department (QMED) program. All of those employees continue to work for the Authority.

Engineering and Maintenance Project Updates:

Mr. Lawrence reviewed the progress of the following engineering and maintenance projects:

- The *M/V Barnstable* dry dock at Thames Shipyard is under way. Highlights include hull inspection and cleaning, shaft inspections, and installation of the skeg. He noted that the vessel was delayed in the beginning of the dry dock period and the work was now scheduled to be complete August 14, 2026.
- The *M/V Sankaty* dry dock spec is on the street, with bids set to open August 6, 2026.
- The *M/V Woods Hole* and *M/V Iyanough* specs are under development and review.

- The Fairhaven Transfer Bridge Replacement Project specs are under development and review.

Mr. Gavin asked if staff expected any “behavior change” on which companies responded to the bids; Mr. Lawrence said the same companies were expected to respond.

Mr. Lawrence also provided a brief report on the MarineLog conference in Florida that he attended with Mr. Kryska, Mr. Munier, and Port Engineer Will Langlois. Topics of interest included the high rate of change within the industry, new vessel builds versus service life extensions, hull cleaning technologies, and new battery technology. Mr. Jeffrey asked if there were any new ideas on how the Authority could make its bid packages more attractive, and Mr. Lawrence said getting them out on the street sooner was key. A topic of discussion is how much the Authority can post as a bid without specific specs in place to try and fit into the shipyard’s schedules earlier. He said the hurdle is the frequency of the spec packages, and staff was working on how to get them completed and submitted to the procurement office more quickly.

Mr. Jeffrey noted the Capital Projects Committee may wish to address the topic after its review of the vessel conversion project.

Mr. Kryska said this issue is not unique to the Authority, as fewer repair yards are available and the demand has increased. Planning farther in advance is a challenge for the staff, but it is a national issue.

Mr. Jeffrey asked if getting specs out earlier would pose challenges with the state’s procurement laws; Mr. Rozum said it was under investigation how complete the spec would need to be, and if an allowance could be included for other items.

Woods Hole Terminal Reconstruction Project:

Mr. Amundsen shared an update on the Woods Hole Terminal Reconstruction Project. The terminal and utility buildings are now open, and Mr. Amundsen shared images from its interior.

Mr. Kryska shared the most recent version of the Woods Hole Terminal site plan and said discussions were ongoing with the Town of Falmouth over the curb cut onto Railroad Avenue. Most recently, the Authority was asked to reduce the width of the curb cut to make it narrower, and to limit the number of trucks exiting onto Railroad Avenue. The plan remains under review with the Falmouth

Department of Public Works and it will eventually be reviewed by the town's Traffic and Bicycle and Pedestrian committees before a review by the Select Board.

Mr. Kryska also noted he had been approached about adding several items of interest to the terminal, including a piano and a museum display, and those requests were under review.

Reservation System Replacement Project Status

Mr. Amundsen shared an update on the True North Initiative and the replacement of the reservation system. Recent progress includes the drafting of the Phase 3 policies, the scheduling of shipper meetings, the release of R1.4 from E-Dea for testing, and a recent onsite visit from E-Dea. Upcoming activities include the scheduling of public town hall meetings, finalizing the website launch plan, continued testing, and the formulation of the training plan.

Mr. Gavin noted a few items had gone from green to yellow and some from green to red, which he said was not very worrisome but was concerning. He asked Mr. Amundsen to speak to launch readiness and testing and why these items have been downgraded. Mr. Amundsen noted that there was a late release of R1.5, and the items in that release were essential to the project. He noted that additional detail would be provided at the IT Executive Steering Committee. Tom Innis from Gibbous LLC added that the release was expected at the end of the month.

Mr. Jeffrey asked how many more releases were expected. Mr. Amundsen said development was expected to conclude at the end of August to make the launch deadline, and the project team was working closely with the vendor to make that timeline.

Mr. Gavin asked what issues weren't lining up with the way the project team hoped; Mr. Amundsen said several issues were blocked by the system's configuration, and additional issues were blocked by the system's functionality.

Mr. Jeffrey asked if the results of the testing could be explored in further depth at the IT Executive Steering Committee, including where the failures were and where the team was in addressing them. Mr. Amundsen said yes but added that this process was normal for this type of project.

Mr. Gavin noted that the website launch was marked as yellow; Mr. Amundsen said the team was still finalizing the website launch and release plan.

The discussion has been, from the user perspective, should the new website launch at the same time or after the E-Dea system goes live. A finalized scope of work with IntraSystems is outstanding as well.

Proposed Suspension of the Authority's Gift Card Program:

Mr. Rozum said staff wished to suspend gift card sales as of August 1, 2026, to limit the amount of data migration that would be necessary with the shift to the E-Dea system. Gift card sales are very low at this time of year, and he said it was expected that sales would resume in late November in time for the holiday season. The project team did not wish to add more data to the migration effort that would have to be vetted in the interim.

IT WAS VOTED — upon a motion by Mr. Gavin, seconded by Mr. Jones — to temporarily suspend the sale of Steamship Authority gift cards until the launch of the new E-Dea reservation system, as recommended in Staff Summary #A-729, dated July 17, 2026.

VOTING	**AYE**	**NAY**
Mr. Jeffrey	**10 %**	
Mr. Espinola	**10 %**	
Mr. Ranney	**35 %**	
Mr. Jones	**10 %**	
Mr. Gavin	**35 %**	
TOTAL	**100 %**	**0 %**

"Pause for Paws" Pet Safety Campaign:

Mr. Driscoll discussed the "Pause for Paws" campaign being launched by the Communications and Marketing Department to inform travelers about the risks of allowing dogs to walk on hot steel decks during the summer months and he shared examples of the messaging that would be deployed on vessels and on social media.

Mr. Kryska noted the Authority would also be displaying messaging on tick safety on the vessels serving the Vineyard route; Mr. Gavin asked, and Mr. Kryska confirmed, this messaging was developed by the tick collaborative between Martha's Vineyard Hospital, and the county's health board. Mr. Driscoll said the messages would be posted on laminated signs and in available poster frames on board.

Proposed License Agreement with Offshore Tug & Transportation:

Mr. Kryska said he was pleased to announce an agreement in principle had been reached with Offshore Tug & Transportation to provide freight service between New Bedford and Nantucket.

Abby Our said it was a long process, but she was looking forward to the trial.

Mr. Espinola said he had been able to review the documents and said it's a great opportunity for both the island and New Bedford and it may relieve some of the pressure for service coming from the islands. He said he hoped there would be more opportunities to provide similar links in the future.

IT WAS VOTED — upon a motion by Mr. Espinola, seconded by Mr. Jones — to approve Offshore Tug & Transportation's request to operate a licensed freight service between August 2026 and April 2027 under the terms and conditions outlined in Staff Summary #GM-813, dated July 15, 2026.

VOTING	**AYE**	**NAY**
Mr. Jeffrey	**10 %**	
Mr. Espinola	**10 %**	
Mr. Ranney	**35 %**	
Mr. Jones	**10 %**	
Mr. Gavin	**35 %**	
TOTAL	**100 %**	**0 %**

Confirm Meeting Schedules for
Capital Projects Committee and Governance Committee:

Mr. Kryska said staff was affirming the meeting schedules for the new committees. The Governance Committee will meet the third Thursday of the month starting August 20, 2026; the Capital Projects Committee will meet the second Tuesday of the month, starting August 11, 2026.

Mr. Jeffrey said he would talk with Mr. Espinola offline about the committees and their background to determine the best fit for his service.

Update on Early Morning Freight Truck Arrival Monitoring at Woods Hole:

Ms. Fletcher provided an update on the tracking of early-morning truck arrivals in Woods Hole. She said letters are sent to shippers who have trucks that arrive two (2) minutes or more prior to the approved arrival window. As of June 29, 2026, 728 trucks arrived between 4:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Of those, fifteen (15) trucks were identified as Diesel Direct trucks fueling the Authority's vessels, and forty-four (44) were SodexoLive! trucks delivering concessions supplies for the vessels. Twenty-four (24) trucks were determined to have arrived early, with a total of seventy-eight (78) occurrences. The average early arrival time was 5.21 minutes. However, she noted that the timestamp on the camera used for tracking was inaccurate. After the timing was adjusted, the total number of shippers fell to twenty (20) and the occurrences fell to forty-four (44), with an average early arrival of 6.48 minutes.

Receipt of Section 15A Petition:

Mr. Kryska noted the Authority had received a petition objecting to the scheduling of the 5:30 a.m. trips from Woods Hole and Vineyard Haven in its draft 2027 Operating Schedules. A public hearing was held July 9, 2026, subject to Section 15A of the Authority's Enabling Act, and staff is currently reviewing the testimony received at that hearing before bringing the draft schedules back to the Port Council and Board for their review and vote.

Update on Nonunion Employee Cost-of-Living Data:

Ms. Kennefick said, at the request of the Members, she had spoken with area town governments and two (2) private employers and found the Authority's cost-of-living adjustments made at the Board's June 2026 Meeting were consistent with those other organizations. She noted that any market considerations were factored into performance-related increases, and she said she was happy to see the Authority was consistent with neighboring towns.

Mr. Gavin asked when the last time was that the Authority had done a salary survey; Ms. Kennefick said it had been a few years since the Associated Industries of Massachusetts data had been used for that purpose, but she noted she frequently partnered with Salary.com for this purpose, and she said she had relative confidence that the Authority's recruiting efforts for its nonexempt employees had not been an issue.

During this discussion, the meeting's broadcast via Zoom was briefly interrupted. No actions were taken during this time.

Usage of R99 Fuel on the *M/V Island Home*:

Mr. Amundsen reviewed the 2025 pilot use of R99 diesel and said the Authority was advised earlier this year that the fuel was no longer being stocked by Diesel Direct's supplier out of Providence. Working with Diesel Direct, another supplier was identified that could provide the fuel via rail to Haverhill, Massachusetts, which would then be trucked by Diesel Direct.

Mr. Amundsen noted that R99 fuel did burn cleaner in the initial trial, so he would like to run a second test on the *M/V Island Home* from August 1 to December 31, 2026.

Mr. Kryska noted this increased fuel cost was not budgeted and would be an additional $165,000, but it would be reconsidered for the 2027 budget.

Mr. Gavin asked how many years the *M/V Island Home* had left on its useful life. Mr. Amundsen said it has been very well maintained, and its midlife refurbishment was coming up. The vessel had twenty (20) to twenty-five (25) years of life left, and during the midlife refurbishment the engines may be upgraded to Tier 4.

Mr. Rozum said that project would be an attractive one for which to pursue grant funding once the specs were established.

Mr. Jeffrey asked if the R99 fuel would be useful in other vessels; Mr. Kryska said, since the fuel's use is mandated in California, there is an increasing demand for it. Mr. Jeffrey said he would like to see the costs for next year's budget if all the Authority's vessels moved to the fuel, and he would also like to explore a surcharge for the fuel's use.

Mr. Rozum said the Authority uses approximately three (3) million gallons of fuel a year, and one of the headwinds on R99 usage is the ability to hedge against its costs. The overall cost of fuel hedges will be higher in 2027 regardless.

Mr. Jones asked if R99 fuel will address the "smokiness problem" reported by some residents; Mr. Amundsen said, with the EMD engines, the lag period between the turbo getting to operating pressure causes the smoke. EMD was brought in to investigate the engines and they were found to be in good working order.

IT WAS VOTED — upon a motion by Mr. Gavin, seconded by Mr. Ranney — to authorize the general manager to execute a purchase of 200,000 gallons of R99 renewable diesel fuel from Diesel Direct for a cost of $165,000 for the *M/V Island Home* test/trial period from August 1–December 31, 2026, as recommended in Staff Summary #A-730, dated July 17, 2026.

VOTING	AYE	NAY
Mr. Jeffrey	10 %	
Mr. Espinola	10 %	
Mr. Ranney	35 %	
Mr. Jones	10 %	
Mr. Gavin	35 %	
TOTAL	100 %	0 %

Manager of Workforce Training & Development position

Mr. Kryska noted the position had been discussed since his arrival and he believed it was critical for the Authority to do training throughout the year. He was worried about creating the position mid-year for budgetary reasons, but he said by the time the candidate is hired, the budgetary impact will be minimal.

Mr. Gavin said he noted the job listing called for multilingual capacity and he suggested that fluency in Brazilian Portuguese be sought in candidates.

IT WAS VOTED — upon a motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Gavin — to authorize the general manager to create the position of manager of workforce training and development at salary grade 30.

VOTING	**AYE**	**NAY**
Mr. Jeffrey	**10 %**	
Mr. Espinola	**10 %**	
Mr. Ranney	**35 %**	
Mr. Jones	**10 %**	
Mr. Gavin	**35 %**	
TOTAL	**100 %**	**0 %**

General Manager Review:

Ms. Kennefick said the Port Council had presented their reviews earlier in the month, and she was now asking the Board to do the same.

Mr. Jeffrey noted Mr. Kryska was being reviewed after only six (6) months on the job because that timeframe was negotiated as part of his employment contract.

Mr. Gavin said Mr. Kryska's most visible positive attitude was his ability to reprioritize quickly while coming back to the core task. The job is responding to fires but also running a $160 million ferry line while each port community has its individual issues. He said he was confident Mr. Kryska was the man for the job and, while the next six (6) months will be harder, from his perspective Mr. Kryska is as committed to public transparency as he was and it was what the community needed. He rated Mr. Kryska at a ninety-five percent (95%) rating. In terms of what to work on, he noted Mr. Kryska needed to understand there was no such thing as a casual public statement, and as he reached into the minutiae of the Authority, "the machine" would resist the changes he was trying to make and he needed to reach out for help as he needed to do so.

Mr. Jones said Mr. Kryska's performance has exceeded his expectations and he has hit the ground running and not stopped since. With the Office of the Inspector General and public ridership yearning to do battle, Mr. Kryska "broke bread" and listened to complaints. He said he has an "aggressive" work plan, which he admitted in his own self-evaluation, and cultural changes would not happen overnight. He rated Mr. Kryska at ninety-two percent (92%) rating.

Mr. Ranney said he thought Mr. Kryska was doing "great" and that he came in during a pivotal transition period and dove in head-first, observing, and asking good questions while staying humble and realizing he does not know everything. He uses the word "we" and, when appropriate, the word "I." He said he has been exceeding his expectations and hopes the novelty does not wear off. He said he gave Mr. Kryska a ninety percent (90%) rating.

Mr. Espinola said he had reviewed Mr. Kryska's self-evaluation last night and found it "wonderful" and it covered a lot of bases, and he hoped his next six (6) months would be as successful.

Mr. Jeffrey said what has really impressed him is Mr. Kryska's thoughtful and transparent leadership style during the first six (6) months, as well as the candor of his self-evaluation. He has done lots of stakeholder engagement and implementation of key objectives from his work plan. Some of the timelines were overly ambitious and he has taken responsibility for that slower pace. He said, by the next Board meeting, he would like to see a revised work plan with new, realistic deadlines and deliverables, along with KPIs. He graded Mr. Kryska at eighty-five percent (85%) and said this recognizes that Mr. Kryska has been focused on relationship building, which has led to a slower-than-expected execution, but he has developed a lot of credibility in the community. He said he thinks Mr. Kryska is headed in the right direction.

Mr. Kryska thanked the Members and said he was "still having fun" and thoroughly enjoying the position and was learning more every day. He noted a phrase he'd heard a few years ago—if you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together. He said the Authority has great employees and that it has been a team effort, and he thanked everyone for their advice and support.

Public Comment:

Christine Todd thanked the Authority for their time and effort and said it has been making a big difference. She said she feels a lot of positive reaction from the community and that feeling was thanks to Mr. Kryska.

Leon Brathwaite said he's enjoyed working with Mr. Kryska and the Board. He noted one of the reasons for traffic backups in Woods Hole may be the bridge leading into the terminal and suggested a third lane be established so there could always be a clean lane going across.

Mary Musacchia welcomed Mr. Espinola. She noted a good article in the Falmouth Enterprise on July 15, 2026, that provided a good summary of the public hearing on the 5:30 a.m. trip and the truck question. She also noted that the $165,000 for R99 fuel divided by five (5) months was $35,000 a month, so she did not understand how a fleet-wide estimate for the fuel was $3.4 million. Mr. Rozum said the premium was 82.5 cents per gallon at 200,000 gallons was how the Authority reached its total cost.

Beth O'Connor said "we all" need to go back in time six (6) or seven (7) months when the relationships with the public were "pretty bad" and there were not openings for discussion or input. She said Mr. Kryska and the new combination of Board Members is the difference. She said she will not always agree with them, but they do a lot of research and do not intend to let up on the pedal at all, but now they feel heard. She added that the Blue Line is not serving the Vineyard and it is inconsistently applied. She noted she was trying to get a reservation for August and could not, and if there was a true Blue Line then she would be able to get off.

At 11:59 a.m., Mr. Jeffrey said he would entertain a motion to move into executive session to discuss and approve the minutes of the Authority's meetings in executive session on June 16, 2026, and to review and discuss the Authority's strategies with respect to litigation, the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real estate, and contract negotiations because a public discussion of these matters may have a detrimental effect on the Authority's negotiating and bargaining positions. These matters include:

- Eben Elias et al v. Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority, Civil Action No. 2572CBV00492;
- The purchase, lease or value of real property in Hyannis, Massachusetts;
- The purchase, lease or value of real property in Falmouth, Massachusetts; and
- The Authority's employment contract with its general manager, Alex T. Kryska.

The public disclosure of any more information with respect to these matters would compromise the purposes for which the executive session is being called.

After the conclusion of the executive session, the Board will reconvene in public.

IT WAS VOTED — upon a motion by Mr. Gavin, seconded by Mr. Jones — to go into executive session to discuss and approve the minutes of the Authority's meeting in executive session on June 16, 2026, and to review and discuss the Authority's strategies with respect to litigation, the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real estate, and contract negotiations.

Mr. Jeffrey	**10 %**	
Mr. Espinola	**10 %**	
Mr. Ranney	**35 %**	
Mr. Jones	**10 %**	
Mr. Gavin	**35 %**	
TOTAL	**100 %**	**0 %**

The Board Reconvenes in Public Session:

At 1:19 p.m., the Board reconvened in public session. All five (5) Members were present: Chair Peter J. Jeffrey of Falmouth; Secretary Robert F. Ranney of Nantucket; and Members Kreg R. Espinola of New Bedford, Robert R. Jones of Barnstable and Edward T. Gavin of Dukes County. Messrs. Espinola, Jones, and Ranney participated in the meeting via Zoom videoconferencing.

Port Council Secretary Joeseph E. Sollitto Jr. was present, as were the following staff members: General Manager Alexander T. Kryska, General Counsel Terence G. Kenneally, Treasurer Mark K. Rozum, Chief Operating Officer Mark H. Amundsen, Communications Director Sean F. Driscoll, Creative and Marketing Specialist Sheila Corcoran; and Marketing and Communications Intern Jocie Cohen.

Video and Audio Recording of Today's Meeting:

Mr. Jeffrey announced Mr. Driscoll and Falmouth Community Television were making an audio and video recording of the meeting; Louisa Hufstader (representing the *Vineyard Gazette*), Eunki Seonwoo (representing the *Martha's Vineyard Times*), and Jason Graziadei (representing the *Nantucket Current*) indicated they were making audio recordings of the meeting.

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Mr. Jeffrey announced that, pursuant to Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, as amended, Messrs. Ranney, Jones, and Espinola were participating in the meeting remotely because their physical attendance would be unreasonably difficult. Messrs. Ranney, Jones, and Espinola were participating in the meeting by the Zoom videoconferencing app and all members would be clearly audible to each other.

As a result of the remote participation, any and all votes taken by the Members shall be by roll call vote, he said.

The Authority's Employment Contract with
Its General Manager, Alex Kryska:

IT WAS VOTED — upon a motion by Mr. Gavin, seconded by Mr. Ranney — to increase Mr. Kryska's annual salary to $251,513,60 as of July 1, 2026.

VOTING	AYE	NAY
Mr. Jeffrey	10 %	
Mr. Espinola	10 %	
Mr. Ranney	35 %	
Mr. Jones	10 %	
Mr. Gavin	35 %	
TOTAL	100 %	0 %

At 1:32 p.m., Mr. Jeffrey asked for a motion to adjourn.

IT WAS VOTED — upon a motion by Mr. Gavin, seconded by Mr. Ranney — to adjourn the meeting in public session.

VOTING	**AYE**	**NAY**
Mr. Jeffrey	**10 %**	
Mr. Espinola	**10 %**	
Mr. Ranney	**35 %**	
Mr. Jones	**10 %**	
Mr. Gavin	**35 %**	
TOTAL	**100 %**	**0 %**

A TRUE RECORD

ROBERT F. RANNEY, Board Secretary

Documents and Exhibits Used at the

July 21, 2026, Meeting in Public Session of the Board of the

Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority

1. July 21, 2026, Meeting Agenda, posted July 17, 2026 (revised July 20, 2026).
2. Video and audio recording announcement.
3. Statement regarding remote participation.
4. Minutes of the Board's June 16, 2026, meeting in public session, draft.
5. Minutes of the July 7, 2026, Port Council meeting, draft dated July 16, 2026.
6. Presentation, May 2026 Business Summary, dated July 21, 2026.
7. May 2026 Business Summary.
8. Presentation, Crew Retention and Succession Planning, dated July 21, 2026.
9. Presentation, Engineering and Maintenance Projects Updates, dated July 21, 2026.
10. Presentation, Woods Hole Terminal Reconstruction Project, dated July 2026.
11. Letter to Lian Davis from Nathaniel L. Russell and Mark J. Stadnick, dated July 9, 2026.
12. Presentation, True North, dated July 17, 2026.
13. Staff Summary #A-729, Temporary Suspension of Gift Card Sales, dated July 17, 2026.
14. Pause for Paws poster and button images, undated.
15. Staff Summary #GM-813, Offshore Tug & Transportation's Request for Licensing of Freight Transportation Service Between New Bedford and Nantucket, dated July 15, 2026.
16. 2026 Governance Committee Schedule, dated July 17, 2026.
17. 2026 Capital Projects Committee Schedule, dated July 17, 2026.
18. Petition regarding 5:30 a.m. freight boat scheduling, dated June 29, 2026.
19. Staff Summary #HR-2026-02, Cape Cod Community Cost of Living (COLA), dated July 21, 2026.

20. Staff Summary #A-730, *M/V Island Home* Test Trial Period for Utilizing Renewable Diesel (R99), dated July 17, 2026.
21. Job Description, Manager of Workforce Training and Development, undated draft.
22. General Manager Six-Month Self Evaluation, dated July 1, 2026.
23. Statement to be read prior to going into executive session.
24. Video and audio recording announcement.
25. Statement regarding remote participation.