

**Minutes of the  
Albemarle Commission Board of Delegates  
July 17, 2025 6:00 P.M.**

**Opening**

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

**Invocation**

Commissioner Jordan Davis led the Invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Determination of Quorum**

The presence of a quorum was determined by Clerk to the Board, Amber Morse, with nine (9) members present in person. Three (3) members were present electronically. However, this includes one alternate member who was present, and did not count towards the quorum.

**Name**

Tiffany White  
Robert Kirby  
Connie Hedrick – At-Large  
Dave Forsythe  
Brian Silvers – At-Large  
Jan Moore  
Earl Pugh – At-Large  
Lloyd Griffin  
Tim Corprew  
Jordan Davis  
Ann Keyes - Alternate  
Tracey Johnson

**County**

Camden  
Chowan  
Currituck  
Gates  
Gates  
Hyde  
Hyde  
Pasquotank  
Perquimans  
Tyrrell  
Washington  
Washington

**Absent Members**

Sissy Aydlett - Alternate  
Owen Etheridge  
Bob Woodard Sr.  
Wallace Nelson- Alternate

Camden  
Currituck  
Dare  
Perquimans

**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:**

None.

**Approval of Agenda (VOTE):**

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

**June 19, 2025, Minutes (VOTE)**

Commissioner Dave Forsythe motioned to approve the June 19, 2025 minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Tracey Johnson. With no further 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**

None.

**Finance**

- A. Finance Report:** Finance Officer, Trina Scippio, presented the finance reports. Finance Officer Mrs. Scippio reported that staff have begun providing information to the auditor and the audit is on track. She also reported that Nicole Owens, Financial Accounts Specialist, is scheduled to take a UNC School of Government finance course on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Committee Reports:**

None.

**Staff Reports**

**AAA:** AAA Director Laura Alvarico provided updates on several initiatives. She is currently working on closeout for various funding sources and has completed the process of sending out and receiving back contracts for all Home and Community Care Block Grant providers for FY26. Through Operation Fan Heat Relief, over 100 fans have been distributed to local Department of Social Services and Senior Centers. Additionally, Nutrition Program Coordinator Brenda Gates celebrated 25 years of service with the Albemarle Commission on July 18th.

For the Community Development Program AAA Director Alvarico provided updates on number of completed, pending, and in construction projects per county.

**ARPO (Albemarle Rural Planning Organization):** Transportation Planner, Ethan Sommers, reported on upcoming meetings and a recent signed letter of support for the Inter-county Public Transportation Authority. He also provided an update on regarding Dare County airport.

**NWDB:** Acting NWDB Director, Rachel Clipston updated the board on workforce development activities. She discussed a recent multi-employer hiring event and announced that an Incumbent Worker Training Grant application round has opened. Planning is underway for the annual real world event, with volunteers needed. She also provided updates on recent and upcoming tours for NextGen

participants.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Interim Executive Director David Whitmer provided updates on several key initiatives. He reported on advocacy efforts at the General Assembly opposing House Bill 442. He also shared updates to the Commission's website, which now includes success stories and a new toolkit for local governments. Additionally, he shared about the recent and upcoming Artificial Intelligence (AI) training opportunities available through the Albemarle Commission and shared progress on the Scuppernong Grant Project.

Assistant Executive Director Amber Morse reported on a potential outreach grant opportunity from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She noted that surveys have been distributed to counties to assess interest in participating.

### **Chairman & Board Delegate Reports**

Commissioner Lloyd Griffin provided updates on work of the new Transportation Planner, Ethan Sommers. He also reported on recent planning sessions with Currituck and Camden counties.

Mr. Earl Pugh thanked everyone for their support opposing HB442, noting the recent reception before the Hyde County Commissioners meeting with Senator Hanig and Representative Kidwell in attendance.

Commissioner Jan Moore followed up on the reception mentioned by Mr. Pugh. She also reported that she attended the AI training hosted by the Albemarle Commission and stated it was outstanding.

Commissioner Ann Keyes reported on two meetings in Washington County in conjunction with the United Way on 8/7 and 8/14 to discuss community economic development ideas.

Mrs. Connie Hedrick thanked staff for the resources and updates.

Commissioner Dave Forsythe reported they have completed their county budget and provided information on an upcoming study regarding school consolidation. He also reported that the NCWorks Job Blast has been very helpful and thanked staff for their work on that.

Commissioner Tracey Johnson shared resources she received from the NACO conference she attended. She also reported on her work with the Rural Action Caucus.

Commissioner Jordan Davis reported on the Scuppernong study and the value for the region and that they have passed the county budget.

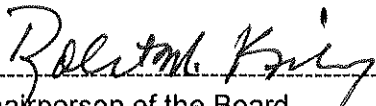
Commissioner Tiffney White reported on the recent groundbreaking for the new Camden County High School and unveiling of the new mural painted on the election office.

Commissioner Tim Corprew provided updates on the new school progress and that the county budget has passed.

Chairman Kirby reported that Chowan County passed their budget provided an update on the new school and a new business relocating downtown.

### **Adjournment**

Chairman Kirby adjourned the meeting at 7:07 pm.

  
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Chairperson of the Board

Attested by:

  
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Clerk to the Board, Amber Morse

Date 9/18/25