

**Minutes of the
Albemarle Commission Board of Delegates
May 21, 2026 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 members (7) present in person, and one (1) member present via Zoom.

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>
Tiffney White	Camden
Robert Kirby	Chowan
Connie Hedrick – At-Large	Currituck
Dave Forsythe	Gates
Jan Moore	Hyde
Earl Pugh – At-Large	Hyde
Tommy Everett	Tyrrell
Tracey Johnson	Washington

Absent Members

Paul O'Neal	Currituck
Troy Breathwaite - Alternate	Currituck
Sissy Aydlett - Alternate	Camden
Bob Woodard Sr.	Dare
Brian Silvers – At-Large	Gates
Wallace Nelson- Alternate	Perquimans
Tim Corprew	Perquimans
Lloyd Griffin	Pasquotank
Jordan Davis - Alternate	Tyrrell
Ann Keyes – Alternate	Washington

Partners, staff, and guests present:

Staff members:

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

Guests and Partners

None.

Amendments of Agenda:

None.

Approval of Agenda (VOTE)

Commissioner Tommy Everett made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Dave Forsythe. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Approval of Minutes from April 2026

Commissioner Tiffney White made a motion to approve the April 2026 minutes, seconded by Mrs. Connie Hedrick. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Public Hearing: Proposed FY2027 Budget Message/Budget Ordinance Resolution

A motion to open the public hearing at 6:04p.m. was made by Commissioner Tracey Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Forsythe. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote. There were no public present. After some discussion, a motion to close the public hearing at 6:05p.m. was made by Commissioner Everett and seconded by Commissioner White. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Adoption of FY2027 Budget Ordinance Resolution

A motion to approve the proposed FY2027 Budget Ordinance Resolution was made by Mrs. Hedrick, seconded by Commissioner Forsythe. After some discussion, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Public Comments:

None.

Success Stories

AAA Director Alvarico presented a success story on behalf of the AAA and NWDB Director Rachel Clipston presented a success story on behalf of the NWDB.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Finance

- A. **Finance Report:** Finance Officer, Trina Scippio, presented the finance reports, and provided updates on ACH processing, and end of fiscal year preparation.

- B. **Budget Amendment #6BA:** Mrs. Scippio presented budget amendment #6BA. A motion to approve the budget amendment as presented was made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner White. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: None.

Finance Committee: None.

Staff Reports

AAA: Director Alvarico provided an update on the Albemarle Senior Games and planning efforts for the

annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Walk. She also reported on the recent monitoring of five aging programs, which resulted in no findings.

Community Development: Director Alvarico announced that the Albemarle Commission has been awarded the annual Weatherization program from the Department of Environmental Quality and gave an update on in-progress and completed community development projects.

ARPO (Albemarle Rural Planning Organization): Transportation Planner Ethan Sommers provided an update on the now completed West Ehringhaus Street study, he also provided updates on State Transportation Improvement Program projects, and recent meetings in Dare and Pasquotank County with NC Department of Transportation.

NWDB: Director Rachel Clipston provided updates on a recent meeting with the First Lady of North Carolina at the Elizabeth City NCWorks Career Center, the approved One-Stop Operator Contract, and funds recently received by NWDB from another workforce board. Director Clipston also reported on the pending appointment of Rebecca Corprew to the NWDB board. While a response to the appointment request had been pending via email, Commissioner Everett verbally accepted the appointment during the meeting and requested that the acceptance be recorded in the minutes.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Whitmer provided updates on his recent trip to the General Assembly for Legislative Day with Commissioner Johnson, including meetings with Representatives Ward and Sanderson. He reported that the Albemarle Commission, Commissioner Johnson, and he were recognized on the House floor during the legislative session. Executive Director Whitmer also provided updates on an upcoming all-staff meeting and the forthcoming Albemarle Development Corporation meeting.

Chairman & Board Delegate Reports

Commissioner Johnson commended Executive Director Whitmer on his presentation to legislators during Legislative Day. She noted that she enjoyed participating in the trip and appreciated the opportunity to advocate on behalf of the Albemarle Commission and the region.

Commissioner Everett provided an update on a recent meeting with the Director of the NCACC and thanked the Albemarle Commission for the financial management support being provided to Tyrrell County through ARPA-funded staff assistance.

Commissioner White expressed her appreciation for the finance staff support being provided through the Albemarle Commission and gave updates on the upcoming Betsy Dowdy Ride on May 30, 2026, the county budget process, and the high school project.

Mrs. Hedrick provided updates on the county budget process, the upcoming Mainland Fourth of July Fireworks celebration, and recent advocacy efforts related to weatherization during a meeting with the Realtors Association.

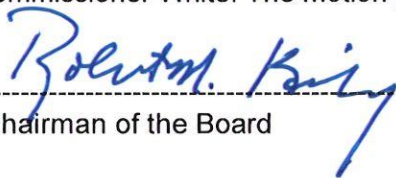
Commissioner Forsythe reported that Gates County has completed its first budget reading and continues to work diligently on the county budget. He also provided an update on ongoing discussions and activities related to data center development within the county.

Commissioner Jan Moore provided updates on the county budget process, the new school project, and the dedication of the Brandon Marshall Baseball Complex to be held on June 9, 2026.

Chairman Kirby reported that the new high school is now occupied and provided updates on the Chowan County budget process and property revaluation. He also shared information on the upcoming Edenton Steamers games.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 pm was made by Commissioner Forsythe and seconded by Commissioner White. The motion passed unanimously.



Chairman of the Board

Attested by:



Clerk to the Board, Amber Morse

Date 6-18-26