

**Dukes County Commission (DCC)
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 20, 2026
4:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting**

Dukes County Commissioners in person: Christine Todd, Doug Ruskin

Commissioners on Zoom: Peter Wharton, Randy Milch, Tristan Israel

County Staff: Juliet Mulinare, Martina Thornton, Paulo DeOliveira

Others on Zoom: Bob Rosenbaum, Amy Upton, Norm Werthwien, Dona Flamme, Michael Miller, Frank Serreti, Geoff Freeman, Art Smadbeck, Tom Murphy, Robert Johnston, Kate Putnam, Hayley Duffy

Others in person: Jay Theise

Christine called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Minutes from 5-20-26

Randy/Tristan moved to approve the minutes from 5-20-26. Doug would like to defer. Motion was tabled.

FY2025 Audit (documents on file)- Frank Serreti from CBIZ reviewed the audit reports and answered questions.

4 Airport Grant Assurances - Fire Truck, Terminal Expense -3 x (documents on file)

Tristan/Doug moved to accept all four grant assurances as presented – one for the fire truck and three for the terminal building expenses. Doug- yes, Peter- yes, Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

Airport Land Lease Amendment - 20-year extension (document on file)

Tristan/Randy moved to approve the 20-year land lease extension for the County administration building as presented. Doug- yes, Peter- yes, Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

Interviews and Appointment to the open County Commissioners' position

Jay Theise and Amy Upton introduced themselves and explained their interest in the open commissioner's position.

Peter/Randy moved to nominate Kate Putnam to be appointed as Dukes County Commissioner to fill the open seat for the remainder of the term (until January 2027). Doug- yes, Peter- yes, Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

Interest Income Year-End Transaction Policy (document on file)

County Treasurer reviewed the proposed policy that was reviewed by the Finance Committee and presented at the last DCC meeting relative to the allocation of interest income received during the year.

Tristan/Randy moved to approve the proposed allocation of investment income policy as recommended by the Finance committee. Peter- yes, Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

***Doug left the room for a minute- motion still passes**

Edgartown Chappy Connect Contract (document on file)

Tristan/Randy moved to approve the Chappy Connect Contract as presented. Doug- yes, Peter- yes, Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

Franklin Governance documents

Martina summarized the similarities and differences between Dukes County and the Franklin County Council of Governments and how the County could utilize its current structures to partially replicate their model in an effort to work together with all towns on the provision of island-wide services that would be beneficial to everyone on the Island.

****Tristan left the meeting at 5:33pm**

Committee Updates

Finance Committee – no update

Land Use Committee – no update

Nominating Committee – no update

Manager's Report- document on file

****Randy left the meeting at 5:35pm**

New Business-

Calendar – Next DC Commission meeting is on Wednesday, June 17th at 4pm

Meeting adjourned - No quorum

Meeting ended at 5:44pm

Certified by:

T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts

