

ANDERSON ISLAND CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD

October 9, 2025, MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

This meeting was a conducted at the American Legion Community Center and via ZOOM.

Call to Order and Verification of Quorum: Chair Jeremy Kamel called the meeting to order at approximately 6:40 pm. Present were Jeremy Kamel, Jacob Anderson, Gabe Sachwitz, Tiffany Waggoner, Bob Bedoll, Larry Nelson, Vickie Driver, and Jan Koslosky. Attending via ZOOM were Kristen Kennedy, and Jim Cook.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda Items: It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to adopt the agenda.

Approval of January meeting minutes: It was moved, seconded, and unanimously voted upon to approve the July 8, 2025, meeting minutes.

Guests:

Patty Lampman was asked to report on her work with the group Support Steilacoom Historic School District Students.

- She spoke of the work that was done on the 2025 Capital Projects Levy and the 2025 Educational Programs and Operations Levy, explaining that each levy is a replacement for an expiring levy and provides a stable tax rate, adding only about \$0.07 per thousand dollars to the current rate.
- Patty described the details of the items to be funded by each levy.
- One question that came up was regarding the rumor that the island school might be closed: the representative from the school district assured that this would not happen, as AI Elementary is designated a "Remote and Necessary" school under Washington law. Patty encourages islanders to vote for the levies.

Ying Smith was introduced as the new Pierce County Ferry Administrator. Ying spoke of her 30 years of experience in public transit in California. She spoke of getting up to speed in the job of Ferry Administrator and said that she is really focusing on long term sustainability for the ferry system.

- She said that on the Pierce County Ferry Web site there is a "post peak season survey", to evaluate the changes made to the 2025 Peak Season Schedule and how the changes impacted riders. She requests that people go to the web site and take the brief survey.
- Ying announced that the Monday fuel runs in December will be changed to the 2nd and 3rd Mondays due to holidays. Also, there will be additional maintenance on the Christine Anderson coming up.
- There will likely be fare increases of 5% next year.
- The county is studying how the ADA rules and medical rides systems are being implemented.

Unfinished Business

- The county department of Planning and Public works is starting to plan for sea-level rise, which will directly affect the Villa Beach erosion planning. A community meeting is planned for discussion of this, details TBD.
- Rick Anderson is going to reach out to the Parks Department to see if they can install and service dog waste stations near the ferry.

New Business

- **AICAB officers for 2026** Individuals were nominated and voted on. The Officers for 2026 are as follows: Chair- Jeremy Kamel, Vice Chair- Jim Cook, Secretary- Tiffany Waggoner, and Treasurer- Jacob Anderson. The Board also voted to accept Jacob Anderson and Rick MacPherson as interim members until their reapproval is confirmed by the county.
- **Ferry Schedule** Some people proposed that during peak season the Monday morning extra runs be moved to Saturday morning instead. There were also several suggestions regarding the Ketron runs, such as making the Ketron stop first from Steilacoom then Anderson Island, or perhaps even stopping the triangle runs and reinstating the Ketron only runs that we used to have.
Jacob recommended that AICAB send a letter to the county suggesting that the ferry stop at Ketron first. There was a motion to form a dedicated Ferry Committee. The motion was seconded and confirmed. Jeremy requested that anyone interested in being part of this committee send him an email. Scott Maddux asked if Ketron could be a part of the committee and was told that they could also be represented.
- **Ferry Budget and Fares** This discussion was deferred to the Feery Committee.
- **Review of Medical Allowances, Forms, Procedures, and Practices** The county is currently reviewing this, so this issue was passed over.
- **Special Meeting** We will schedule a special meeting to update the AICAB bylaws.

Standing Committee Reports

- **Emergency Preparedness** Jim Cook: There is a plan to incorporate the Bainbridge Island Fire Prevention Plan for Anderson Islands emergency preparedness program.
- **Public Safety Committee** Gabe Sachwitz We will not receive any funds for any deputy presence. Gabe asked if we could raise our own money for this, but it appears to be a personnel shortage problem. Jani Hitchens says that there is money in the budget for deputy presence during high traffic times.
Gabe is currently applying to be a Pierce County Sheriff. In 2026, he will be replaced as a representative to AICAB by Aaron Reynolds.
- **Vickie Driver proposes an AI Sustainability Committee** to look at sustainability, infrastructure, housing, water, etc. A motion was made and approved and a committee was formed.

Other

- Jani Hitchens** is hosting a virtual meeting to give an overview of the following things: Ferry Fares, projects related to the ferry that are proposed in the next 6 year and 14-year ferry program, and projects on the islands, updates to any changes proposed to the ferry program and hear any ideas, long-term planning update, listening to the community. To join this virtual meeting on Thursday, Oct 23, at 6:30pm, please register in advance at: <https://piercecountywa.zoom.us/meeting/register/-bw1iFzPSRa9t8hpT48tGw>
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.
- **Mari Leavitt** is planning a community forum on Monday, December 8th from 10:15-11:30. More information to follow.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40 pm.