

ANDERSON ISLAND CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD

OCTOBER 18, 2026, SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

This meeting was conducted at the Martha Smith Room and via ZOOM.

Call to Order and Verification of Quorum: Chair Jeremy Kamel called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00pm. Present in person and online were Jeremy Kamel, Amy Wilburn, Doug Kuehne, Tiffany Waggoner, Bob Bedoll, Vickie Driver, Jim Cook, and Aaron Reynolds. There was a quorum.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Approval of the October 8, 2026, meeting minutes: Vickie Driver moved to approve the minutes with the typos fixed, Doug Kuehne seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Updates and Announcements

There were no updates or reminders.

AICAB Business

Bob Bedoll asked everyone to be sure to take the survey regarding the proposed ferry schedule.

Old Business

No old business for this meeting.

New Business

2027 Ferry Schedule:

- **Vickie Driver made a motion as follows:**

Whereas, the Anderson Island ferry system is the essential transportation lifeline for Anderson Island residents, property owners, businesses, emergency services, and visitors;

Whereas, AICAB recognizes the need for routine maintenance, inspections, and dry docking to maintain a safe and reliable ferry system;

Whereas, a planned vessel outage during the peak summer ferry season would significantly reduce capacity and impose avoidable burdens on the Anderson Island community;

Whereas, Pierce County has a responsibility to provide dependable access to and from Anderson Island and to avoid preventable service disruptions whenever possible; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Anderson Island Citizens Advisory Board formally requests that Pierce County reschedule the planned dry docking of the M/V Steilacoom II to a period outside the peak summer ferry season, while fully maintaining vessel safety and regulatory compliance; and be it further

Resolved, that if Pierce County determines rescheduling is not feasible, AICAB requests a written explanation identifying the constraints, alternatives considered, and steps the County will take to minimize service impacts; and be it further

Resolved, that upon adoption, this resolution shall be transmitted to the Pierce County Executive, the Pierce County Council, and appropriate Pierce County ferry administration officials as the formal position of the Anderson Island Citizens Advisory Board.

Doug Kuehne seconded the motion and after some discussion the motion was passed unanimously.

- **Discussion of the proposed ferry schedule**

Discussion of some possible counter proposals for changes to the schedule.

It was asked why are we accepting any reductions in service?

We need to know the assumptions that were made when the proposed schedule was determined.

The survey asks if safety is a priority. The ferry cannot run unless it passes the Coast Guard tests and is certified, therefore it cannot run if it is deemed unsafe.

The proposed schedule cuts 68 round trips in December and January. A possible counter-proposal would cut those 68 round trips on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday between October and February.

- **Jim Cook made a motion that Pierce County provide us with all information regarding negotiations with Hornblower.**

Multiple people seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

- **Vickie Driver made a motion as follows:**

I move that any proposed schedule for this year and all future years to the ferry schedule be provided to the committee in an itemized format, detailing every specific route adjustment and cancellation, and that each individual item must explicitly include the underlying reason for the reduction (including but not limited to crew shortages, labor disputes, fuel conservation, budgetary items, or scheduled maintenance).

Doug Kuehne seconded the motion.

Amended:

Motion by Amy Wilburn, seconded by Tiffany Waggoner that the original wording be changed to add "...proposed schedule for this year **and all future years...**"

Amendment was passed unanimously.

Amended:

Motion by Jim Cook, seconded by Amy Wilburn that the original wording be changed to add "reduction (including but not limited to crew shortages, labor disputes, fuel conservation, **budgetary items**, or scheduled maintenance).

Amendment was passed unanimously.

The motion as amended was passed unanimously.

- **Jim Cook made a motion as follows:**

Motion that AICAB ask Pierce County where they are in the process of working on the Washington State created ferry district for Pierce County/Anderson Island.

Tiffany Waggoner seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

- **Vickie Driver made a motion as follows:**

Motion that a meeting be set up at their earliest convenience (hopefully in this coming week) with the Pierce County Department of Planning and Public Works and with Ying Smith, the Ferry Administrator to discuss all of these ferry issues in person and in detail.

Jeremy Kamel seconded the motion.

Amended:

Motion by Vickie Driver, seconded by Jeremy Kamel that Scott Maddox from Ketron Island be included in the meeting.

Amendment was passed unanimously.

The motion as amended was passed unanimously.

- **Public Comments**

There was much discussion of the proposed new ferry schedule impacts people for their work schedules (especially first responders and people in the medical fields), court ordered custody exchanges, family visits, etc. Everyone was encouraged to be sure to respond to the survey.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm.