

Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee: Jim Dickinson

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application
Date: Monday, January 4, 2021 2:02:18 PM

Board and Commission Application

Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title	Mr.
First Name	Jim
Last Name	Dickinson
Today's Date	1/4/2021
Street Address	2094 W. Shore Dr.
City	Lummi Island
Zip	98262
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	3602963940
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	audidancer@hotmail.com

Step 2

1. Name of Board or Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee

Committee

Lummi Island Ferry
Advisory Committee
Position: *Field not completed.*

2. Do you meet the
residency,
employment, and/or
affiliation requirements
of the position for
which you're applying? Yes

3. Which Council
district do you live in? District 5

4. Are you a US
citizen? Yes

5. Are you registered to
vote in Whatcom
County? Yes

6. Have you declared
candidacy (as defined
by RCW 42.17A.055)
for a paid elected office
in any jurisdiction
within the county? No

7. Have you ever been
a member of this
Board/Commission? Yes

If yes, please list dates: End 1/21/21, Start 1/2017

8. Do you or your
spouse have a financial
interest in or are you
an employee or officer
of any business or
agency that does
business with
Whatcom County? No

You may attach a
resume or detailed
summary of
experience, *Field not completed.*

qualifications, &
interest in response to
the following questions

9. Please describe your
occupation (or former
occupation if retired),
qualifications,
professional and/or
community activities,
and education

Former Occupations: Audio Engineer, Washington and Alaska
Commercial Fisherman and Tender Captain.

Current Occupation: Semi Retired, President of Family Land
Company, Part Time Maker of Products for Alaska Commercial
Fisheries, Loudspeaker Designer. Audio Consultant,

10. Please describe
why you're interested
in serving on this board
or commission

As a 70 year Lummi Island Resident, and former 5-6 day a week
Commuter, I have witnessed the operation of the Ferry on a Daily
Basis. My intent is to do the best job as a member of the
Commission as I can, both for Island and County Residents. I
also have the advantage of previously being on the original
County Ferry Advisory Committee and currently on LIFAC.

I am the only sitting Member of LIFAC with Technical Knowledge
of Ferry Vessels, Propulsion Systems, Marine Industry Facilities,
Vessel, Building Techniques, Marine Operators, and the very
important Federal Regulations .regarding Passenger Vessels
and Auto Ferries. I represent an independent voice on this
Commission and review all technical, financial, and social issues,
and in this regard am not afraid to question and discuss any
items that come before the Commission and from the Public.

In the past I have submitted technical drawings of Vessels, and
writings on various topics such as fuel economy, hybrid
propulsion systems, hull design, Ferry Layouts, and others that
no other LIFAC Member has. I have also intensively studied
other Ferry Systems, Vessels and Operations, some quite large
like the Washington State and B.C. Ferries, to those quite small
like Heron. Island.

Currently I am evaluating the design of the proposed new Ferry.
So far, from my experience, I question it's proposed high fuel
use, and the proposed electrical hybridization which actually
increases fuel use. Further, I question it's inability to be
expanded for future growth. and it's design which is expensive to
build and maintain. I have and will continue to submit writings
and suggestions on how to improve the design.

Please see the attached writings from my previous applications.

Please consider my reapplication to LIFAC.

Jim Dickinson

Field not completed.

References (please
include daytime
telephone number):

Signature of applicant: James M, Dickinson

Place Signed / Lummi Island, WA 98262
Submitted

(Section Break)

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

From: [Jim Dickinson](#)
To: [Jill Nixon](#); [Lisa Bruner](#)
Subject: LIFAC Application
Date: Monday, January 4, 2021 2:25:47 PM
Attachments: [Ferry Resume.doc](#)
[Ferry BD Application.doc](#)

Dear Jill and Lisa,

As you know I had trouble submitting the on-line re-application for the Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee, I did not include my References, both application attempts flagged this part as having "Inappropriate Language" I cannot imagine how a person's name, addresses, occupation and phone number could be deemed inappropriate. Here is my Reference List.

1. Bill Fox, Island Resident, 360-356-1154
2. Mike Jordan, Samish Island, Skagit County, Co-Company Director, 619-665-5707
3. Eric Leonhardt, Bellingham, WA Director of Vehicle Research Institute, WWU, 360-318-3669
4. Dick Labadie, Bellingham, Wa , Retired CPA, Bellingham Yacht Club, 360-220-8616
5. Steve Reece, Darrington, WA, Retired, Former Owner of Reece Brother's Logging Company, 425-330-7330

Please see attached backup writings for my 1887 LIFAC Application.

Thank You,

Jim Dickinson

Jim Dickinson's Ferry related Resume

Page 1, April 4, 2014

A. 63 years of riding and observing Lummi Island Ferry, Chief Kwina, Acorn, Whatcom Chief and various dry-dock and emergency passenger vessels.

B. Lifelong Lummi Island resident and property owner.

C. President of Lummi Island Land Co., the largest private land owner on Lummi Island

D. Timber Harvester, vast majority sent out by log raft, ferry is too expensive and too small.

E. Member of previous, very successful, Lummi Island Ferry Task Force.

F. Member of Lummi Island Community Association

H. Member of Protect Lummi Island Community (PLIC), Chair of recently formed Ferry Vessel Replacement Committee.

I. Have contacts with and Conversations with other Ferry systems:

- a. Skagit County Ferry
- b. Pierce County Ferries
- c. Wahkiakum County Ferry
- d. Washington State Ferries
- e. Texas State Ferries
- f. Maine State Ferries
- g. Lake Champlain Transportation Company

J. Have contacts with, visits and conversations with Shipyards and Marine Consultants:

- a. Dakota Creek Industries, Shipyard, Anacortes, WA
- b. Todd/Vigor Shipyards, Seattle, WA
- c. Everett Shipyard, Everett, WA
- d. Nichols Brother's Boat Builders, Freeland , WA
- e. All American Marine, Bellingham, WA
- f. Fishing Vessels Owner's, Shipyard, Seattle, WA
- h. Eastern Marine, Shipyard. Panama City , FL
- I. Elliot Bay Design Group, Marine Consultants, Seattle, WA
- J. John Gilbert Associates, Marine Architects, Boston, MA

H. Have contacts and conversations with current and former members of citizen ferry groups:

- a. Guemes Island Ferry Committee
- b. State of Washington Ferry Advisory Committee.

Jim Dickinson's Ferry related Resume

Page 2, April 4, 2014

I. Attended Vehicle Research Institute, Western Washington University- Very Knowledgeable about Internal Combustion Engines; Diesel, Gasoline, Natural Gas, hydraulic systems. Fairly good mechanic. current volunteer at VRI.

J. 50 year Boat Operator and Captain, commercial fishing vessels, cannery tenders, pleasure boats.

K. Researched and presented Lake Champlain Ferry Plattsburgh for purchase consideration to replace aging Whatcom Chief.

L. Found and researched rental Ferry TREK in Seattle, advocating for its use as replacement for Whatcom Chief during its yearly dry-dock..

M. Discovered oncoming surplus of Washington State Ferry HIYU, researched and advocating for its evaluation to replace aging Whatcom Chief.

N.. Written and posted many "papers" about our local ferry system.

O. Subscribe to or am a member of on-line groups:

- a. Workboat Magazine
- b. West Coast Ferry Forum
- c. Ferry group on Nextdoor Lummi Island.

P. Am involved in and come from a family involved in Lummi Island and County issues.

- a. Often Testify at County Council Hearings
- b. Former Director of Lummi Island Community Club
- c. Mother was long time President of former Lummi Island Township
- d. Father was one of the founding Directors of Lummi Island Community Club, now Lummi Island Community Association.

I think I'd be a great addition to the Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee,

Jim Dickinson

Previous LIFAC Application, From 1997

1. Qualifications

A. Bring Alternate complimentary ideas and methods to the mix

B.. Have Applicable Marine Knowledge no one else on the Committee has, propulsion systems, hull and deck design and efficiency.

C. Intimate knowledge of local weather and geography, Marine Laws and effects. For over 45 years made a large part of my income by being a Professional Mariner.

D. Knowledge of the Ferry System from 67 years of riding it, past ferry Studies.

E. Past Member of 2011 Ferry Task Force.

F. Chair of past Ferry Replacement Sub-Committee, Independent Ferry Committee aka: HIYU Committee., Findings have been affirmed by the time since its rejection.

2. Will work for keeping the Ferry System running and enhancing it to better serve the Citizens. Want to make it work better.

a. Thankful for the appointment of Roland Middleton to be the County's Liaison.

b. Pleased with the selection of KPPF to be the Consultant, with Mr. Anderson's knowledge of Ferry Systems and equipment and their local representative, Christina.

c. Will sponsor Citizen's Sub-Committee (s) to generate needed ideas and hardware based solutions, financial and growth predictions.

d. Will look for better methods of operation, simplification of accounting methods and generating more revenue while holding or lowering costs.

Conclusion:

Whatcom Chief is too old, ought to have been retired in the mid 90's, too small for traffic, could fail permanently at any time, forgoing revenues (more people want to ride and give us money), causing a demographic shift way from working families, at best, skirting Safety Laws and costing a exorbitant fortune to keep operational.

Any replacement merits considerable evaluation. Local residents need to be involved, we cannot turn our decisions totally over to people who do not use the ferry, or paid consultants, although their expertise needs to be involved.

We have one opportunity here, no options need to be excluded. We cannot make the same mistakes other Ferry Systems have made, which have had decades long negative effects. An example would be the WSF 64 can Port Townsend Ferries, which are the most expensive Ferries per car space in the world. They carry no more cars than their predecessors, burn twice the fuel, cost multiples more to maintain, have a 25% larger crew, and are nowhere as seaworthy. We cannot make a mistake like this.

We need the Ferry replacement to be done right, run efficiently, be seaworthy, have further port access for emergencies, and be expandable for future growth. The last thing we need is to be stuck with another too small, expensive boat.

This vessel and its companion infrastructure has to support the economy of Lummi Island and Whatcom County. The current situation is a disaster for businesses. and entrepreneurial citizens. It has adversely affected property values, agriculture, sustainable timber harvest, and general business activities. It has run off families with Children, Commuters, adversely affected the primary school, and the number of volunteers need for our fire Department. It has eliminated larger road-legal traffic and larger Fire Fighting equipment needed for wild land fires.

I will work to change these situations. I will work for the well being of the general population, not special interests. I will work to get a back up Ferry, which can be done for less money than not having one. My input can help make all this happen.