

Dukes County Advisory Board on Expenditures (CAB)
Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2025
1:00 PM
Hybrid meeting

County Advisory Board Members Present: Arthur Smadbeck – Edgartown (38.54%), Skipper Manter – West Tisbury (12.76%), Jeffrey Maida – Chilmark (15.17%), Thomas Murphy-Aquinnah (2.54%), Emma Green Beach- Oak Bluffs (16.59%), John Cahill -Tisbury (13.79)

Other County Officials Present: Martina Thornton, Juliet Mulinare, George Pimentel

County Commissioners: Randy Milch, Doug Ruskin, Christine Todd, Tristan Israel

Others: Norm Wertwein (Finance Committee members)

Art Smadbeck called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes from June 26, 2025

Skipper/ moved to approve the minutes from June 26, 2025 meeting as presented. Tisbury- yes, West Tisbury- yes, Chilmark- yes, Oak Bluffs- yes, Aquinnah- yes, Edgartown- yes. The motion carried.

FY2026 County Budget Amendments (proposed amendments memos on file)

Retiree Health and Life Insurance – FY2026 deficit (due to rate changes)

Dept. 300 - \$2,962

Dept. 1000 - \$203

Dept. 3000 - \$3,094.80

Total - \$6,271.80

DCC proposes to cover it as follows:

Use the available balance of the retirement allocation in the general fund: \$2,129.17 and cover the remaining \$4,142.63 from FY2026 surplus that resides at the unreserved fund balance line.

Skipper/Jeff moves to approve the transfers to cover the retiree health and life insurance shortage in the FY26 budget as proposed. Tisbury- yes, West Tisbury- yes, Chilmark- yes, Oak Bluffs- yes, Aquinnah- yes, Edgartown- yes. The motion carried.

Dept. 3300 – Veterans Services Department amendment (department budget breakdown of the proposed amendment on file)

DCC approved taking \$27K from the unreserved fund balance to cover the increases in the Veterans budget. The Personnel Board approved a job description for the Director of Veterans Services, rated it, and placed it on the County Pay Scale on Grade 6. The Personnel Board approved on August 5th for George to be “promoted” to the position of Director, although he has been doing the job all along, and to be placed on Step 4 on Grade 6. This change requires additional funding in the Veterans Services budget. Grade 6, Step 4 is \$51.10 per hour x 2,080 work hours a year = \$106,288 annually. Martina proposes that this change be retroactive to the

date that the Personnel Board approved it, which would be August 5th. The total, if approved as of that date, would be \$105,428 for FY26, meaning \$22,409.36 extra over what is budgeted in the salary line. In addition to the salary line, the proposed budget amendment also includes increases for a phone, travel & training. Detailed justification of the increases in the memo (on file). Skipper raised a concern that this increase cannot be sustained next year and years to come. Art asked if there would be any funds/grants at the district level. George responded that he has asked for ways to find funding. With the recent cuts that have been made at a federal level, fundraising has been key in filling those deficits.

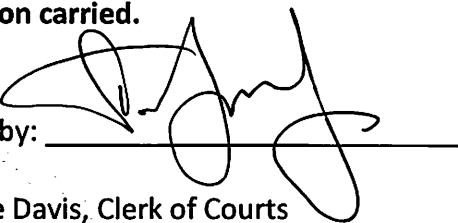
Skipper/Emma moved to approve the Department 3300, Veterans Services, amendment as presented and cover the additional \$27k from the FY26 unreserved fund balance line. Tisbury- yes, West Tisbury- yes, Chilmark- yes, Oak Bluffs- yes, Aquinnah- yes, Edgartown- yes. The motion carried.

The next meeting to review regional budgets will be on October 30, 2025 at 1pm.

John/Emma moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:30pm. So voted.

Tisbury- yes, West Tisbury- yes, Chilmark- yes, Oak Bluffs- yes, Aquinnah- yes, Edgartown- yes. The motion carried.

Certified by: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'T. George Davis', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts