

**Dukes County Commission (DCC)**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, July 12, 2022**  
**4:30 PM**

*REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY*

**Dukes County Commissioners Present:** Christine Todd – Chair, R. Peter Wharton, Keith Chatinover, Leon Brathwaite, Don Leopold\*

**Other County Officials Present:** Martina Thornton – Dukes County Manager, Sarah Kuh – Director of Vineyard Health Care Access Program

**Others Present:** Noah Glasgow –MV Gazette, Rich Salzberg – MV Times, Noreen Mavro Flanders

**Christine called the meeting to order at 4:31 PM**

New business

County Treasurer Ann Metcalf resigned from the Treasurer's position effective July 15<sup>th</sup>.

None of the County Commissioners can be appointed as temporary treasurer because it is a paid position. The County manager and Register of Deeds cannot do it either due to conflict. Ann is willing to stay little longer as County Treasurer to be able to process the last warrant of the fiscal year and stay until the following Friday July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

We are advertising for a treasurer to be appointed for the term until the next state election in fall of 2024. The ad was placed in both papers and with Mass Municipal Association. The person must reside in Dukes County. The salary is \$100K.

\*Don joined the meeting.

Sarah Kuh asked if as in the past county treasurer can designate an acting treasurer and so could the commissioners appoint as acting treasurer someone from the county management pool. Martina said that it is not clear as this is not a temporary situation but rather a vacancy. We are looking for legal counsel to answer some of these questions. Another question is if the temporary and the then new treasurer can live outside of Dukes County and move to the island later.

We are looking to engage CPA firm to handle much of the fiduciary responsibilities of the office with extensive municipal accounting experience.

We will be developing a more detailed description of the position so that the candidates have better way of assessing what the job entails. The main portion of the job is prescribed by Mass General Law Chapter 35.

Noreen said that we should not be dividing things up and contracting parts of the job out. She would go with whatever Jim Powers is recommending. Also, Plymouth County Treasurer would have a good understanding of the laws that would govern this situation. Christine said that in the meeting this

morning with Jim Powers the sub-committee discussed the next steps and we are following his recommendations.

Peter asked what other incentives we can offer to the new Treasurer on top of the salary, like housing stipend if they have to move to the island, etc. Commissioners agreed to look into it as we get candidates.

The sub-committee will meet with Ann to talk to her about her priorities for the county to concentrate on as part of transition and after she leaves. Christine thanked Ann and the Airport for their flexibility of allowing Ann to help out for little longer.

Public Comment – Rich Salzberg asked if we can hire the CPA firm or not. It was clarified that they can not be the Treasurer (he does not live in Dukes County) but that our auditors did recommend engaging them in an advisory capacity to the temporary treasurer who should reside in Dukes County.

#### New Business


Martina said that although the higher rate was advertised, we only had three candidates and one can only do it part-time during the week. And the other viable candidate is daughter of Martina's close friend who is 17 and does not have driver's license. Martina asked the board to accept her Disclosure of appearance of conflict of interest and allow her to hire this girl so she can start asap so we don't have to wait until the next Wednesday's meeting. She will be able to assure that tickets get to the office. Discussion followed. Martina said that if there are more candidates that she will be able to fit them into the schedule as well.

**Petr/Don moved to approve hiring of this candidate conditional upon approval of the disclosure form. So voted. Peter yes, Don – yes, Keith – yes, Leon – no, Christine – yes. Motion carries.**

Calendar: Dukes County regular meeting is on July 20, 2022, at 4:30PM

Leon/Peter made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:02PM. So voted. R. Peter Wharton – yes, Don Leopold – yes, Leon Brathwaite – yes, Keith Chatinover – yes, Christine Todd - yes. Motion carries. The Dukes County Commission meeting was adjourned at 5:12PM.

Certified by:



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T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts

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