

**Mason's Island Fire District Monthly Meeting
May 19, 2026 – 5:30 PM
Mason's Island Yacht Club**

1. Call to Order

- a. Vice President Kevin Riley called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm. Board members Ethan Tower (Treasurer), Ricardo Kleinbaum (Clerk), Catherine Deichmann, Kristin Foster, Jeff Miceli and Nancy Taylor Ross were present. Also attending were Dave Ludwig (Tick Committee rep.), Bill Taylor (Tax Collector), Bob Domurat (MIPOA Facilities Committee rep), and Lou Allyn (MICO). Scott Perry (President) and Tom Giola (Facilities Committee) were absent.

2. Agenda Additions/Deletions/Changes

- a. None

3. Approval of Previous Minutes –

- a. A motion was made and seconded to approve the April 2026 monthly meeting minutes after agreement to include the following:

- 1) In the Tick Committee Report section 5 (b):

Jeff agreed to serve as a technical advisor to the MIFD tick program and assist with the survey and results compilation. Scott agreed to support Jeff in this effort.

- 2) In the New Business Section – Discussion of Signage at the Guard Control Booth:

A discussion transpired on the permissibility of temporary signage at the Guard House. Board members were of the belief that temporary road signs has been permitted, according to Catherine.

- b. The motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report – Ethan Tower

- a. Ethan referred to the previously circulated Treasurer's report noting that Roads Maintenance will not be over budget for 2025/26. He also commented on the fixed charges for the electric bill.
- b. Bob and Ethan then discussed the use of remaining paving budget funds to address potholes (including Andrew's Lane) and tree removal. Consideration was given to having Eversource cover tree maintenance.

5. Committee Reports

a. Fire & Safety Committee (Emergency Preparedness) – Jeff Miceli

- i. Jeff reported that he is awaiting execution of the final Mystic Fire Dept ("MFD") contract.
- ii. There were four EMS events in April.
- iii. Jeff discussed the upcoming changes in the Emergency Preparedness Plan, and noted that Anne Navin will assume Jeff's responsibilities in the 2026/27 year.

b. Tick Committee – Jeff Miceli/Dave Ludwig

- i. Dave provided an update of the recent tick treatment applications and timing for the remainder of 2026. Two additional cedar oil treatments are scheduled in early and mid-June. He added that the deer service feeders reported a higher incidence of tick activity this season (potentially related to cold weather and/or land development).
- ii. He noted plans to meet with Connecticut State personnel regarding the recent island deer count as initiated by Bill Pryor (MIPOA). He understands that the appropriate deer count level is 20/acre. It is however premature to draw any conclusions about deer activity at this stage, according to Dave.
- iii. Dave agreed to provide Ethan with an estimate of the expense for treating the paths.

- iv. Jeff stated that he will upload documents to the website including the address for submitting ticks to the State. He plans to schedule a seminar in September.

c. Traffic Control - Catherine Deichmann

- i. Catherine discussed the color of traffic cones placed at the Traffic Control Booth on Chippechaug Road.
- ii. She noted that Nick Gelbar, Mason's Homestead Property Association President, has agreed to assume responsibility for decal distribution in his community.

d. Nominating Committee – Kristin Foster, Kevin Riley

- i. Kristin reported that the Committee has identified Board nominees to replace Jeff Miceli whose term expires this year and assume the last year of Tom Giola's term. Ethan Tower has agreed to take over Tom's responsibilities on the Facilities Committee and Anne Navin has agreed to serve as Vice President assuming the role of liaison to the Mystic Fire Chief and representative on the Emergency Preparedness Committee, pending taxpayer approval. Scott Parry will remain on the Board, completing the last year of Tom Giola's three year term.

Ethan then made the following motion which was seconded by Catherine:

Present the Nominating Committee's recommended slate of officers for the 2026-2027 fiscal year to resident taxpayers for approval at the annual meeting:

Name	Position	Term Ending
Kevin Riley (2 nd year)	President	2028
Anne Navin (1 st year)	Vice President	2029
Nancy Taylor Ross (2 nd year)	Treasurer	2028
Ricardo Kleinbaum (4 th year)	Clerk	2027
Scott Parry (7 th year)	Director	2027

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Kristin Foster (12 th year)	Director	2027
Catherine Deichmann (5 th year)	Director	2028
Ethan Tower (13 th year)	Director	2029
Adam Duczynski (1 st year)	Director	2029
Bill Taylor (15 th year)	Tax Collector	2027 (a one-year term)

ii. The motion carried.

e. **Facilities Committee – Tom Giola (absent), Bob Domurat –**

- i. Bob described three resident complaints regarding the clearance of vegetation, grass mowing on MIPOA land, and the need to cut grass around the deer feeders on School House Road.

6. Unfinished Business – Annual Meeting Prep

- a. Board members discussed the organization, scope and sequence for presentations at the upcoming annual meeting.

7. New Business – Discussion of Traffic Control Contract

- a. Following up on the April meeting discussion, Kevin and Lou addressed the status of drafting a new agreement between MIFD and MICO regarding the use of the MICO-owned Traffic Control Booth.
- b. Lou asked MIFD to identify insurance carriers and policy coverage for the MICO-owned Traffic Control Booth. Board members agreed to exchange information on this issue with MICO subject to review of a new contract. Kevin and Ethan plan to coordinate the insurance options discussion.

8. Next Meetings: Saturday May 23, 2026 at 10:00 am/June 16, 2026 – 5:30 PM

9. Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 pm. It was seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ricardo J. Kleinbaum – Clerk, Masons Island Fire District