

Dukes County Commission (DCC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 3, 2021
4:00 PM
REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY

Dukes County Commissioners Present: Christine Todd – Chair; John Cahill – Vice Chair; Keith Chatinover; Donald Leopold; Leon Brathwaite; R. Peter Wharton; and Tristan Israel.

Other County Officials Present: Martina Thornton – Dukes County Manager and Paulo DeOliveira – Register of Deeds.

Others Present: Norm Werthwein – Martha’s Vineyard Airport (MVA) Budget & Finance Subcommittee Member; Don Ogilvie – MVA Commission; Richard Lasdin – McFarland Johnson; Scott Medeiros – McFarland Johnson; Geoffrey Freeman – MVA Director; Joseph Jims – MVA Commission Applicant; Ben Hall, Jr. – MVA Commission Applicant; Richard Knabel – MVA Commission; Bob Rosenbaum – MMVA Commission Applicant; Christina Colarusso; Jessica Richard – Woodard & Curran; Lucas Thors – MV Times; Aaron Wilson – Vineyard Gazette; and Jennelle Gadowski.

Christine Todd called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Minutes

John Cahill made a motion to approve the amended minutes from January 13, 2021. Tristan Israel seconded the motion. So voted. John Cahill yes, Tristan Israel aye, R. Peter Wharton aye, Keith Chatinover aye, and Christine Todd aye. Motion carries.

Airport Wastewater Treatment Plan Presentation Update

Richard Lasdin and Scott Medeiros of McFarland Johnson presented the Martha’s Vineyard Airport wastewater treatment project plan. The wastewater treatment facility services everything on Airport property. They are in the process of a major infrastructure redesign for construction upgrades to the facility in order to meet the permits needs. The last upgrade was in 1992. The projected project schedule date is May 2022. See the McFarland Johnson presentation for more details.

Airport Update

Mr. Rosenbaum reported that the Martha’s Vineyard Airport has a contingency plan for a shut down. The condition of the Airport is good in all regards – staff are healthy and there is an operating surplus of \$1.7 million through the first half of the year. When asked how the Airport is doing so well it was reported that it was due to excellent monitoring of expenses, cutbacks (personnel losses), Business Park revenue from ongoing leases, and positive yet competitive fuel sales. Also, it was noted that they received federal money at the end of 2020 for COVID-19 relief and expect more soon to help the Airport concessions–the Plane View restaurant and three rental car companies. The fair market value policy and allocation of overhead are awaiting a final response from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Mr. Freeman reported that commercial airline schedules are still in draft form, but that Jet Blue Airways will have a

tentative start at the end of April, American Airlines will have a tentative start early June, and Delta Air Lines will tentatively be flying once a day every day. In regard to air mail, FedEx still makes 2-3 trips daily with an occasional extra trip, while the United Postal Service (UPS) no longer uses air service for the Island. There are a several green initiatives being prioritize and enacted soon, such as installing solar canopies for buildings and parking lots, installing electric vehicle charging stations, moving towards a carbon neutral campus by 2040, and possibly implementing an electric commercial plane by 2024 that would be co-opted agreement with EV Aviation and Cape Air. MV Airport would be one of first four Airports to be serviced by such plains in the United States.

Appointment Process Discussion

Commissioners Todd and Cahill presented their proposal for a new appointment process. The process includes each applicant being asked three standard questions by the DCC Chair (questions differ slightly for incumbent applicants), then Commissioners can ask any other probing questions they may have, as long as they are not repetitive, and finally Commissioners will be asked to take some time to absorb all of the applicants and their interviews before making a decision. In the meantime before the final decision vote is taken, Commissioners may individually contact applicants via email to inquire about follow up questions if need be in order to make an informed decision. Commissioner Wharton suggested having input from each body that is seeking applicants, such as their 3–5-year goals, before voting so that the DCC can be as informed as possible. **Tristan Israel made a motion to adopt the policy as laid out. John Cahill seconded the motion. So voted. Leon Brathwaite aye, John Cahill aye, Keith Chatinover aye, Tristan Israel aye, Donald Leopold aye, R. Peter Wharton aye, and Christine Todd aye. Motion carries.** All applicants will be placed into the Zoom waiting room until it is their turn to be interviewed. Once each applicant is finished with their interview they may stay and listen in on the remaining interviews if they wish as long as they mute themselves. Once all interviews are completed, the Commissioners will deliberate and return at a later meeting with their decisions.

MV Airport Commission Candidate Interviews

There were four applicants for the Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission – two new applicants and two incumbent applicants.

The first interview was for Joseph Jims. He said that he has lived on Martha's Vineyard for 27 years; works part time as a plumber; and is obtaining his private pilot certification. He previously was an Oak Bluffs School Advisory Council for three years and was involved with Grace Preschool. He explained that given this appointment he understands the civil and pilot's perspectives of the Airport and how they support the Island community in many ways and wishes to contribute. His experience is the 50 hours of pilot training, knowledge of the aviation community, and his pilot's certification that he expects to receive by the end of the month. He has also been self-employed for 15 years. His goals for the role are to offer an aviation path at the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School for students to become a professional pilot. He added that he has served on some Committees previously such as on the Oak Bluffs School Advisory Council and has no interest in finance, but instead in affordable housing.

The second interview was for Ben Hall, Jr. who described himself as someone who loves serving his community and participating in government. His experience consists of attending the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania for a major in finance and focus on

management as well as the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School. He has been a practicing attorney in MA, FL and NY since 1986, has experience in landlord tenant law, served as Martha's Vineyard Airport Commissioner approximately 10-15 years ago, Edgartown Planning Board for five years. His goals for the role are to ensure that the Airport continues to be an invaluable economic engine for the Island, maintaining fair and transparent relationships with all tenants, and use his decades of knowledge to maximize the value of leaseholders and optimize revenue streams for the community as a whole. When asked why he left and wishes to rejoin, he clarified that at the time there were issues amongst the DCC and Airport and the then DCC wanted new people to serve so he was not reappointed. He was disappointed but understood as the role is to be served at their pleasure and anyone can be subject to not being reappointed if they so choose.

The third interview was for Richard Knabel who explained that he wishes to continue because he has learned a lot (finances, creating plans, etc.), helped create stability, wants to help fix any communication issues between the DCC and Airport, and ensure that all of the progress continues. He is currently the Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission Treasurer, Martha's Vineyard Airport Budget & Finance Subcommittee Chair, and Martha's Vineyard Airport Personnel Subcommittee Member. His greatest achievement within his three-year role has been learning the accounting system and solving problems in a timely manner. He believes his biggest challenges will be making capital projects happen—such as the terminal project and equipment investment—as well as getting the new Commissioner settled into their role.

The fourth interview was for Bob Rosenbaum, who is the current Chair of the Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission. He said that within his six years served so far, he has transitioned the Airport from major setbacks, such as personnel challenges, water pollution, and budget problems, into a smoothly operating system that is doing well. He mentioned the need for transparency with the Business Park and that he is open to feedback. His goal is to ensure a successful continuation and a healthy relationship with all parts of the community. When questioned about his previous style—attitude towards DCC, calling for the dissolution of the County Government in the newspaper, issues with the Allocation of Overhead, etc.—he said that he is a very passionate person and recognized that he could have handled those situations better and hopes to in the future. The DCC thanked all applicants for their time and consideration.

Manager's Report

Martina Thornton reported that the County Advisory Board on Expenditures approved the budgets as recommended by the DCC (therefore lowering the requests) ahead of the Finance Committee meetings.

She received two more proposals for the Courthouse boiler, and both are lower than the first and have been sent to two engineers to see which is the most advantageous with consideration of price and the environmental impact. She does not expect rebates but will inquire about incentives.

She informed DCC that updated COVID related information is being periodically released to social media for the public.

The Personnel Board rated the Public Relations Coordinator position at Grade 1, so now there is also a job description and could become part of next year's budget plan. The Harbor Homes homeless point in time count as of January 26, 2021 is 41 people living in homeless shelter, transitional housing, or in non-human housing.

Planning Committee Update

Commissioner Leopold gave a brief update that the Committee has begun some outreach discussions and will report more at the next meeting.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Commissioner Israel requested more information from the Trustees regarding South Beach in order to begin planning for the Spring. Commissioner Todd agreed and added that County received a letter requesting restrooms being installed at State Beach. Norton Point is closed until further notice due to over wash.

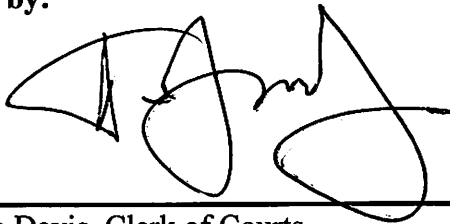
Public/Press Comments

There were no public or press comments.

Leon Brathwaite made a motion adjourn the meeting. Tristan Israel seconded the motion. So voted. Leon Brathwaite aye, Keith Chatinover aye, John Cahill yes, Tristan Israel aye, Donald Leopold aye, R. Peter Wharton aye, and Christine Todd aye. Motion carries.

The Dukes County Commission meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM. The next Dukes County Commissioners Meeting is on Thursday, February 17, 2021 at 4:00 PM.

Certified by:



T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts

Documents presented at the meeting and part of the official record:

- Meeting Agenda for February 3, 2021
- Meeting Minutes for January 13, 2021
- Airport Wastewater Treatment Plan Presentation
- Appointment Process Guidelines
- Resumes of Applicants
- Manager's Report
- Homeless Point in Time Count Report

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered.

corrected

Received 12 May 2004

[The following information was obtained from a review of the files maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation:]

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1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 2680, 26

10. James Earl Ray was the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King.

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

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