**Dukes County Advisory Board on Expenditures**

Minutes

**Wednesday, April 4, 2018**

**3:00pm**

**Dukes County Administration Building**

9 Airport Rd., Edgartown, MA 02539

**County Advisory Board (CAB):** Arthur Smadbeck (Edgartown – 38.60%), Skipper Manter (West Tisbury – 12.45%), Melinda Loberg (Tisbury 13.52%) and Brian Packish (Oak Bluffs – 14.10)

**Dukes County Commissioners (DCC):** Christine Todd and Leon Brathwaite

**County Staff Present:** Martina Thornton – County Manager, Connie Andrade - Administrative Assistant to County Manager , Noreen Mavro Flanders – County Treasurer, Ann Metcalf – Asst. County Treasurer, Paulo DeOliveira – Register of Deeds, Chuck Cotnoir – Dukes County Emergency Manager, JoAnn Murphy – Veteran’s Agent, Ann Richart – MV Airport Manager and Bob Rosenbaum – Vice Chair Martha’s Vineyard Airport Commission

**Others:** Joanie Ames – MVTV, Martha’s Vineyard Airport Commission, Rich Saltzberg – MV Times

**Art called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm**

**Minutes:**

**Skipper/Melinda made a motion to approve the amended Dukes County Advisory Board minutes of October 5, 2017 noting the change of deleting the 50/50 formula from the motion to return $150,000.00 to the towns. So voted. Edgartown yes, Tisbury yes, West Tisbury yes, Oak Bluffs abstains. Motion carries.**

**Skipper/Melinda made a motion to approve the Dukes County Advisory Board minutes of January 20, 2018 and February 22, 2018 as presented. So voted. Edgartown yes, Tisbury yes, West Tisbury yes and Oak Bluffs abstains. Motion carries.**

**FY2018 County Budget Amendments:**

Martina reviewed the proposed budget amendments for FY2018 and FY2019 with the CAB (see file). The two changes are based on the auditor’s request. The first is to include the bond payment for 29 Breakdown Lane, Tisbury in department 630 in both the FY2018 and FY2019 budgets. This change will be done in both FY18 budget in the FY19 budget. The second is to replenish Fund 304 Courthouse Capital Improvements from the Unreserved Fund because the County issued checks back to the Towns after the CPA projects were done and the County received reimbursements from the Trail Courts for $52,458 which went to general revenue.

**Skipper/Brian made a motion to approve the two changes recommended by the auditors and adjust the FY18 budgets accordingly. So voted. Edgartown yes, Oak Bluffs yes, West Tisbury yes and Tisbury yes.** **Motion carries.**

Martina is also requesting a change that the Dukes County Commissioners (DCC) approved to add money to the Capital Improvement Fund for $18,256 for replacing the lift at the courthouse. The proposal was over the amount that was originally budgeted. The money will come from the Unreserved Fund Balance. A discussion was held. Leon said the State will reimburse the County for 81% of the expenses. Skipper said the State should pay 100% since it has nothing to do with the Registry of Deeds. Noreen said its part of the common area as that hallway is used by the Dukes County Parking Clerk hearings.

**Melinda/Brian made a motion to add $18,256.00 to the Capital Improvement Fund for the lift from the Unreserved Fund Balance. So voted. Edgartown yes, Tisbury yes, West Tisbury yes and Oak Bluffs yes. Motion carries.**

**Stabilization Fund:**

Martina said the DCC voted at their last meeting to establish a stabilization fund for $200,000. The money will come from the Unreserved Fund Balance to help with cash flow according to M.G.L, Chapter 30. A discussion was held. Skipper said he would like an opinion from the Department of Revenue as to how much money the County should have before the CAB moves forward and if the Registry of Deeds money falls under the same law. If the $200,000 stabilization fund is created it would leave approx. $76,000 in the Unserved Fund Balance.

**FY2019 Budget Amendment:**

Martina reviewed the proposed FY19 Budget transfers with the CAB (see file). In the amendments is the inclusion of the bond money for 29 Breakdown Lane, Tisbury. She said the other change is because the Sheriff is not signing a new MOU so the County will no longer be able to collect the alarm fees. Martina said the net loss with be approx. $130,000 and in addition to the lost alarm fees the County will not have the Sheriff patrol the beaches. Martina is requesting to include the Natural Department line $15,000 to enable the County to contract for those services. Another change was the annual beach permit money the County receives from the Trustees of the Reservation because it came in lower than anticipated. The check the County just received was less by approx. $11,000. She would like to lower the projections because of anticipated beach closures. The only way to balance the budget is to remove the $150,000 contribution to OPEB. If OPEB is removed it will leave a surplus of $5,133.00. A discussion was held. The CAB discussed the patrolling of the beaches. Skipper said he is disappointed the County will not be putting any money into OPEB.

**Skipper/Melinda made a motion to approve the FY2019 budget amendments as presented. So voted. Edgartown yes, Tisbury yes, Oak Bluffs yes and West Tisbury no. Motion carries.**

**Funding of Regional Programs at Town Meetings:**

Martina said depending on what the towns approve the CAB will need to reconvene to discuss how the money will be appropriated. A discussion was held. In Edgartown, the articles state that all towns will need to approve the articles. Oak Bluffs will appropriate $40,000 which will be less than requested by $23,000. Brian said the County social service programs will need to plead their case for funding. Skipper said West Tisbury is facing overrides too and should not have to subsidize the Oak Bluffs shortage for these programs. Brian said Oak Bluffs carries the torch for all the nonprofits that are located in Oak Bluffs including the hospital. Martina said she would collect what monies are available from the Towns and see what she can do to provide services within that amount of money. Noreen asked Brian if the Town Finance Committee knows the County has been returning funds to the Towns over the last few years. Brian said yes, but the money returned belonged to the Towns and the Cape and Island license plate money made the Oak Bluffs FinCom upset because the money is only available for specific purposes. Christine said the Oak Bluffs FinCom committee never asked the County to appear and give them more information on the programs before making their recommendations.

**Skipper/Melinda made a motion to adjourn. So voted. Edgartown yes, Tisbury yes, and West Tisbury yes. Motion carries.**

**CAB meeting was adjourned at 3:55pm.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

JOSEPH E. SOLLITTO, JR., Clerk of Courts

**Documents presented at the meeting and part of the Official Records:**

* Agenda
* FY2019 Proposed Dukes County Budget
* Cape and Island License Plate Revenue Spreadsheet