

**Minutes of the
Albemarle Commission Board of Delegates
June 18, 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 nine members (9) present in person, and three (3) members present via Zoom.

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>
Tiffney White	Camden
Robert Kirby	Chowan
Paul O'Neal	Currituck
Connie Hedrick – At-Large	Currituck
Dave Forsythe	Gates
Brian Silvers – At-Large	Gates
Jan Moore	Hyde
Earl Pugh – At-Large	Hyde
Tim Corprew	Perquimans
Lloyd Griffin	Pasquotank
Tommy Everett	Tyrrell
Tracey Johnson	Washington

Absent Members

Troy Breathwaite - Alternate	Currituck
Sissy Aydlett - Alternate	Camden
Bob Woodard Sr.	Dare
Wallace Nelson- Alternate	Perquimans
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
Ethan Sommers, Transportation Planner
Laura Alvarico, Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Director
Rachel Clipston, Northeastern Workforce Development Board (NWDB) Director

Guests and Partners

Brock Mitchell, Attorney

Amendments of Agenda:

None.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Tommy Everett made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Tim Corprew. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Approval of Minutes from May 2026

Commissioner Tiffney White made a motion to approve the May 2026 minutes, seconded by Mrs. Connie Hedrick. With no further 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

- A. **Legislative Engagement:** Executive Director, David Whitmer led a discussion on strengthening relationships with legislators. Board members shared several ideas. No formal action was taken.

Finance

- A. **Finance Report:** Assistant Executive Director Amber Morse presented the financial reports and provided updates on fiscal year-end preparations, Finance Officer Trina Scippio's progress toward North Carolina Finance Officer certification, and financial assistance provided to member governments.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: None.

Finance Committee: None.

Staff Reports

AAA: Director Alvarico provided an update on the annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Walk, fan distribution program, farmers market vouchers, and Ombudsman annual report and appointees.

Community Development: Director Alvarico gave an update on in-progress and completed community development projects, as well as an update on the progress on the annual weatherization program.

ARPO (Albemarle Rural Planning Organization): Transportation Planner Ethan Sommers provided updates on the State Transportation Improvement Program project scoring, and Camden, Currituck, and Pasquotank Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

NWDB: Director Rachel Clipston provided updates on program year 2026 allocations, recent hiring and community events, and the announcement of a \$50,000 employer engagement grant from the NC Department of Commerce.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Whitmer provided updates on an urgent funding request submitted by Senator Hanig in support of the Northeastern Workforce Development Board, upcoming changes to the At-Large Delegate appointments, and a recent meeting with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regarding the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) project and reimbursement process.

Chairman & Board Delegate Reports

Commissioner O'Neal provided an update on an upcoming meeting with the North Carolina State Auditor regarding the Mid-Currituck Bridge.

Mrs. Hedrick provided updates on House Bills 484 and 205 related to occupancy tax, a tour of Tulls Creek Elementary School, school hiring efforts, and recent town hall meetings.

Commissioner Forsythe provided an update on the Gates County budget.

Commissioner Moore provided an update on the Hyde County budget.

Commissioner Everett provided updates on the Tyrrell County budget, Albemarle Commission staff assistance to the county's finance department, and North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) work on underpasses.

Commissioner White provided updates on the Camden County budget and a tour of the new high school.

Commissioner Griffin provided updates on the Pasquotank County budget, proposed occupancy tax legislation, a potential consortium to work with NCDOT, and a moratorium on data centers.

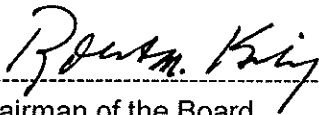
Commissioner Johnson thanked everyone for their participation in Legislative Day and provided an update on the recent Annual Black Bear Festival.

Commissioner Coprew provided updates on the new school and the Perquimans County budget.

Chairman Kirby provided updates on the Chowan County budget and the closing of the county jail.

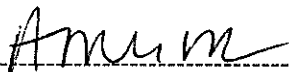
Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm was made by Commissioner Coprew and seconded by Commissioner White. The motion passed unanimously.



Chairman of the Board

Attested by:



Clerk to the Board, Amber Morse

Date 7/16/20

