

Dukes County Advisory Board on Expenditures (CAB)

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday December 8, 2021

2:30 PM

Remote participation only via zoom

County Advisory Board Members Present: Arthur Smadbeck – Edgartown (41.02%), Jeff Kristal – Tisbury (13.06%), Skipper Manter – West Tisbury (12.14%), Bill Rossi – Chilmark (14.85%), Brian Packish – Oak Bluffs (14.73%)

County Commissioners: Christine Todd, Leon Brathwaite, Tristan Israel, R. Peter Wharton

Other County Officials Present: Martina Thornton – County Manager, Paulo DeOliveira – Registry of Deeds, Ann Metcalf – County Treasurer, Sarah Kuh - VHCAP

Others: Leslie Clapp – Center for Living Director, Beth Folcarelli – MV Community Services Exec. Director, Cindra Trish – Healthy Aging MV Exec. Director, Victor Capocia & Chip Coblyn representing Substance Use Disorder Coalition, Larkin Stallings, James Hegarty – Edgartown Town Administrator, Kate DeRosier – Vineyard House, Pastor Leo Christian, Paddy Moore – Healthy Aging MV

Arthur Smadbeck called the meeting to order at 2:35 PM.

1. Minutes

Skipper/Jeff moved to approve 10-26-2021 minutes as presented. Tisbury -yes, West Tisbury - yes, Chilmark - yes, Oak Bluffs – abstained, Edgartown - yes Motion carries.

2. Regional Programs FY2023 budget requests - Each of the directors presented their budget requests as follows:

Beth Folcarelli - covered requests for First Stop and Counseling Outreach and Referral for Elders (CORE) – both program requests are for level funding. There were no questions.

Cindi Trish - Healthy Aging MV – level funding request – there were no questions.

Leslie Clapp – MV Center for Living – budget is very similar, there were staffing changes, there is a new kitchen, VTA is not providing the reduced cost transportation to the clients and the Center is now operating the van themselves and trying to figure out how to pay for it without increasing the costs. The Center follows the County pay scale and COLA increases. Skipper asked for more information of past years actuals. The revenue line for fees is partially private pay fees for the program \$60 per day, and partially fees for some clients paid for by Elder Services.

Sarah Kuh – covered Vineyard Health Care Access Program and DC Social Service: VHCAP – budget is higher due to additional changes in staffing, Mary Leddy is retiring, there are placeholders for benefit package for the new person, along with added costs for retirement allocation, new OPEB contribution and county allocation of overhead.

DCSS – budget is about the same, case worker does food stamps, fuel assistance, unemployment assistance etc., the additional costs are relative to the retirement allocation, OPEB and county allocation.

Karen Tewhey - Harbor Homes – **Homelessness Prevention** – budget is very similar reflecting 3% increase in salary of the case worker. The person has been in the position for now 4 months and has handled 43 referrals (10 families). Harbor Homes manages the man's house, women's house and they also run the homeless shelter (3 locations during week) and warming center (two different locations during the week) so it is hard logistically for staff and clients, but it is working.

Victor Capoccia - **Substance Use Disorder Coalition** – has been in existence for number of years and they established many new initiatives on MV to help people deal with substance use and recovery. Coalition is looking for part-time coordinator to keep the work of the coalition going, including administrative supports, dissemination of information and technical function of support of subcommittees that will be working on solutions in various areas and financial support for the activities. This is not expected to be permanent request to the towns, the intent is to evaluate if it is working in couple years.

There was a discussion about contribution to OPEB (\$1,000 per employee) and about the county **allocation of overhead**. The allocation is based on a new formula that was approved by the Airport and by FAA. The request combines allocations of the Treasurer's Office and Manager's Office and reflects the time spend on administrating these programs, hence there is proportionately higher cost for programs that the County manages directly (VHCAP. Social Services, Center for Living building). Skipper felt that the work being done is paid for by the towns via county assessments and this would be additional revenue, and he questioned why this is needed when there is no additional expense for this work in the county budget. Art explained that if the county was not doing these services for the town, the Treasurer and Manager's budgets would be potentially lower. Martina explained that without this revenue the general county budget as prepared for FY2023 will not be balanced as there is not sufficient revenue to cover all the projected expenses.

Brian wanted to clarify that the CAB is voting to forward these requests to the towns to be vetted and considered by the voters, not that he is fully supporting the proposals in hand. CAB agreed with this explanation.

Discussion followed on if the allocation of overhead should be sent to the towns and if so if it should be included in the program budgets or as a separate warrant article. Some CAB members felt that county does perform these services for the towns and if there is revenue left at the end of the year it will be returned to the towns, so this is an accounting measure. Skipper suggested that if there is a budget shortfall warrant article as in the past and only collect what the County needs to balance the budget.

Bill moved to send the regional budget requests to the towns. Bill withdrew his motion.

Skipper/ Jeff moved to send the regional requests to the towns without the allocation of overhead \$65K request. Discussion: Jeff said that if the allocation is combined with the actual program funding it is hard to separate it out at the town meeting, so he supports a separate warrant article. **Vote: Chilmark – yes, Oak Bluffs – yes, West Tisbury – yes, Tisbury – yes, Edgartown – yes. Motion carries.**

Skipper/Jeff moved to send a separate request for \$65,085 as supplemental income for the county general budget as offset of the costs. Discussion: Bill said he would like to include the explanation of why the county is sending these requests. Others agreed. **Vote: Chilmark – yes, Oak Bluffs – yes, West Tisbury – yes, Tisbury – yes, Edgartown – yes. Motion carries.**

Couple county commissioner commented on the CAB decision regarding the allocation of overhead.

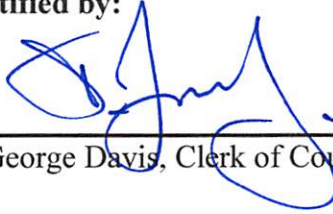
MV Emergency Management Coordinator position – memo was sent to CAB prior to meeting – it was originally on the agenda but was taken off.

Skipper/Jeff moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:38PM. Chilmark – yes, West Tisbury – yes, Tisbury – yes, Oak Bluffs – yes, Edgartown -yes. Motion carries.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:35pm.

The Dukes County Advisory Board on Expenditures meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Certified by:



T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts

