MEETING MINUTES
CAPE COD AND ISLANDS WATER PROTECTION FUND MANAGEMENT BOARD
7/30/2026

Cape Cod and Islands Member Towns

Barnstable	Mark Ells, Town Manager	Present
Bourne	Mary Jane Mastrangelo, Select Board	Present
Brewster	Peter Lombardi, Town Administrator	Present
Chatham	Robert Faley, Director of Public Works	Present
Dennis	Elizabeth Sullivan, Town Administrator	Absent
Eastham	Shana Brogan, Assistant Town Administrator	Present
Falmouth	Peter Johnson-Staub, Assistant Town Manager	Present
Harwich	Don Howell, Select Board	Present
Mashpee	Michaela Wyman-Colombo, Select Board	Present
Orleans	Kevin Galligan, Select Board	Present
Provincetown	Jim Vincent, Dept. Public Works Director	Present
Sandwich	Bud Dunham, Town Manager	Absent
Truro	Vacant	-
Wellfleet	Ryan Curley, Select Board	Present
Yarmouth	Mark Forest, Select Board	Absent
Oak Bluffs	Wendy Brough, Town Administrator	Present

Non-voting Ex-officio Members

Cape Cod Commission	Kristy Senatori, Executive Director	Present
Martha's Vineyard Commission	Adam Turner, Executive Director	Present
Nantucket	Elizabeth Gibson, Town Manager	Absent

Summary of Discussion/Action Taken: The Management Board approved minutes from the 4/29/2026 Management Board meeting, approved funding for the construction disruption assistance scope of work, authorized the Chair to submit comments on House Bill 5518, approved amendments to the CCIWPF bylaws, and approved reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Cape Cod Commission.

Documents Used/Received: PowerPoint Presentation dated July 30, 2026; draft minutes of the 4/29/2026 Management Board Meeting; construction disruption assistance draft scope of work; House Bill 5510; letter from Treasurer Goldberg on House Bill 5510, dated July 6, 2026; draft comment letter on An Act to Build Resilience for Massachusetts Communities, dated July 2026; draft amendments to the Cape Cod and Islands Water Protection Fund Management Board Bylaws, dated July 2026.

Chair Kevin Galligan called the meeting to order at 2:02pm. The meeting was held virtually, with members of the Cape Cod and Islands Water Protection Fund (CCIWPF, or Fund) Management Board participating remotely, pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain Covid-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency, signed into law on June 16, 2021, as further amended by Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025. Erin Perry, Deputy Director of the Cape Cod Commission (Commission), called the roll for attendance, which is noted above.

Mr. Galligan acknowledged new Management Board members: Shana Brogan, Assistant Town Manager, appointed as Eastham's representative to the Management Board following the retirement of Jacqueline Beebe; Robert Faley, Chatham Department of Public Works Director, appointed to replace Jill Goldsmith; and Wendy Brough, appointed to represent Oak Bluffs. He noted that Truro's seat is currently vacant, following the retirement of Emily Beebe, but will hopefully be filled soon.

Approval of Minutes

Jim Vincent made a motion to approve the minutes of the 4/29/2026 Management Board meeting; seconded by Mark Ells. Ells, yes; Mastrangelo, yes; Lombardi, yes; Faley, abstain; Brogan, yes; Johnson-Staub, yes; Howell, abstain; Wyman-Colombo, yes; Galligan, yes; Vincent, yes; Curley, yes; Forest, yes; Brough, abstain.

Oak Bluffs Update

Mr. Galligan called for an update on Oak Bluffs membership to the Fund.

Michele White, of the Cape Cod Commission, said Commission staff continue to coordinate with Oak Bluffs leadership and administration. She said the Oak Bluffs Select Board voted earlier this month to join the Fund and subsequently voted to appoint Town Administrator Wendy Brough as the town's representative to the Management Board and to begin tax collections as of October 1, 2026. She said Commission staff met with Ms. Brough and staff to provide more information and guidance and would continue to support the town throughout this unique time of onboarding a new member community to the Fund.

Mr. Galligan acknowledged Ms. Brough as in attendance. Ms. Brough introduced herself and expressed the town's pleasure to join the Fund.

Construction Disruption Assistance

Mr. Galligan called for discussion of a potential study to respond to the impacts to businesses as a result of wastewater and sewer construction projects on Cape Cod, noting that many towns are deep into this work and this was requested by some Management Board members.

Kristy Senatori, Executive Director of the Cape Cod Commission, agreed that this issue has been identified by a number of towns and members of the Management Board that they could use assistance as it relates to community and business impacts from wastewater and sewer construction work.

Ms. Senatori said the purpose of this work is for Commission staff to provide technical assistance to the Management Board through research and identification of strategies that can support towns and businesses during these construction projects, which have been ongoing and will continue into the future. She said the work would look at ways to lessen some disruptions to business operations and lessen the disruption to local economic drivers. She said the work would include three areas: needs assessment; research; and mitigation strategies and recommendations.

The needs assessment will employ surveys and interviews to determine the range of impacts communities and businesses face, what their needs are to mitigate those issues, and identify gaps and types of support that may be missing. The research will look at models, strategies, and funding programs that have been carried out in other locations. Finally, recommendations for possible

short-term and long-term strategies to lessen impacts will be compiled and presented. She noted a communications toolkit to assist with communication efforts is also included in the scope of work.

Ms. Senatori said Commission staff brought this draft scope of work to the Executive Committee, who suggested it go to the Management Board. She said the work could take 4-6 months and cost between $45,000-$55,000, which would be within the funds set aside for administrative and technical support costs.

Ms. Brogan asked if the research would look beyond Cape Cod and expressed interest in a communications toolkit. Ms. Senatori said yes, the research would include efforts and programs beyond Cape Cod.

Mary Jane Mastrangelo agreed this project is a good idea and will be helpful to towns to develop strategies for other phased construction projects in the coming years, such as the bridge replacement projects.

Don Howell noted there will be no 'one size fits all' approach due to the differing development patterns in the region, such as the road network and commercial and downtown districts. Ms. Senatori agreed, saying Commission staff will look to develop recommendations that make sense for all communities.

Recognizing those differences, Mr. Ells asked if town staff would be engaged to participate in the process and offer their unique perspectives. Ms. Senatori said yes, town liaisons would be welcome.

Mr. Ells made a motion to authorize use of funds set aside for administrative and technical support costs for the purposes of completing the construction disruption assistance scope of work, as presented; seconded by Ms. Mastrangelo.

Mr. Ells asked if the cost is within this year's budget. Ms. Senatori said yes.

Members voted on the motion. Ells, yes; Mastrangelo, yes; Lombardi, yes; Faley, yes; Brogan, yes; Johnson-Staub, yes; Howell, yes; Wyman-Colombo, yes; Galligan, yes; Vincent, yes; Curley, yes; Brough, yes.

An Act to Build Resilience for Massachusetts Communities

Mr. Galligan called for discussion on An Act to Build Resilience in Massachusetts Communities.

Ms. Perry said House Bill 5518 is the current House version of the Environmental Bond Bill, which the Management Board and Executive Committee have submitted comments on prior versions. She said this version includes language the Management Board may want to express support for. Namely, the language would allow upgrades to septic systems located in nitrogen sensitive watersheds, watersheds to water bodies listed on the Integrated List of Waters, and watersheds subject to a Total Maximum Daily Load to qualify for loan assistance through the Community Septic Management Program.

She said currently that program provides assistance for replacement of septic systems that have been deemed failed systems; the definition of failed systems does not allow for upgrades in the areas just mentioned. The Community Septic Management Program is funded through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) and it is Commission staff's understanding that this is the program that the state would like communities pursuing Innovative/Alternative (I/A) septic system programs

as part of their watershed plans or Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan's to utilize; inclusion of this provision in this version of the Environmental Bond Bill would allow for this.

Ms. Perry said Treasurer Goldberg submitted comments to the conference committee in early July requesting some technical amendments to this language that would assist with implementation, and, based on discussions with Nate Keenan of the Clean Water Trust, who she recognized as in attendance, Commission staff suggest the management Board consider submitting comments supporting the language and the technical amendments.

Mr. Galligan asked Mr. Keenan if there is a timeline for action on the Environmental Bond Bill. Mr. Keenan said there is no timeline for resolution except for the end of the year.

Adam Turner expressed support for the letter, noting many Martha's Vineyard towns plan to use I/A septic systems to meet their water quality goals and their interests should be included.

Peter Lombardi said this is great news for communities not necessarily relying on traditional wastewater infrastructure to solve their water quality issues. He asked if such projects were to become SRF eligible would that also make them eligible for subsidy from the CCIWPF. Ms. Perry said guidance on implementation from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) would be needed, and the Management Board may need to revise its regulations, but she and Mr. Keenan agreed that is the goal. Mr. Lombardi expressed support for the letter and suggested including acknowledgement that this provision could allow for CCIWPF subsidy.

Mr. Ells asked if it would be helpful for individual communities to send their own letter of support. Mr. Keenan said towns are welcome to do so. Mr. Ells recognized Andrew Gottlieb, Executive Director of the Association to Preserve Cape Cod as in attendance, and through the Chair, asked if he had any comments. Mr. Gottlieb said no.

Ms. Mastrangelo asked for clarification on the role between the SRF Community Septic Management Program and the Barnstable County loan program. Mr. Keenan said the County does operate a program, but towns could access the SRF program directly for targeted I/A programs that are part of a town plan.

Mr. Lombardi made a motion to authorize the chair to sign and submit the comments on House Bill H5518 to the Massachusetts Legislature, as amended; seconded by Mr. Ells. Ells, yes; Mastrangelo, yes; Lombardi, yes; Faley, yes; Brogan, yes; Johnson-Staub, yes; Howell, yes; Wyman-Colombo, yes; Galligan, yes; Vincent, yes; Curley, yes; Brough, yes.

Cape Cod and Islands Water Protection Fund Bylaws

Mr. Galligan called for review of potential revisions to the Fund bylaws.

Ms. Perry said due to recent amendments to the Fund regulations and to ensure consistency with legislative amendments that have occurred since the Management Board adopted its bylaws, Commission staff worked with the Board's legal counsel to draft potential amendments to the Management Board's bylaws.

She said these include minor changes to reflect Management Board operations, such as those related to remote participation and the attendance policy and add specificity to the role of the Executive Committee, consistent with actions the Management Board has authorized the Executive Committee to take with past votes. Changes to the bylaws also include updates to ensure

consistency with the Fund regulations that were recently updated; for example, adding the definition of Participating Local Government Unit and inserting that where appropriate in the bylaws. Additionally, updates reflect legislative changes that have occurred, such as the elimination of the need for an audit report, as the Management Board does not maintain the funds, and the elimination of DEP's role as a pass through for water quality monitoring funds, where the Management Board now directs the use of those funds without the need for a Memorandum of Understanding with DEP. Finally, some minor non-substantive corrections and edits were made for clarity. Ms. Perry said Mr. Galligan suggested adding the Commission's webpage to Article 2, which Commission staff will do.

Mr. Ells made a motion to adopt the revised Cape Cod and Islands Water Protection Fund bylaws, as amended; seconded by Mr. Lombardi.

Mr. Howell asked if the Bylaws and Regulations Committee was involved in these edits. Ms. Perry said Commission staff are suggesting these changes based on updates to the Management Board's Regulations and changes to the Fund enabling legislation. Mr. Howell expressed desire to have future potential amendments reviewed and proposed by the Bylaws and Regulations Committee. Other members agreed that moving forward, the Bylaws and Regulations Committee will be the mediary between Commission staff and the Management Board in making recommendations to the Management Board.

Members voted on the motion. Ells, yes; Mastrangelo, yes; Lombardi, yes; Faley, yes; Brogan, yes; Johnson-Staub, yes; Howell, yes; Wyman-Colombo, yes; Galligan, yes; Vincent, yes; Curley, yes; Brough, abstain.

Administrative and Technical Support Costs

Mr. Galligan called for review of administrative and technical support costs incurred by the Cape Cod Commission from January through June 2026.

Ms. Perry said the Commission is seeking reimbursement for administrative, technical support, and monitoring costs incurred by the Commission from January through June 2026. This request includes: six months of Commission staff time for Management Board support and oversight of monitoring contracts and data management, totaling just under $36,000; legal expenses, totaling a little over $5,000, for drafting and review of regulatory and bylaw amendments; and contractual expenses associated with the freshwater monitoring program, totaling just over $213,000. In total, the Commission requests $254,061.71 for reimbursement of these expenses. She said moving forward, Commission staff intend to bring reimbursement requests to the Executive Committee on a quarterly basis.

Mr. Ells made a motion to reimburse the Commission for the administrative and technical support costs incurred by the Commission from January through June 2026 in the amount of $254,061.71, as presented; seconded by Mr. Howell.

Mr. Johnson-Staub asked if the freshwater monitoring costs as presented represent an annual cost. Ms. Perry said no, the costs presented today reflect costs for March through June.

Members voted on the motion. Ells, yes; Mastrangelo, yes; Lombardi, yes; Faley, yes; Brogan, yes; Johnson-Staub, yes; Howell, yes; Wyman-Colombo, yes; Galligan, yes; Vincent, yes; Curley, yes; Brough, abstain.

Member Reports

Mr. Galligan called for updates from member communities.

Mr. Ells said Barnstable continues to advance construction projects, closing in on half a billion dollars in the first five years. The town is actively engaged in legal disputes related to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting, nitrogen removal compliance, and related to a pump station, which can delay the ability to advance projects and has cost the town over $1.5 million in legal fees. He said towns should learn from this and take these matters into consideration in their planning efforts. He said there has been a lot of activity at DEP related to approval of watershed permits, a lot of discussion about groundwater mounding, effluent discharge, and PFAS. Mr. Ells suggested the Management Board should create a discussion opportunity to share this information further.

Ms. Mastrangelo said Bourne has two watersheds designated as nitrogen sensitive areas, filed notices of intent for watershed permits last year, and is looking for a consultant to assist with those efforts.

Mr. Lombardi said Brewster completed an update of its Integrated Water Resources Management Plan, the first in 15 years, and the town submitted a watershed permit for the Herring River watershed to DEP last month. He said the town completed its first ever Ponds Management Plan which is out for public comment and anticipated to be finalized and approved this fall. The town expects to complete 4-6 pond specific studies in the next few years to identify which solutions the town may move forward with.

Robert Faley said a 20-year plan was presented to the Chatham Select Board with a little over $500 million to complete Phase 1. He said the town will break ground on its next construction project after Labor Day. Mr. Faley shared the town submitted a Project Evaluation Form for the 2027 Intended Use Plan for $45 million and the town expects to submit projects every other year.

Ms. Brogan said Eastham is due to break ground on its wastewater treatment facility in September and will be putting more collection system phases out to bid shortly.

Mr. Johnson-Staub said Falmouth continues work on a $45 million expansion and renovation of its treatment facility and is continuing early phase construction of an extension to the sewer collection system, Great Pond Phase 1, which is a $60 million project. He said the town has filed a Draft Environmental Impact Report for an ocean outfall pipe and has done quite a bit of preliminary design. Mr. Galligan suggested Mr. Johnson-Staub join future discussions on groundwater mounding issues that Mr. Ells raised previously, as towns are approaching these issues differently.

Mr. Howell said Harwich awarded a contract for Phase 3A for freshwater pond remediation and acknowledged the support of Mr. Galligan and Mr. Gottlieb as important for achieving town meeting approval. The town is winding down work on Phase 3, the Pleasant Bay estuary project. He said the town is also examining recharge possibilities to have discussions with Dennis over contracting for treatment capacity for Harwich. He said the town approved laying dry pipe and water lines along Route 28 in conjunction with an upcoming Department of Transportation project that had been delayed.

Michaela Wyman-Colombo said in Mashpee, construction of Phase 2, the increase in a collection system for the Popponesset watershed, is on target for completion in 2027. Ms. Wyman-Colombo said the town submitted two Project Evaluation Forms: one for the construction of a wastewater

facility and collection system for about 1,000 homes in the Waquoit watershed for $150 million, the design of which was approved at May Town Meeting, and the resubmission of a previously approved project where the permitting was delayed.

Mr. Vincent said Provincetown continues work on Phase 7 with construction beginning at the satellite treatment facility that will handle pretreatment and sludge. Phase 7 will allow for the provision of a sewer stub to the remainder of the town, where by 2030 sewer should be available to all properties in Provincetown. He said people are concerned with the fees and information presented by other towns may be helpful to Provincetown.

Ryan Curley said Wellfleet continues to make incremental progress. The town has a project for a small treatment plant to serve an affordable housing development and municipal buildings and is developing accompanying sewer regulations.

Mr. Galligan said Orleans received competitive bids on its Phase 3 work for lakes and ponds, helping to meet the town's Pleasant Bay watershed permit obligations. He said there will also be work along Route 28 in Orleans this fall.

Mr. Turner acknowledged Ms. Brough from Oak Bluffs and commended the town for going through the process. He said Martha's Vineyard has four other towns that are working with DEP to get their 208-equivalency determinations, which may be done in the next year. He said towns are also working on alternative technologies, such as urine diversion with support from a pond group and installation of a second permeable reactive barrier working with the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth. Mr. Galligan noted Falmouth's efforts on urine diversion as well.

Ms. Brough said Oak Bluffs is in the first phase of its wastewater expansion, expected to be completed in December 2027 and is looking at updating bylaws for betterments assessments. The town has had a bylaw in place since 1998, is looking to reevaluate how betterments are calculated, and will be performing public outreach on that effort.

New Business

Mr. Galligan called for any new business.

Mr. Curley encouraged members to look at the federal housing bill that just passed which includes funds for infrastructure such as wastewater.

Mr. Johnson-Staub suggested for discussion at a future meeting, Representative Vieira has filed a bill to make the septic tax credit refundable, which is a tax credit for failed septic systems. He said the limitation of the existing program is that those who do not make enough money do not get the full benefit of the tax credit. He said the proposal would be more progressive because the credit would be refundable to the extent that it exceeds an individual's annual taxes. He also said the town received a written response from the Department of Revenue that required septic system upgrades in nitrogen sensitive areas would be eligible.

Public Comment

Mr. Galligan called for public comment. There was none.

Future Agenda Topics

Mr. Galligan called for discussion on possible future agenda items. There were none except for as discussed above, under new business.

Adjourn

Mr. Ells made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Howell. Ells, yes; Mastrangelo, yes; Lombardi, yes; Faley, yes; Brogan, yes; Johnson-Staub, yes; Howell, yes; Wyman-Colombo, yes; Galligan, yes; Vincent, yes; Curley, yes; Brough, yes.

The meeting adjourned at 3:11pm.