

BONNET SHORES FIRE DISTRICT
SPECIAL Council Meeting
Thursday, February 5, 2026 8:00-9:30am

Date/Time:	Thursday, February 5, 2026 8:00-9:30am
Place:	Bonnet Shores Fire District Community Center
Zoom ¹ :	<p>Virtual access is being provided only as a convenience and is not an official “location” where access to the meeting is guaranteed. If any technical, host, or operator issues arise with Zoom, the meeting will still proceed. Therefore, being physically present at the meeting is the only way to guarantee complete and uninterrupted access to the meeting.</p> <p>Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4137560427?omn=83191451983</p> <p>Cut & Paste URL Method: If you are having trouble with the above link, please cut and paste the below into your browser or visit the BSFD Website Calendar.</p> <p>https://us02web.zoom.us/join/83191451983?signature=Wq2jjcKHrpBs6FosJZnpeXquuQHxScXvKIFnb874ggw</p>
Designated area for recording/ photography	To preserve order and decorum, and to avoid interfering with the ability of spectators to see and hear, any members of the public video recording or photographing the meeting should do so from the designated area.

CALL TO ORDER

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Moment of Silence

Appointment of Acting Clerk (if required)

- Motion, discussion, and vote to appoint an acting clerk from among the Council members in attendance for purposes of the Special Council Meeting only, if required.

Public Comment: There will be no public comment at this meeting

New and Ongoing Business:

- Motion, discussion, and vote to appoint a Council member to coordinate the search for a new Harbormaster, involving the District Manager and interested boating community members familiar with BSFD harbor operations. Final candidate recommendations shall be presented to the Council for consideration and decision at an open meeting.
- Motion, discussion, revision and vote to approve the Harbormaster job description. (See attached Job Description).

Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interest

- Disclosure for the record that Council Member Melissa Jenkins may have a potential conflict of interest with respect to the below agenda item, as she is the complainant in pending matters involving the Bonnet Shores Fire District under the Open Meetings Act and has made a civil rights complaint to the ACLU.
- Statement by Council Member Melissa Jenkins, if present, regarding whether she will recuse herself from participation, discussion, deliberation, and voting on the below agenda item.
- Motion, discussion, and vote to hire Attorney Michael Marcello to assist with responding to an OMA complaint filed by Melissa Jenkins, to advise on a response to an ACLU letter in which Dr. Jenkins is the complainant, and to provide counsel on any additional matters in which she may be a complainant. (see attached biography / [link](#))

Motion to Adjourn

Bonnet Shores Fire District

Harbormaster

Job Description and Posting

Job Posting: Harbormaster (Part-Time)

The Bonnet Shores Fire District is seeking a qualified individual to serve as **Harbormaster** for our community. The Harbormaster oversees and manages the safe and orderly use of the harbor, moorings, and surrounding waterfront areas.

Introduction:

The Bonnet Shores Fire District Act of Incorporation was amended on May 8, 1974 (74-S 2641 A) to authorize the appointment of a harbormaster (the "Harbormaster"). The Harbormaster's various powers and duties are described in this document.

Position Summary:

The Harbormaster is responsible for overseeing the safe, orderly, and lawful use of the Bonnet Shores Fire District (BSFD) community's harbor, waterways, moorings, docks, and related facilities. This role ensures compliance with local ordinances, state and federal boating regulations, and promotes safe and enjoyable use of the waterfront for residents and visitors. This role reports to the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council Chair and maintains close coordination with the District Manager.

Key Responsibilities

- Manage daily operations of the harbor, including moorings, slips, docks, and public access areas.
- Enforce community ordinances, harbor regulations, and applicable state/federal boating laws.
- Issue and maintain records of mooring and docking permits, waitlists, and vessel registrations.
- Monitor vessel traffic and respond to safety concerns, hazards, or violations.
- Serve as a point of contact for boaters, residents, law enforcement, and emergency responders.
- Assist with search and rescue, fire, spill response, and other on-water emergencies as needed.
- Oversee maintenance of harbor facilities, floats, docks, signage, and equipment.
- Prepare reports, maintain records, and present updates to the governing body (e.g., BSFD District Council, BSFD Elected Officials, or Harbor Committee).
- Develop and implement seasonal opening and closing procedures for harbor facilities.
- Educate the boating public on safe practices, environmental protection, and community rules.

- Coordinate harbor volunteers with District Manager (if applicable).
- Coordinate with the Town of Narragansett Harbor Master for enforcement of rules and regulations
- Partner with the Bonnet Shores District Manager to align operations with community priorities and regulations.
- [Harbor Management Plan](#) Maintenance and Execution:
 - Execute the Storm preparedness plan as described in Appendix 2 of the Bonnet Shores Fire District Harbor Management Plan, adopted by the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council May 20, 2020.
 - Adhere to the BSFD Harbor and [Harbor Ordinance](#) and execute the Harbormaster responsibilities described within Appendix 4 of the Bonnet Shores Fire District [Harbor Management Plan](#), adopted by the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council May 20, 2020.

Qualifications

- Knowledge of boating, navigation, and harbor management practices.
- Familiarity with state and federal boating regulations.
- Strong communication, conflict and problem resolution skills.
- Ability to operate and maintain small boats and marine equipment.
- Detailed record-keeping and strong administrative skills.
- Boating safety certifications preferred (if required).
- Previous experience in harbor operations, law enforcement, or maritime services a plus.

Working Conditions

- Seasonal - Workload will vary with peak boating season.
- Outdoor - Work in varying weather conditions; requires boating and physical activity.
- Hours - Flexibility is required to accommodate unforeseen situations (i.e. weather emergencies).

Compensation:

- This position offers a stipend of \$6,000 annually.

How to Apply:

- Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest, résumé and [employment application](#) to the District Manager at district.manager@bonnetshores.com.

[Link to BSFD Employment Application](#)

Attachment – Michael Marcello Biography:



Michael Marcello

Partner

✉ Michael.Marcello@lewisbrisois.com

☎ 401.406.3317

Providence, RI



Capabilities

Services

General Liability | Public Agency & Municipal Law | National Trial Practice

Michael J. Marcello is a partner in the Providence office of Lewis Brisbois. Michael has handled a variety of litigated matters including products liability, legal and accounting malpractice, insurance coverage, asbestos/toxic torts, and property loss claims.

In addition, Michael is the city solicitor for the 5th largest municipality in the state, the City of East Providence, as well as the Town of Tiverton. He also serves as legal counsel to the City of Cranston's city council. In these roles, he handles issues related to labor & employment, planning and zoning as well as negotiating labor contracts with public safety and municipal unions. He previously served as the City Solicitor for the City of Woonsocket (RI).

A practicing attorney for over 30 years, Michael has served as trial counsel in Rhode Island state and federal courts, as well as participated in numerous alternative dispute resolution (ADR) forums including arbitrations and mediations. He was appointed as an approved arbitrator to the R.I. Superior Court Civil Arbitration Program.

A graduate of Colby College and The American University's Washington College of Law, Michael also served as a local elected official for the Town of Scituate. He later served in the Rhode Island General Assembly for four terms and was a member of various committees, including the House's Judiciary Committee and as Chair of the House's Oversight Committee.

Experience

Associations

- Member of the Rhode Island and American Bar Associations
- Former member, Charter and Budget Committees for the Town of Scituate

Additional Experience

- [Professional Liability](#)
- [Asbestos & Talc](#)
- [Insurance Coverage](#)
- [Government Affairs & Public Policy](#)
- [Toxic Tort](#)

Credentials

Admissions

State Bar Admissions

- Connecticut
- Rhode Island

United States District Courts

- U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island

United States Courts of Appeals

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit

Education

American University, Washington College of Law

Juris Doctor, cum laude, 1994

Colby College

summa cum laude, 1990

- Phi Beta Kappa

Awards & Honors

Listed in Best Lawyers in America® 2024-2026, Municipal Law

News & Insights

Newsroom

[Best Lawyers Honors Hundreds of Lewis Brisbois Attorneys. Names Two Partners "Lawyers of the Year"](#)

FIRM NEWS

AUGUST 21, 2025

[Providence Team Secures Ruling for Rhode Island Town Backing Denial of Application for Recycling Plant Project](#)

CLIENT SUCCESSES

JUNE 3, 2025

[Best Lawyers Honors Hundreds of Lewis Brisbois Attorneys. Names Four Partners 'Lawyers of the Year'](#)

FIRM NEWS

AUGUST 15, 2024

[Providence Office Secures Summary Judgment for City of East Providence in Taxation Dispute](#)

CLIENT SUCCESSES

MARCH 13, 2024

[Best Lawyers Recognizes Hundreds of Lewis Brisbois Attorneys. Honors Four Partners as 'Lawyers of the Year'](#)

FIRM NEWS

AUGUST 17, 2023

Publications

- *Employers Mutual Casualty Co. v. Pires*, 723 A.2d 295 (RI 1999)
- *Zanni v. Voccola*, 13 A.3d 1068 (RI 2011)

¹Zoom Details

Topic: BSFD Special Council Meeting - 2/5/2025

Time: Feb 5, 2026 08:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4137560427?omn=83191451983>

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Join instructions: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/4137560427?signature=Wq2jjcKHrpBs6FoslZnpeXquuQHxScXvKIFnb874ggw>

² **R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-6(b)**: Nothing contained herein shall prevent a public body, other than a school committee, from adding items to the agenda for discussion purposes only, if the added item was not known or could not have been reasonably known 48 hours in advance of the meeting; provided, however, that the public body may not vote on the added item.

² **ADA Accommodations**: The BSFD is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities. Anyone requiring an accommodation is encouraged to contact the District Manager at least 48 hours before the meeting to allow adequate preparation. Requests received after that time will be addressed to the extent reasonably practicable.