

Dukes County Commission (DCC)
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 17, 2026
4:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting

Commissioners: Christine Todd, Peter Wharton, Randy Milch, Tristan Israel, Kate Putnam

County Staff: Juliet Mulinare, Martina Thornton, Paulo DeOliveira

Others: Kathleen Samways, Christian Brown, Michael Miller, Sarah Toste, Lisa Nagy

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

Minutes from 5-20-26 & 6-3-26

Randy/Kate moved to approve the minutes from 5-20-26 & 6-3-26. Peter- yes, Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Kate- yes, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

Health Council presentation & discussion

Kathleen Samways reviewed the Health Council budget requests. They would like an increase in their budget to hire someone to coordinate meetings, minutes, and communications. They are asking for an additional \$13,000 for FY2027. The Commissioners asked that the Finance Committee review the request first before bringing it back for further consideration by DCC.

FY26 Budget Amendment (year-end transfer) – detailed memo in manager's report on file – request related to snow plow and road repair at the Health Care Access location at New York Ave, Oak Bluffs.

Randy/Peter moved to approve the year-end transfer of \$5000 from Dept. 600 to Dept.800. Peter- yes, Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Kate- abstain, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

Fuel Bid Award

The fuel bids were due last week, and the only bid received did not have proper paperwork and was not responsive. Martina was trying to extend the deadline with the Inspector General's office. If that is not possible, we will need to start the bid process all over. We will make sure RM Packer is aware of the bid deadline.

Support letter for Tisbury FEMA/MEMA application to improve the waterfront access (Five Corners, road to MV Hospital) – sample letter provided

Randy/Kate moved to approve the support letter for Tisbury FEMA/MEMA. Peter- yes, Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Kate- yes, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

FY2027 Regional Contracts - Healthy Aging, MV Community Services -CORE, MV Center for Living, Harbor Homes Homelessness Prevention – all contracts are on file

Randy/Peter moved to approve the regional contracts for FY2027 as presented. Peter- yes, Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Kate- yes, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

Child Cove Agreement – contract on file

Tristan/Peter moved to approve the Child Cove Agreement for FY2027 as presented. Peter- yes, Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Kate- yes, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

Committee Updates

Finance Committee – the year-end transfers and the next audit were reviewed. They will review the Health Council's request for additional funds at the next meeting.

Land Use Committee – no update

Manager's Report- document on file

Martina requested that the Finance Committee review the distribution of lottery funds.

Martina wrote an email supporting the Register of Deeds concerns with the proposed bill to study consolidation of the Registries of Deeds.

Tristan/Randy moved to send an official letter of concern from the Dukes County Commissioners. Peter- yes, Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Kate- yes, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

The monthly emergency management meeting was not well attended. Christine has concerns that we are losing momentum on the topic of island-wide emergency management coordination. She would like to find a way to move this forward at a swifter pace.

New Business-

Randy brought up a visit to Franklin County. It was decided to start with a Zoom call and then decide if the travel time is deemed necessary.

Peter left the meeting at 4:50pm

Calendar – Next DC Commission meeting is on Wednesday, July 1st at 4pm

Randy/Tristan moved to adjourn. Tristan- yes, Randy- yes, Kate- yes, Christine- yes. Motion carries.

Meeting ended at 4:58 pm

Certified by:

T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts

