

Dukes County Commission (DCC)

**Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 22, 2024
4:00 PM
Remote participation only**

Dukes County Commissioners present: Christine Todd, Doug Ruskin, Tristan Israel, Peter Wharton, Randy Milch, Juli Vanderhoop*, Don Leopold**

Staff: Martina Thornton, Juliet Mulinare, Paulo DeOliveira, Geoff Freeman (Airport manager), Lenore Maniaci – new Director of Health and Human Services

Christine called the meeting to order at 4:01PM

Minutes 5-15-2024

Tristan/Doug moved to approve the minutes with one change as presented by Doug. So voted. – Peter – abstained, Tristan – yes, Randy – abstained, Doug – yes, Christine – yes. Motion carries.

Airport Grant Assurances requests – vote on three documents

Geoff Freeman, Airport Manager introduced the requests and answered questions of the county commissioners.

Tristan/Doug moved to approve the grant assurance for the pavement marking project (\$167,944), reconstruction of T-hanger taxi lane (\$55,679) and purchase of SRE (Snow Removal Equipment (\$52,346) as presented and to authorize the County Manager to sign the grant assurances on behalf of Dukes County. So voted. Peter – yes, Tristan – yes, Randy – yes, Doug – yes, Christine – yes. Motion carries.

*Juli Vanderhoop joins the meeting.

Introduction of Ordinances: Lease of land at New York Ave, Oak Bluffs

Martina introduced the ordinance. Discussion followed. It was agreed to add the agricultural restriction to the body of the ordinance for clarity.

Randy/ Tristan moved to accept the introduction of the Ordinance with correction of the word “ordinance” in the title and to add the restriction to agricultural use and community purpose to the body of the ordinance. So voted. Peter – abstained, Juli – yes, Tristan – yes, Randy – yes, Doug – yes, Christine – yes. Motion carries.

Doug / Juli moved to schedule a public hearing on the ordinance on July 17, 2024. So voted. Peter – abstained, Tristan – yes, Juli – yes, Randy – yes, Doug – yes, Christine – yes. Motion carries.

**Don joined the meeting.

Regional Agreement for Health and Human Services – creation of subcommittee to revise the proposed umbrella agreement. Christine appointed Randy, Doug, Don, Martina, Lenore. The meeting was set for Tuesday May 28th at 8:30am via zoom.

Short-term rental software – update

Doug followed up with one company and they think that there is about 3,000 short-term rental units and cost will be on lower end of \$10-50K. He and Martina will follow up with a meeting. Christine reported that even the realtors on MV are saying that some kind of regulations and monitoring is needed.

Committee Updates

Finance Committee – audit for FY23 is being drafted and DCC should set a special DCC meeting for June 12th at 4pm FY23 audit exit conference. Budget amendments will be discussed on June 4th and presented to DCC on June 5th. There will be a shortfall in FY24 of approx. \$20K in beach revenue from Norton Point and approx. \$50K from deeds excise and recording fees from as well.

Land Use Committee – reported last week and did not meet since.

Legislative Committee – State Forrest legislative change about the housing will go out tomorrow. Doug brought up the issue of the possible need for a market rate rent, depending on how the state views the issue, which would make it unaffordable.

Communication Committee – did not meet since last week. Three press releases were written.

Improvements Committee -

Manager's Report

Barnstable County contract renewal for FY2025 for Childrens COVE

Doug/Tristan moved to approve the contract with Barnstable County for provision of child advocacy services in Dukes County for FY2025 and to authorize the County manager to sign the contract. So voted. Peter – yes, Tristan – yes, Randy – yes, Doug – yes, Don – yes, Christine – yes. Motion carries.

Surplus boat and trailer

Tristan/ Juli moved to declare the boat and the boat trailer as a surplus and to authorize the County Manager to dispose of it in an appropriate manner. So voted. Peter – yes, Tristan – yes, Randy – yes, Doug – yes, Don – yes, Christine – yes. Motion carries.

Acceptance of Grants for Boards of Health - Public Health Excellence Grant \$448,013 annually for FY25-27 (3 years) and Epidemiology Grant \$262,500 for FY25 & FY26

Martina introduced this request – both grant

Doug/Tristan moved to accept DPH grants on behalf of the Boards of Health: Public Health Excellence Grant \$448,013 annually for FY25-27 (3 years). So voted. – Peter – yes, Tristan – yes, Randy – yes, Doug – yes, Don – yes, Christine – yes. Motion carries.

Doug/Randy moved to accept the DPH Epidemiology Grant \$262,500 for FY25 & FY26. So voted. Peter – yes, Tristan – yes, Randy – yes, Doug – yes, Don – yes, Christine – yes. Motion carries

Martina welcomed and introduced Lenore Maniaci as the new Director of Health and Human Services. Lenore comes with a great background of education and experience, and she made an introductory statement.

The county commissioners will need to schedule a special DCC meeting on June 12th at 4pm for the audit conference.

Courthouse - HVAC for courtroom is scheduled to be signed off on with Rise Engineering tomorrow. The probation offices are done.

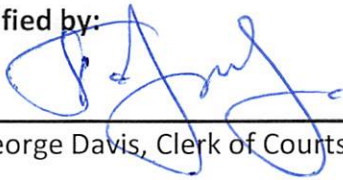
Health Care Access building – Martina contacted the designer to inquire about sound proofing for the building. The project ran under budget so we have money to address it.

Public Comment & Announcements – none

Randy/Juli moved to adjourned at 5:16pm. So voted. All in favor. Motion carries.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16PM.

Certified by:



T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts

