

**Minutes of the
Albemarle Commission Board of Delegates
June 20, 2024 6:00 P.M.**

Opening

Acting Chairperson Robert Kirby called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation

Acting Chairperson Kirby led the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Acting Chairperson Kirby led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Determination of Quorum

The presence of a quorum was determined by Clerk to the Board, Ashley Shepherd, with eleven (11) members present; ten (10) members present in person and one (1) member electronically.

Name

Tiffney White
Clayton Riggs
Robert Kirby
Harriet DeHart
Owen Etheridge
Linda Hofler
Lloyd Griffin III
Tim Corprew
Stephen Swain
Melinda Porter
Tracey Johnson

County

Camden
Camden
Chowan
Chowan
Currituck
Gates
Pasquotank
Perquimans
Tyrrell
Washington
Washington

Absent Members

Sissy Aydlett- Alternate
Robert "Bob" Woodard Sr.
Earl Pugh
Wallace Nelson- Alternate
Jordan Davis
Ann Keyes- Alternate

Camden
Dare
Hyde
Perquimans
Tyrrell
Washington

Partners, staff, and guests present:

Staff members:

Michael Ervin, Executive Director
David Whitmer, NWDB Director
Laura Alvarico, AAA Director
Angela Welsh, ARPO Transportation Planner
Ashley Shepherd, Clerk to the Board
Tanya Hurdle, Finance Officer

Guests and Partners

Brock Mitchell, Attorney

Amendments of Agenda:

None.

Agenda (VOTE):

Commissioner Tracey Johnson motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Linda Hofler. With no further discussion, the motion was carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

May 16, 2024 Minutes (VOTE)

At-Large Delegate Clayton Riggs motioned to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by At-Large Delegate Harriet Dehart. With no further discussion, the motion was carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

FY 2024-25 Budget Ordinance Resolution (VOTE)

Commissioner Tim Corprew motioned to approve the Budget Ordinance for FY 2024-25, seconded by At-Large Delegate Dehart. Commissioner Lloyd Griffin wanted to discuss some questions regarding the fiscal year budget. After further discussion, the motion was carried with a roll call vote with ten members approving the budget and one member, Commissioner Lloyd Griffin, opposed.

Public Comment:

None.

Old Business

Commissioner Johnson made a statement regarding taking Commissioner Linda Hofler's position in COG meetings and needing to be informed about when those meetings take place.

Finance

A. Monthly Finance Report for May 2024

Executive Director Ervin presented the monthly finance report to the board.

B. Budget Amendment 11B (VOTE)

At-Large Delegate Clayton Riggs motioned to approve the amendment as presented, seconded by Commissioner Tiffney White. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote

New Business

None.

Staff Reports:

Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Director Laura Alvarico discussed the closing of the fiscal year, ARPA funding expenditures, and new funding for housing projects.

ARPO Planner Angela Welsh mentioned meeting with all four counties that are allowed to participate with the FEMA grant. Planner Welsh gave an update regarding the lack of funding for the DOT. An upcoming RPO meeting will be discussing more on this issue.

Northeastern Workforce Development Board (NWDB) Director David Whitmer discussed the Good Jobs grant promoting Maritime businesses including creating videos with Eye Candy Digital Video. Director Whitmer mentioned a task force for offshore wind economic resource strategies called NC Towers meeting in Dare County and COA in August 2024.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director Michael Ervin gave his report along with the Special Projects report. Executive Director Ervin mentioned the ARPA Resilience grant hosted a 3-day training this past week and this grant is due to expire June 30th, 2024, and that we are right on track for completion of this grant. Director Ervin mentioned the progress of the new Finance Officer, Tanya Hurdle, and Ashley Shepherd stepping up and handling tasks while the Commission was without a Finance Officer. Director Ervin discussed a logo change due to issues with formatting on letterhead and other print materials such as T-shirts.

Board Member Comments:

At-Large Delegate Riggs discussed cell phone towers and tractors running off some cell phone towers. Delegate Riggs mentioned 85 new bear cubs in Camden County.

Commissioner White discussed South Mills Water Association papers that have been signed.

Commissioner Owen Etheridge mentioned Currituck losing the occupancy tax lawsuit and how it relates to tourism.

Commissioner Johnson discussed the 2024 Black Bear Festival was a huge success this past year which included many boat tours and vendors.

Commissioner Griffin mentioned that the budget raises some issues and concerns.

At-Large Delegate Stephen Swain mentioned new gas stations, bridges, and restaurants being built including a new Royal Farms.

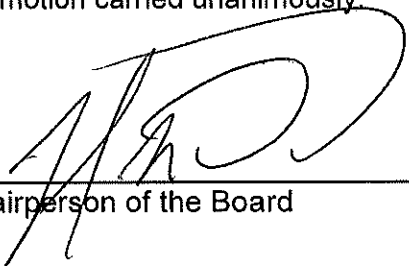
Commissioner Corprew discussed Perquimans County completing the fiscal year budget.

Commissioner Hofler discussed the passing of Gates County budget including new tax increase, 5% COLA for workers, and Commissioner Hofler also mentioned a need for cell phone towers.

Commissioner Kirby mentioned Chowan County passing their budget with a 3% tax increase. Commissioner Kirby mentions that Chowan County plans to fully staff their deputy sheriffs.

Adjournment

Commissioner Corprew motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:00pm, seconded by Commissioner White. The motion carried unanimously.



Chairperson of the Board

Attested by:



Clerk to the Board, Ashley Shepherd

9/19/24

Date

