

**Minutes of the
Albemarle Commission Board of Delegates
June 19, 2025 6:00 P.M.**

Opening

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

Invocation

Chairman Kirby led the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Kirby led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Determination of Quorum

The presence of a quorum was determined by Clerk to the Board, Amber Morse, with seven (7) members present in person. Two (2) members were present electronically.

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>
Sissy Aydlett	Camden
Robert Kirby	Chowan
Connie Hedrick – At-Large	Currituck
Dave Forsythe	Gates
Brian Silvers – At-Large	Gates
Jan Moore	Hyde
Earl Pugh – At-Large	Hyde
Tim Corprew	Perquimans
Tracey Johnson	Washington

Absent Members

Tiffney White	Camden
Owen Etheridge	Currituck
Bob Woodard Sr.	Dare
Lloyd Griffin	Pasquotank
Wallace Nelson- Alternate	Perquimans
Jordan Davis	Tyrrell
Ann Keyes - Alternate	Washington

Partners, staff, and guests present:

Staff members:

David Whitmer, Interim Executive
Director
Amber Morse, Assistant Executive
Director, Clerk to the Board
Trina Scippio, Finance Officer
Laura Alvarico, Area Agency on
Aging Director (AAA)
Rachel Clipston, Acting Northeastern
Workforce Development Board
(NWDB) Director
Ethan Sommers, Transportation
Planner

Guests and Partners

Brock Mitchell, Attorney

Amendments of Agenda:

Chairman Kirby requested to add item 11B under new business: Resolution Opposing Amendment to HB442.

Approval of Agenda (VOTE):

Commissioner Tracey Johnson motioned to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Commissioner Tim Corprew. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

May 20, 2025, Minutes (VOTE)

Commissioner Johnson motioned to approve the May 20, 2025 minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Tim Corprew. After some discussion, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Public Comments:

None.

Success Stories

Rachel Clipston, Acting NWDB Director, and Laura Alvarico, AAA Director, presented success stories of participants in their programs.

Old Business

None.

New Business

- A. **Legal Services Discussion:** Attorney Brock Mitchell presented the new proposed contract and rates to the board. After some discussion, a motion to approve the contract as presented was made by Commissioner Dave Forsythe, seconded by Commissioner Corprew. The motion was carried out unanimously by a roll call vote.
- B. **Resolution Opposing Amendment to House Bill 442:** Chairman Kirby presented a draft resolution Opposing The Trawling Ban Amendment To North Carolina House Bill 442. Mr. Earl Pugh highlighted the negative impacts this bill would have on Hyde County. After some discussion, a motion to approve the resolution as presented was made by Commissioner Corprew, seconded by Commissioner Jan Moore. Commissioner Johnson requested the resolution be sent to Kevin Leonard at the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

Finance

- A. **Finance Report:** Finance Officer, Trina Scippio, presented the finance reports. Finance Officer Scippio reported that finance staff have been continuing to work on cleanup and are preparing for the upcoming audit.
- B. **Budget Amendment #5B:** Finance Officer Scippio presented Budget Amendment #5B. Commissioner Corprew motioned to approve Budget Amendment #5B as presented, seconded by Commissioner Forsythe. With no further discussion, the motion was carried out unanimously by a roll call vote.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: Chairman Kirby reported that the Executive Committee met in June and discussed the agenda for the upcoming meeting.

Staff Reports

AAA: AAA Director Laura Alvarico reported that she is still awaiting the final Notice of Grant Awards from the Division of Aging. As a result, the Home and Community Care Block Grant agreements have not yet been sent to the counties. She also shared that work is underway to implement the new Providing Elders Additional Substance (PEAS) program. Additionally, Director Alvarico provided an update on the Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan Pool and the Urgent Repair Program projects.

ARPO: Chairman Kirby introduced new Transportation Planner, Ethan Sommers. Ethan reported on the steering committee meeting for regional Comprehensive Transportation Plan for Currituck, Camden, and Pasquotank counties that was recently held.

NWDB: Acting NWDB Director Rachel Clipston reported that fiscal and programmatic monitoring has been completed with no findings, observations, or technical assistance. She noted the successful completion of the NCWorks Commission Career Center Certification process. Additionally, she shared that a recent multi-employer hiring event hosted 9 employers and 27 jobseekers. Lastly, she reported a 16% reduction in funding for the upcoming program year.

Executive Director's Report

Interim Executive Director Whitmer reported he has been working on getting out information on house bill 442 and reported on the new NCWorks Commission policy that is changing the way NWDB carries forward their funding. Lastly, he gave an update on the Commission's non-profit.

Chairman & Board Delegate Reports

Chairman Kirby reported on an email he received from the Town Clerk of Kill Devil Hills thanking Albemarle Commission staff for their legislative update work.

Mr. Pugh thanked everyone for their work on the resolution.

Commissioner Aydlett reported that the recent district meeting was a success and shared that she also attended Legislative Day. She announced that the groundbreaking ceremony for the new high school is scheduled for July 15th.

Ms. Hedrick stated that she was excited to join the board and thanked staff for meeting with her.

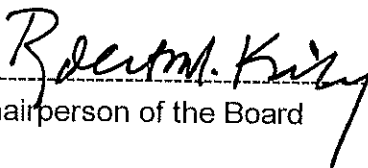
Commissioner Forsythe reported that he also attended advocacy day and district meeting and those were very helpful. He also reported on an issue at their courthouse building from rain.

Commissioner Moore reported that Hyde County has passed their budget and that she also attended advocacy day.


Commissioner Johnson reported on house bill 729 concerning solar property tax exclusions.

Adjournment

Chairman Kirby adjourned the meeting at 7:14 pm.


Chairperson of the Board

Attested by:


Clerk to the Board, Amber Morse

Date 7/17/25