



FERRY COMMITTEE

Minutes (DRAFT)

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

- A. **Call to Order:** Chair Mayor Jared Nicholson (Lynn) called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM and Brian Kane (Executive Director) called roll.
- B. **Minutes:** The Chair requested a motion to approve the minutes. Vice Chair Katie Goldrick (Holbrook) moved to approve the minutes and Frank Tramontozzi (Quincy) seconded. The motion was approved without objection.
- C. **Performance/Ridership Update:** MBTA Ferry Operations Director David Perry joined to provide the committee with an update on Ferry Operations. The briefing covered seasonal start dates, changes to F1 Hingham and F2H Hingham-Hull Schedule, Quincy/Winthrop Service update, new vessels from New York, Hingham Ferry Dock, Quincy Ferry Dock, and ridership metrics.
 - a. B. Kane asked for an update on fleet electrification. D. Perry answered that on a recent trip to New York, he spoke with a vendor who had a hydro-foiling, battery electric ferry that will be in the water in Northern Ireland in September. D. Perry said the technology

for electric ferries is here, but the main obstacle facing the MBTA would be getting electricity to the docks and establishing a charging schedule that might require more vessels. There is no current effort to acquire battery electric boats for the MBTA, but it will be the subject of MassDOT's upcoming water transportation study. B. Kane also asked if D. Perry could connect the MBTA Advisory Board with the MassDOT study, and he responded that he will be involved in the process and will include the Ferry Committee as stakeholders.

- b. Chair J. Nicholson asked for D. Perry's assessment of the state of the fleet heading into the spring and summer season. D. Perry answered that the fleet is in very good condition. Necessary repairs have been made with a few remaining accessibility improvements still needed. J. Nicholson asked about the current status of the ferry contract. D. Perry answered that the MBTA is in the final stages of negotiation and the contract for the F1 and F5 routes will be awarded by the Board of Directors in April. This contract will go into effect July 1 and will last 5 years and 9 months.
- c. B. Kane updated D. Perry about the Ferry Committee's letter sent to MassDOT and Secretary Tibbits-Nutt regarding the coordination of ferry service in Boston's inner harbor.
- d. Corey Evans (Cohasset) asked if the ferry was experiencing any overcrowding issues, particularly on the Hingham-Hull line. D. Perry answered that in the off season it is not an issue, however on weekends and as the spring/summer season approaches they anticipate that it will become an issue again. The problem is addressed by not filling the boat to capacity on its first stop in Hingham, so that space remains for riders in Hull. D. Perry said there is no short-term solution because all ferry boats in Boston are fully

utilized on the weekends and the long-term solution would be to add a third boat to the circuit. D. Perry estimated around 1,000 people were left on docks last year. C. Evans offered the committee's support to advocate for more resources for the line, he said the demand is there.

D. **Adjourn:** With all business transacted, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:50 AM.

Attendees:

Committee Members:

Cohasset	Corey Evans
Holbrook	Katie Goldrick (Vice Chair)
Hull	Jason McCann
Lynn	Hon. Jared Nicholson (Chair)
Lynn	Aaron Clausen
Quincy	Frank Tramontozzi
Salem	Brendan Linard

MBTA

David Perry	MBTA Ferry Operations
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MBTA Advisory Board

Brian Kane	Executive Director
Hanna Switekowski	Deputy Director
Isabella MacKinnon	Budget & Policy Analyst