

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HOUSEBUILDING/FACILITIES SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES
251 STONEHAVEN ROAD, FALL RIVER, MA
DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
OCTOBER 9, 2025

In attendance: Paul Jennings of Westport, Joan Menard of Fall River and Donald DiBiasio of Somerset.

Also in attendance: Brian Bentley, Superintendent-Director, Leslie Weckesser, Assistant Superintendent-Principal, Jennifer DeMariano, Assistant Principal of Technical Affairs, Gregory Brilhante, Legal Counsel and Helena Neves, Executive Secretary.

Remote Attendance: Jeffrey Cabral

The meeting began with a roll call at 5:15 p.m.

It was moved by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to dispense with the reading of the September 11, 2025 minutes and approve them, as recorded.

Mr. DiBiasio deferred to Ms. DeMariano for the community projects update. Work at the Bio Reserve is ongoing with students from Facilities Maintenance Management preparing the site for temporary power. They completed an exterior panel for a new meter and electric socket for service. They have poured a concrete slab for a generator and have constructed a wall in the basement for a new electric meter. They have also installed running boards on the basement ceiling for new wiring circuits. Students in HVAC have been busy completing a series of different regular maintenance jobs throughout Fall River. Drafting students have designed the directory sign for Government Center and Carpentry students have begun construction. Metal Fabrication students are in the process of building a breaching door for the Fall River Police Department. Students in Programming and Web Development are in the process of gathering assets to build the new website for the Diman Alumni Association. Half of the Durfee Hall of Fame plaques have been completed and delivered. The remaining half are in the process of being done. The Somerset Water Department project to build an office space in an existing building has begun. The display case for the Somerset Library is in the design phase and construction is expected to start in January. The project to build a shed concession stand and well pump stations at the Westport Athletic Association has been evaluated and materials are being quoted.

Ms. DeMariano provided the Housebuilding Program update. Temporary service is complete and handed over to the electrical company. Mr. Cabral stated that the main beam to the house is up and supported. Floor joists were started in the last couple of days. The back basement walkout walls are just about completed. Temporary service is completed and waiting on Eversource to make the final connection. There was a slight hiccup that was handled by Eversource which required the homeowner to pay a connection fee.

Mr. DiBiasio asked Mr. Cabral if there have been any issues. Mr. Cabral stated that there's really nothing of concern. A lot of details are being worked out here and there. A plan is still being finalized for the plumbing in the basement that needed to be moved in order to relocate the furnace.

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Mr. Bentley asked Mr. Cabral if he foresees any change orders. Mr. Cabral stated that there's been small simple things such as moving a light to a different location and prewire a transfer switch for a generator.

Ms. DeMariano stated that advertisements for the 26/27 Housebuilding Program have been placed on the website. Mr. Jennings suggested putting wrap advertisements on the school vans.

Ms. DeMariano stated that she has had a discussion about creating a community projects order form. The form is a work in progress and has not been implemented as of yet. All programs will be required to use the form, with the exception of the programs that have very specific work order forms. The new form will capture all the contact information needed. An Ethics component has also been added to the form. The form was presented to the department heads at the department head meeting this month. They're taking a look at it to make sure nothing was missed. Mr. DiBiasio requested that all work orders be documented on the community projects list.

It was moved by Ms. Menard, seconded by Mr. Jennings, and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Helena S. Neves

Helena S. Neves, Executive Secretary

Materials Included:

September 11, 2025 minutes

Community Projects List