Speaker BERGSTROM: Good afternoon. Welcome to the Wednesday, October 7th session of the Cape Cod Regional Government, Assembly of Delegates.

Is anyone recording this meeting besides our normal recording? Okay.

I will then call this meeting to order, and we’ll begin with a moment of silence to honor our troops who have died in service to our country and all those serving our country in the Armed Forces.

(Moment of silence.)

Thank you.

We will now stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

Speaker BERGSTROM: The Clerk will call the roll.

Roll Call (91.60%): Ronald Bergstrom (2.84% - Chatham), Ned Hitchcock (1.27% - Wellfleet), James Killion (9.58% - Sandwich), Teresa Martin (2.30% - Eastham), Suzanne McAuliffe (11.02% - Yarmouth), Deborah McCutcheon (0.93% - Truro), Edward McManus (5.67% - Harwich), John Ohman (6.58% - Dennis), Brian O’Malley (1.36% – Provincetown), Patrick Princi (20.92% - Barnstable), Julia Taylor (14.61% - Falmouth), Linda Zuern (9.15% - Bourne).

Absent (8.40%): Christopher Kanaga (2.73% - Orleans), Marcia King (6.49% - Mashpee), Edward Lewis (4.55% - Brewster).

Clerk O’CONNELL: Mr. Speaker, we have a quorum with 86.23 percent of the Delegates present; 13.77 percent absent.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Thank you. I’ll now need approval of today’s Calendar of Business.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Move the Calendar of Business.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Second.

Speaker BERGSTROM: All those in favor?

The DELEGATES: Aye.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Opposed?

(Motion carried.)

Speaker BERGSTROM: You should have received a copy of the Journal of September 16, 2015. Are there any additions or corrections to the Journal?

Mr. O’MALLEY: Move to approve as posted.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Second.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Moved and seconded. All those in favor say "Aye."

Opposed?

(Motion carried.)
Communications from the Board of Regional Commissioners

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. We don’t have the full board with us but we do have Commissioner Cakounes.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Thank you and hello, everybody. First of all, I see on your agenda that one of the things I have to do today is introduce you to our new Finance Director. So when you see her walk in the back door there, give me a high sign and I’ll stop my presentation and we’ll go to that or either that I will do it at the end.

I’m going to ask that before I give you an update of our last meeting, our September 30th meeting, one thing that did come out of it is we approved two items; one is a Proposed Ordinance and one is a Proposed Resolution. And I would like to take the time to formally hand those in today. So one second.

Just for a brief explanation; one of the Ordinance -- the Ordinance that I just handed in was on our agenda on our September 30th meeting, and that's in regards to a vote to rescind the unissued debt.

So as most of you remember, we’re going through a process over at the Commissioner’s office where we’re looking at votes that were taken going back to 2011 for things that should have been bonded, and we’re trying to clean up that discrepancy a little bit. Okay.

So this is the beginning of that, this $399,000 that we’re looking to go back and rescind the vote.

The other Resolutions that I just handed in, again, was also addressed in our September 30th meeting and it is a transfer -- a budget transfer. That’s why it's a Resolution, and it’s in the amount of $29,500. And it’s in regards to an employment issue where the salary and wage line item was not anticipated, so we have to move some monies from the expense line into the salary and wage line. Again, we’ll get into that when you guys have your proposed hearing on it or if there’s any questions when you’re going to vote it. But for today, I just want to let you know that I did hand them in.

I’m just going to go really brief down. I saw that she came in, but since I’m up here, I’ll just finish this and then we’ll end it with the introduction.

We’ve only had one meeting subsequently since the last time that we met with you here. It was September 30th. Two of those items I just mentioned that we did.

Another one was we voted to allow the Barnstable Courthouse parking lot to be used for an annual walk event on Sunday, October 18th by the American Cancer Society. It’s called, “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of Barnstable County.”

We also had the AmeriCorps, the new AmeriCorps people in, and we had a little ceremony and met them all. It’s kind of interesting as they were going around the room and introducing themselves, I think there were 33 or 34 new participants and I believe there were only nine from the state of Massachusetts and the rest stem from Illinois, Connecticut, Ohio, Mississippi, California, Rhode Island, Ohio -- I mean all across the country. A really, really great group of young new leaders. It was fun meeting with them.

And on a personal note, I invite them every year, the new pledges, to come to visit our farm, and they happened to come out yesterday. So I’ve met with them twice since our last time with you.
I already mentioned the Proposed Ordinance.

There was a request on our regular meeting agenda from the license plate fund budget; I should say the Economic Development Council. That was actually tabled. I personally had some questions on it, and we’re going to be bringing that forth hopefully in our October 18th meeting.

The Children’s Cove, again, is the Resolutions I just mentioned.

We did have and made a motion to establish a new fund called the, “Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center Project Fund.” We funded that with an amount of $85,725, which was actually a grant that was given to us for that purpose. And now that the fund’s established, we're hoping if any more grant funds come in they’ll be able to go right into that fund. This is used basically for the continuing operations of the septic system test center which George Heufelder of our Health Department is in control over.

We did have a continuing discussion on our FY17 budget message. And as most of you remember, I think the last time I actually reported to you, I believe I was here with Commissioner Flynn. We actually held our meeting in this room and then you guys came in right after us, and we reported to you at that time, and I believe I handed out copies to all of you of the draft document that I put together.

We had a very lengthy discussion about that budget message, and budget development guidelines, which is also a term that I'm referring to as it has not been voted as of yet though. That, once again, has been -- I believe I’m going to request that it be put on our next meeting, but I think it’s going to come forward for some kind of action relatively soon.

And that last issue that we had in front of us was an Open Meeting Law complaint. And stemming from not only myself but Commissioner Lyons and I know your Clerk attended the Open Meeting Seminar that was held back in early September. Stemming from that, I learned that any Open Meeting Law complaint cannot automatically be sent to either counsel or an individual to deal with it. Those Open Meeting Law complaints as they come in, they have to be addressed in the open meeting and then a vote taken as to how to respond to it.

So from now on, you probably will see as we get -- hopefully we won’t get many, but as we get Open Meeting Law complaints, you will see it on our agenda, and I’m assuming that the action will probably be to refer to Town Counsel -- County Counsel, I mean.

Once Counsel has responded, it then, again, has to come back to us and we have to either agree or disagree with counsel's report on it. But it's an interesting kind of footnote because I was under the impression and though that we could take a blanket vote and just say that from now hence forward any complaints shall go to the County Counsel, but that's not the way that the Open Meeting Law requires it. They require you to make sure you post each individual complaint as they come forward. So we dealt with this first one in the correct fashion.

Pretty much that’s it on my report. And if you don’t have any questions---

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, Brian.

Mr. O’MALLEY: Commissioner, on the Alternative Septic System Project, you said that’s funded from a grant; where did that come from?

Commissioner CAKOUNES: This particular grant money that came in was from the
state but he does get grants from all over in funding that particular operation over there. But this particular amount of $85,725 was actually a state of Massachusetts grant. And we do have it; it did come in. And now we had to just put it into this fund so we can appropriate it.

Mr. O’MALLEY: Is that project essentially fully grant funded then?

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Pretty much. It’s not only grant funded, but it’s also funded by people using it.

Mr. O’MALLEY: Exactly.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Yes, so it’s something that we need to look at and can take a look at even in the future because as we, the County, may be done using the facility, I believe, and this is a personal note now, that there’s probably going to be an opportunity on that facility to hopefully incorporate maybe a college or maybe a larger institute to come in and continue doing research there because it’s something that I think has been a huge asset, not only to us here on Cape Cod but across New England.

Mr. O’MALLEY: Thank you.


Mr. OHMAN: Going back to the Open Meeting Law violations, what about past violations that have occurred in say the recent past by certain individuals; do we have to go back and address those or is this because now we know it we can go forward with the way --

Commissioner CAKOUNES: The way the law reads, Mr. Ohman, is that if someone wants to file an Open Meeting Law complaint against you, they have to do it within 30 days of the violation.

So if you were to have an Open Meeting Law complaint that came in in last 30 days and you did not handle it properly by meaning -- by addressing it in front of your whole board as to how to address the knot, than an individual could, in fact, file yet again another Open Meeting Law complaint on how you handle that process.

But as far as the ones that are over 30 days old, they are gone by and I don't believe, and, again, that would be a question for counsel, but I don't believe that any complaint would be warranted because, again, it's real specific that it has to be within the 30 days of the violation.

Mr. OHMAN: Thank you.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Anything else? Okay. Mr. Speaker, if I may?

Speaker BERGSTROM: Sure.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: I would like to introduce and bring up not only our Interim Finance Director but our new Finance Director.

Mary McIsaac has been hired and now is our official full-time Finance Director. And as you all know that I don't want to let Bob off the hook so we’re keeping him around also.

Interim Finance Director LAWTON: Just for a little while.

Finance Director MARY McISAAC: Well, if any of you have read my résumé during this process, you’ll see that I have decades of experience in municipal work. I was a graduate of Holy Cross and my major was economics and accounting. And shortly after I left the Cross, after graduation I started in municipal work, and even though I dabbled in CPA firms and tax seasons and the like, I came back to municipal work and have done that for decades since. I love it. I've been in Harwich with Mr. McManus recently, and I just came from the Comptroller's Office in the town of Barnstable.
Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Do you have any questions? Pat.

Mr. PRINCI: Thanks very much for your service to the town of Barnstable and for joining the County.

I recently -- one of the commissioners, Commissioner Cakounes put forth a budget message, and I hadn’t seen that in the past serving here and I thought it was a good message. It was pretty clear-cut; a lot of it was common sense.

Finance Director MARY McISAAC: Sure.

Mr. PRINCI: How would a message like that possibly help a finance director? Did you happen to see the message that --

Finance Director MARY McISAAC: I’ve reviewed the message. Leo and I have discussed it.

Mr. PRINCI: How would that either help or hurt a finance director in your position?

Finance Director MARY McISAAC: Well, I think that you look to your governing boards to get a message about what their concerns are in budgeting, what their goals and objectives are, and so what the budget message serves to do when it's written by your governing body is it gives you the guidelines for preparing the budget. There’s always key components about raises/no raises, whether there’s a hiring freeze or not a hiring freeze, or some particular project that is important to the community and is something that’s their primary goal.

And when you’re budgeting, your goal is to put together a financing scenario that you produce as your budget document that accomplishes the goals of the leadership and uses all the resources at hand to be able to accomplish all your goals as much as possible. And we all know balancing a budget nowadays is tricky-at-best sometimes.

But the message clearly gives you sort of marching orders. So it’s important from that perspective to be able to have that message.

Mr. PRINCI: Thank you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, Leo, I don’t want to be the -- I know this is supposed to be a happy occasion but I’m going to ask the questions anyways; okay?

There’s somebody missing at that table. The person that’s missing is the one who’s going to be running the County as the Chief Executive. I know you refer to talking, you know, in Pat’s question you say, “Well, we’re going to be talking to my governing board.” Well, we also have a manager, theoretically, who’s going to be in charge of all the agencies, all the divisions of County government.

I presume that you’re going to continue to hire -- I mean you hired Mary McIssac and you’re hiring, eventually, the County Administrator/County Manager. Have you figured out an organizational chart that’s going to make sense of all this?

Commissioner CAKOUNES: I don't have a problem with the organizational chart that’s in the Charter, personally, and I think that I will continue to follow the Charter the way it is until there are some substantial changes to it.

We have, and I speak as the County Commissioners, I was not on the County Commissioners when this action was taken, but the County Commissioners have voted to extend authority to the administrative body for the day-to-day operations of our organization here doing all the firing and hiring.

Quite frankly, Ms. McIssac’s hiring is a perfect example of that. The Commissioners
were not and did not see all the applicants. They did not review all the résumés. We left it --
that as a directive to our County Administrator, and I believe Bob helped him out.
Interim Finance Director LAWTON: Yes, sir.
Commissioner CAKOUNES: You put together a small team and he did the hiring. So, yes, we are moving forward to hiring an Administrator, and, quite frankly, I don’t see the
need for, nor would I want to suggest that we waste any time at all in trying to rewrite the
Charter at this time. There are far too many other important things facing us here at the
County for the new Administrator.
Speaker BERGSTROM: Well, that’s the answer I wanted to hear. So you didn’t
directly hire Mary. It was done by the Administrator.
Commissioner CAKOUNES: No. It was done by the Administrator. Action was
taken a number of years ago where a vote of the Commissioners to actually delegate
authority to the Administrator. And if you look at our budget -- not our budget, I’m sorry,
our agenda, you will see that there’s also authority to spend up to $25,000 without even
consulting us nor having an affirmative vote or action taken. We just want to see what's
going on.
And then there’s an over $25,000 that can be done but it requires a ratification vote of
the Commissioners to kind of approve that action.
So I’m thinking that that’s going to continue because I don’t see any change coming
down the pike.
Speaker BERGSTROM: Thank you. That's what I wanted to hear.
Commissioner CAKOUNES: And if I may just give a real slight update on the
process for the Administrator too?
Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes.
Commissioner CAKOUNES: Because I think that might be important. We found out
today that the search committee has completed their interviews and is coming forth with a
group of candidates. I do not know whether it's two or three or four. I do know, however,
that those finalists are going to go through a background check through our -- the Collins
Group that is handling the whole process for us.
Once they are approved and have gone through that background check, then those
names will be made public. We’re assuming at this point that we’re probably going to hear
those names on the 28th of October. And at the time, it will be the due diligence of the three
County Commissioners to put together some kind of an interview process which will be open
and public so that we can pick our new Administrator.
Speaker BERGSTROM: Excellent. Yes, Ed.
Mr. MCMANUS: I want to welcome Mary.
Finance Director MARY McISAAC: Thank you.
Mr. MCMANUS: It will be fun working with you again. Her past history in Harwich
I think tells me that the County will be very well served, and I want to welcome you here.
Finance Director MARY McISAAC: Thank you.
Mr. MCMANUS: As to the question of the budget message that Pat brought up, you
know, budget messages at least in my town has been a routine thing that the Board of
Selectmen do to begin the budget season. It’s actually required by our Charter.
And in the process of adopting our town budget, the sort of final set of priority
directions is given at Town Meeting. And to the extent that Town Meeting disagrees with the Selectmen and the Finance Committee indicates how messy Town Meeting can get.

As the legislative body of Barnstable County, rather than waiting for the end of the budget process to make our priorities known, it might be warrant of this body to look at developing a budget message process of our own to identify any priorities we have.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: I would like to second that in terms of the County Commissioners have put forward the draft budget message or policy, whatever, that they will be voting on.

But I think this body because it is responsible for passing the budget has in the last few years, I think, taken a great deal of interest in having information and working together to understand things, to get things because sometimes the schedule is so tight, we’re feeling a little pushed. So you may hear from the County not in terms -- or the Assembly rather, not in terms of being dissatisfied but just trying to improve on the last few years of trying to get our heads around something that we’re responsible for that we really need to take a good look at.

So, we welcome you. As I recall, your position was kind of created because the Assembly wanted more information on finances and our previous Administrator was doing both the administration and finances and sometimes just wasn't available.

So I think you will be well-served and very welcome here.

Finance Director MARY McISAAC: Thank you.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Thank you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, John.

Mr. OHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome again, Mary. You know, even people with vast experience in municipal government like you have still have a steep learning curve because the arcane nature of County government. Have you got a path to success that’s been handed to you from Mr. Lawton or others that would help you on that journey?

Finance Director MARY McISAAC: Well, interestingly enough, I worked in the Department of Revenue when they actually had a County section and I worked there.

Mr. OHMAN: Oh.

Finance Director MARY McISAAC: So when I was auditing cities and towns in Massachusetts and preparing financial statements, I was also working in the County section, some of my time in Boston, when they actually had counties all across Massachusetts and the County form of government was alive and well across the state.

So I’m not unfamiliar with County work or the laws that govern counties.

Mr. OHMAN: That's good.

Finance Director MARY McISAAC: Thank you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Thank you.

Mr. MCMANUS: Nobody's happier than Bob.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: He's not gone yet.

Communications from Cooperative Extension Director Bill Clark

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Next on our agenda is communications from
Cooperative Extension Director Bill Clark concerning update and status on Agriculture Research Corporation.

I asked Bill to come in because this was quite an effort on his part and there was a vote on us and not without controversy and it’s been quite a few months now. The dust is settled so we'll find out exactly where we stand.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Thank you. Thank you for inviting me to update you. And I know we had several meetings. It’s still not on? All right. I’ll start over again. Sorry about that, folks.

Thank you for inviting me. I know we had several meetings in the spring through the budget process where I discussed this project, so forgive me if I'm repeating some of the things that we said at the time.

But a lot has happened since I last saw you all and it's good. So, I thought I’ll just give you a quick overview and, again, some of it might be repetitious.

So, for those who haven't been to the ARC facility, here’s a picture that was taken from a drone. And I'll head over here. This is only a small section of it. It's actually almost 40 acres --

Speaker BERGSTROM: Bill, you’ve got to speak into the mic. This is televised and we can’t hear you.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Well, all right, here we go again. It’s a small piece of the property; its 39.7 acres. What’s in the picture there is roughly probably around four of the 39.7 acres is where the actual operation is.

Since we met late June, there was a conservation restriction placed on the entire parcel and that’s where the money went, the public money. And this was preserved in perpetuity.

Now, it gets a little more complicated at this point. We had 29 acres were transferred to the town of Dennis where it’s for conservation only. The remaining 10.5 or so acres, the only allowable use is aquaculture, research, and education. So, otherwise, it's also preserved in perpetuity.

So that's the parameters and it's been done; it’s been transferred and paid for, and the property is now preserved in perpetuity.

If we go to the next slide, here we go, you have a copy of this and I thought you’d get a kick out of this actually. I had the privilege to work with a group of folks from around the Cape, public officials from a variety of towns, private sector, fisherman, shell fishermen, Land Trust folks and all, and we have a working document where we were updating as we met. You may know Mark Robinson from the Compact of Land Trust; he actually kept this document and updated us as we went along. Any land deal when you’re buying property is complicated. But this one was extremely complicated but it got done. And it just shows you it was truly a regional effort. It was the public sector working with the private sector. All the good clichés, it was definitely a public/private-entity project here.

Also, we had industry working with environmental groups so there was a lot of interest here.

Just to give you the highlights, the conservation restriction was purchased for 3 million. The appraisals were 3.4 million to 3.45 million. Those were the two appraisals that were done. So we got a price of 3 million. Half of that roughly came from the state from the
Environmental Bond Bill. The County, as you know, contributed $250,000. The town of Dennis through the CPC and Town Meeting and all appropriated $400,000. The Town of Yarmouth, $200,000. The Dennis Land Trust, $325,000.

And just so you know how regional this is, the Brewster Land Trust contributed $50,000 to the Dennis Land Trust and the Harwich Land Trust contributed 15 to the Dennis Land Trust because those folks thought it was such an important project. And then the Nature Conservancy provided $250,000.

So this was truly a regional effort to get the conservation restriction in place. There was also some tax benefits here for the owner that were factored into the purchase price. So that took place in late June.

At some point in, I believe, late July or early August there was a transfer of ownership from the three current owners to a new board. There was a Board of Directors developed and private money was raised. The Cape Cod Fishermen’s Association, formerly the Hookers’ Association, now the Fish Alliance contributed $250,000. And then there was a lot of individuals who came to the table with -- to buy shares. And at this point about a million six was raised to get the new operation going.

Also, the building -- I’ll have to go back to the building -- the main hatchery in the middle has been raised. If you went out there today, you wouldn’t see the buildings. The footings have been poured, and the new facility will be under construction. We’re hoping it’s completed by January so we don’t miss a season. The hope is that the production will double. As you know from my presentation before, it’s the only commercial hatchery in Massachusetts. We’re hoping to double production.

Also, just so you know, oyster value has doubled in the last two years. We have 242 shellfish farms on the Cape. Most of the oysters come from farms, and their value went from about 9-1/2 million farm gate to over 19 million in two years. That’s just farm gate value. You can multiply that, depending upon what economist you talk to, two or three times to get the economic value. They raise quahogs; they raise -- they spawn scallops, razor clams, etcetera, as well. And this is an export for Cape Cod. They go off-Cape every day.

I had some business in Boston last week and I saw some trucks coming back and they are being sent off to San Francisco, St. Louis, you name it. So not many products we export from the Cape and this is one.

And, also, another benefit with our wastewater issues and nitrogen issues in our estuaries, there’s a lot of shellfish being used to clean up the water. Oysters put about 50 gallons of water through their body every day. As they do, they clean out the nitrogen for their own tissue, like we need nitrogen for our tissues. And it helps solve that problem. Just a piece of the puzzle.

So, I think that's it. Just to give you an idea, I think I’ve mentioned these numbers before but just in case I didn't, conservatively we’re looking at 1,600 jobs, which is big for Cape Cod standards. This 1,600 people depend on this facility for their livelihood. And it's a way of life on Cape Cod to shellfish. Around 17,000 licenses, private homeowner licenses, are sold annually on the Cape. We get the records from all the towns. So it's roughly in the 17,000 range. So people enjoy scratching for clams on a weekend or whatever and that’s a way of life.

So, that's the update. Just keep your fingers crossed that we have good weather so
that the facility is constructed and they’re up and running.

Just the other piece is the owners have a contract with the new owners to stay on for a succession plan and share their knowledge, and we’re hoping to get some research facilities, folks there from universities to study problems that occur with shellfish culture.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Thanks. Suzanne.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Yes. I think this was a masterful pulling together of over a dozen different entities, and I think that everyone wins on this.

I’m bringing forward something that I think is a shadow over this.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Okay.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: When the ARC was privately owned and there were issues with wind turbines and abutters and there were court cases. As you know -- and also the Old Kings Highway in Dennis and the Regional Old Kings Highway were involved. And I’m not going to get into details because I’m not a hundred percent square on some of those details.

But I will tell you last week the town of Dennis was in court over abutters and visual abutter issues with this property stating that the ARC is still a hundred percent behind this lawsuit and that the holders of the conservation restriction are aware of it.

Now the County and the town of Yarmouth, two things that I'm aware of, were I don’t think are necessarily the way that this litigation or the appeal was going forward. I know that the owners of -- the new owners have put forward that they are not in support of this, and I’ve heard directly from people who were in the courtroom last week that the town of Dennis lawyer did present this.

So I guess I want to know why things are being appealed in a fashion that does not jive with the way things are today. All this work was to move ARC into a new business, and I don’t know how the new business can be party to an old lawsuit because it's different owners.

Mr. BILL CLARK: That's correct. I am not familiar with why the town of Dennis has pursued this. I don't know. All I know is that the conservation restriction that you signed -- the County signed and the town of Dennis signed and the town of Yarmouth signed it specifically states, “No turbines.”

Ms. MCAULIFFE: But they are presenting that if you can get everyone to agree that can be reversed. Now I don’t think that will ever happen.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Right. Yes.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: But I'm saying it’s still going on, and I think enough is enough. This is too hard a battle to have won to have controversy and negativity swirling around. And I just want you to be aware of that because I hope that things like this happen in the future.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Right.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: And if there’s going to be little political problems with them, you may have a hard time. So I just want you to be aware of it. I don’t think there’s anything you can do to fix it.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Right.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: But people need to know that all this really spectacular work still has some controversy swirling around it.

Mr. BILL CLARK: But you are correct that if anything changes from the
conservation restriction, the County, the two towns and the Dennis Land Trust that are all written in there, they’d have to agree to those terms. And then I think it has to go up to Boston to the Legislature.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Yes.

Mr. BILL CLARK: I’m not really sure what happens when it goes over the bridge but there’s a step up there. So I guess it’s possible to change the terms of the restriction but very difficult.

Speaker BERGSTROM: John.

Mr. OHMAN: I think I can enlighten a little bit on this; I’m not a lawyer, but I think it’s the visual abutter in the original case is appealing the ruling that went in favor of the town of Dennis. The Town of Dennis isn’t initiating any new actions defending itself against an appeal.

And the larger issue is not about the present condition of the contract of no turbines; that’s a well and done issue. But in the future, the town of Dennis is concerned that any person can come up with a visual abutter -- become a visual abutter. You might say, “Tear down the Provincetown Tower. I can see it from my house.” It may have standing in court. So it’s a larger issue. It’s not about the ARC decision any longer, and I don’t think anyone -- everyone is settled on no -- there has been other solutions.

But it’s a larger issue, and it’s not the town of Dennis initiating the action, they’re defending the visual abutters appeal.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Got it. Okay.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Well, actually, it’s reversed, I believe. The visual abutter was found to have standing, and now the town of Dennis is trying to say that they shouldn't for all the reasons that John just said. You know, “Where are your visual abutters?”

At any rate, it’s complicated but I just -- my only comment was there are things that ARC is being mentioned in court as supporting and they’re being represented as supporting, and I don't know how that comes about.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, Ed.

Mr. MCMANUS: One last piece of information. If it was to make it to the state legislature to change the conservation restriction, it would take a three-quarters vote of both houses in the legislature.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Okay. So it is possible but it’s very difficult.

Mr. MCMANUS: The standard is high.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Well, it would seem from what John has said that the issue is not wind turbines or whatever. The issue is an individual standing and claiming to be a visual abutter saying if I can see your house and I don’t like the color you paint it, I have standing to go to court and say, you know, -- I understand it. It seems to me that the court case is divorced from the actual physical -- what's going on there as a matter -- it’s a legalism. Do you have standing? If you can see something, are you an abutter? That’s the question.

And if this person succeeds in saying that, you can imagine what the ramifications would be for any town doing anything. You know, you can do something two miles away and put up a cell tower and say, “Well, I’m an abutter because I can see it.”

So I don’t think -- I appreciate that you don’t want this whole thing wrapped up in
court. But I agree with Bill and John that I don’t think it has anything to do with what goes on at ARC or the property.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: No, but, excuse me, but then they should not be -- the lawyer should not be quoting, and I will quote that, “The ARC is in support of the town of Dennis.” The ARC should be not part of anything or anybody's position. I’m not talking about the position of whether someone has a right or not. I'm just saying that old names and entities are being used in a way now that they don't have -- they're a different -- ARC is different now than it was in June.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Well -- yes, Leo.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: I actually have a question for Bill on the whole point of clarification because I think I heard someone, and I believe it might have been the Delegate from Yarmouth, state that now that this is no longer privately owned, please understand, Bill, and correct me if I'm wrong, it is privately owned. Okay. There is no governmental agency apart of ARC. They are private individuals.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Right.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: They own a piece of land, 10 acres plus or minus, which has a conservation restriction on it. But no government entity is going to take a stand to tell a private person what they should or shouldn’t believe in any instances. These are private individuals who own a piece of land that happens to have a restriction on it.

Mr. BILL CLARK: That's correct.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: The town of Dennis owns the remaining 30 acres.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Right.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: And that also has a restriction on it. But is that true?

Mr. BILL CLARK: It's not public. It never was publicly owned and it isn’t currently -- isn’t right now.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Can I have one other follow-up?

Speaker BERGSTROM: Go ahead, Leo.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Thank you. I find myself in an interesting position and I know all of you have heard this before, I’m proud of the fact that when I was an Assembly of Delegates member, I made the initial motion to instruct Bill to go forward and try to put together a deal to put this together. I was in support of it. Ironically, I was even in support of it when I voted against the County putting up $250,000 to be a part of it not because of the validity of the project; only because of the financial situation of Barnstable County.

One other thing that you guys all have to remember and hopefully if, certainly if I had my way, you may be seeing some creative financing ways coming forward from the County to deal with their part, that $250,000. Because, again, unlike a municipality where once we put something out for a bond, we put it out for a 2-1/2 override and you don’t have to worry because the tax payers are just going to be charged a little bit more, and that kind of is off our books. That’s now how it works here at the County. Anything that we bond, we will be looking at future bonding expense money, somewhere in the neighborhood of 25 to $27,000 for this particular item.

And I think we -- this is something that we’re going to have to look at, not in conjunction with the purchase or what's going on, but as we talked about finances earlier, this
is one of those items that I think is going to be reoccurring.

Thank you for your time.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, on a lighter note, I ran into one of my shellfish buddies at the supermarket and he said, “Get down to the harbor because the shellfish warden, Renee Gagne, was distributing the oysters that they had grown in their upweller” -- actually cages from the upweller. And the beginning of that process was the stuff that they purchased from ARC maybe several years ago. It’s put into an upweller, grown to a certain size; it’s put out into the field in cages to protect it. And now, as the water gets colder, it’s distributed out to the field, if you want. And many retired persons goes down there with their basket and they collect a bucket of oysters. They pay a minimal amount for a license. You can actually get a license if you’re a nonresident but we charge you as much as we possibly can to do that.

So there are a lot of people who benefit from this. And you were right, Bill, when you said that shellfishing and even people who are not in the industry but just gather their own shellfish and we have a grow-out area specifically for family permits that, I, as a commercial shellfishermen, I’m not allowed to go there but you see people there every day during the summer. You see people there with their pails and buckets and they go in and they bring their children or grandchildren, whoever’s on their license. So it's really a way of life.

And this facility, I know I’m repeating what I said several months ago, this facility is beginning of that stage for just about everyone; it's a big benefit.

Mr. BILL CLARK: And just as a follow-up to your comment about your shellfish warden, all the shellfish wardens on the Cape, all 15 towns, get their seeds through the County bid process.

We petitioned the state for funds, and if you hadn’t heard this, we have a contract this year for $58,000 that we received through the efforts of Senator Wolf and other legislative delegation on the Cape. And we have $58,000 plus I have some money in my budget which we add to that, and the towns match it and we go out to bid to get the best price.

Other hatcheries from other states have bid in the past. Although, the last couple years ARC was the only bidder. But we do go out to bid to get the best price for the towns. So each town tells us what they want.

And what you were seeing at the dock in Chatham is probably two years ago our bid process because it takes about 18 to 24 months for them to mature.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Well thank you, very much, Bill.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Okay. My pleasure. I’d like to introduce the next speaker, if I could, Mr. Chairman?

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Michael Maguire will be talking to you about our hazardous waste program. Michael’s a Deputy Director of the Cooperative Extension. He also heads up the hazardous waste program for the County. And he’ll be giving you an overview of all the projects that he administers, as well as all the collections in all your towns.

Communications from Cooperative Extension Deputy Director Michael Maguire

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: Good afternoon. How you guys doing?
Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: Well, I'm here to talk to you about hazardous waste. So, it won’t be as complicated as that chart that Bill just supplied. I got a real kick out of that one when you were putting the presentation together.

So the picture right there is the household hazardous waste collection. I operate this year’s 24 hazardous waste collections for the 15 towns in Barnstable County. I'm going to talk to you about the program area that I manage and some of the programs that we operate.

One of the points of doing this is I want to make sure that all of you understand exactly what I'm doing and what the County’s doing, and why we’re doing it. And, hopefully, we can spread the word throughout your communities. We do a lot of -- the goal of what we’re trying to do is protect our groundwater.

So the reason we’re collecting hazardous waste, of course, is to protect our environment and human health, and we do that primarily through education. So we’re doing preventative measures to make sure the folks understand the dangers of products they commonly encounter in their households. And then through collection services which is physically going out and collecting these products.

So as you can imagine, hazardous waste is very expensive to handle, to deal with. There’s a lot of permits. There’s a lot of expertise that needs to go into handling the treatment of hazardous waste.

So as a County service, as a regional service, I’m the one that gets to put together all the events actually with Elaine Davis, our Procurement Officer at the County, we go out for a regional bid for all 15 towns. We get the best price possible. For the past decade and a half, we beat the state contract bid pricing. So we’re getting the cheapest bid possible and making sure that the company that wins the award is property vetted and has all the licensing and permits and what not.

I’m going to go and skip to the focus areas of what predominantly what I deal with on a regular basis. So, like I said, we have 24 household hazardous waste collection events. I also collect mercury-containing items: thermostats, thermometers, blood pressure gauges.

So mercury, as most people know, is a neurotoxin, Mad Hatters Disease is the older term for mercury poisoning. There’s a whole story behind that.

But to give you an idea of how successful this mercury collection program is each year Cape Cod, through our program, collects between a quarter and a third of all the mercury collected residentially in the state. And the reason that’s happening is because of our very aggressive and intricate outreach program. We’re reaching out to marinas and to plumbing and heating supply companies and any place that would be dealing with mercury-containing devices. And, typically, that's thermostats or occasionally some medical devices or thermometers.

It's been a great success. We've got a lot of awards for it. But the bottom line is more needs to be done across the state and our program is often used as a model for other communities.

Actually, we just had a documentary done on our program that’s going to be distributed to other communities throughout the Commonwealth to try to encourage them to do what we’re doing here.

The Sharps Collection Program, CMR 480 is essentially an unfunded mandate by the
state that says that every municipality in the Commonwealth needs to provide an option for used in-home generated sharps or needles to provide an option to residents and homeowners in each community to have a place to dispose of those sharps. And the issue with needles, it’s obviously a public safety hazard. We’ve worked with Barnstable County Health and Environment. They do trainings for municipal employees. So if a municipal employee gets stuck with a needle, it’s at least $25,000 in health care costs. Hep C can live three weeks outside of the body. So we’re always concerned about sharps.

And I think most people are going to be thinking about the opiate epidemic, heroin epidemic in our community. Of course, that is certainly an issue. We’ve done a lot of different outreach to municipalities to assist them with collecting needles. But what we do as a County is we go out and actually purchase all the sharps containers directly from the manufacturer. We get them at about a third of the cost that you would have to if you were buying them retail or purchasing them at better than wholesale prices. Putting them in 18 different locations across the County. Residents can go out and pick up free containers, put their sharps in them. Typically, its 90 -- we think about 90 percent of the uses from people are doing in-home treatment of diabetes.

So those sharps are collected typically at a fire department. They’re put in a box. We do a milk run. We go out to each of the places, aggregate all the boxes, and we dispose of them for about $16 a box compared to 45 to 60 depending on which vendor you use. So there’s a tremendous cost savings. The County does pay for the disposal of the used sharps as well. So that's another regional project.

You can see the second picture over is Kalliope who works for us. She’s at COMM Fire Department and talking with one of their EMTs there.

We have road and marine flare collection program. Road flares and marine flares contain perchlorate which is a thyroid-inhibiting substance. I think many of us are aware of the issues that we’ve had at the Fire Training Academy years ago with perchlorate contamination. I think the Harwich fireworks at the Cranberry Fest they stopped doing the fireworks there because of perchlorate concerns.

So the issue with road and marine flares is that they -- especially marine flares required for ocean-going vessels 16 feet and over and they expire after 42 months. So we generate a ton of flares. And if we don’t give people an option for disposal and they sit, one flare can contaminate 1.3 million gallons of drinking water.

So in our community, I actually went and did a presentation four years ago in California on our collection program and coastal communities -- communities with sole source aquifers like ours are very interested in this program because just a small barrel of improperly stored flares that gets rain water in them and overflows can contaminate a well and fail a well. And you’re looking at three-quarters to a million dollars in treatment costs.

So we don't spend that much. Somewhere between three and $5,000 a year for disposal. It's a good investment for us.

And when we’re going out and picking up the sharps containers we can also, do on the same milk run, pickup flares from the fire departments.

We have at least 15; I think it’s closer to 20 flare drop off locations. Most people bring them in the fire departments where they’re aggregated and then we collect them and have them properly disposed of.
Unwanted medication disposal is another program that we operate, and that's -- it’s actually operated by the towns. I can't operate that because of control substances coming in, but we've worked with the police departments.

We’re the only County in the Commonwealth that has a drop box in every police department lobby on the Cape. It’s a tremendous program. It gives residents an option to take their unwanted medications and drop them off at the police department. There are a lot of rules surrounding that, so each of the police departments often call me or Kalliope so we can help them with technical assistance.

And then WET festivals. This was a program originally started with the Cape Cod Commission, Gab Belfort, Gabriel Belfort did this. AmeriCorps Cape Cod actually operates this. We’re the administrator of it. We have 20 different education stations or water festivals that go into almost every elementary school on the Cape. We’re educating about 2,000 fourth to sixth graders a year with hands-on learning activities all about how to protect our environment and protect water in our region. They’re region-specific activities.

The kids love them. You can’t really see it that well but that’s a giant toilet that the kids are climbing through. They’re learning how septic systems work. One of the AmeriCorps members is dressed up in a toilet costume, so you can see toilet humor is very effective with fourth to sixth graders.

It’s a great program and there’s a huge demand, high demand, every elementary school loves to have it. And the kids get to have an education opportunity that meets MCAS or the newer standards, common core standards. So that's been a great success.

And the last thing I want to touch on is municipal and solid waste recycling. So through our office we apply to MassDEP through Dave Quinn who is here. Dave is almost completely funded by MassDEP, but he works out of our department, and he is a -- they call him a Municipal Assistance Coordinator. His job is specifically to help towns deal with solid waste and recycling. He runs all the -- he can run all the economics for anything from Pay-as-you-Throw to commercial scale composting, other issues that come up in towns. Dave is a wealth of information. For anybody who has dealt with solid waste in your town in the past few years, Dave’s probably consulted for you.

So, this is -- I’m sorry about the font on this. I did print this out, and you should have a handout that shows you -- this is kind of like what I have I done for you lately in your town, so if you want to ask about any of these numbers.

One of the big numbers that sticks out if you look in the yellow where it says “Household Hazardous Waste” at the very bottom, 339,000 pounds of household hazardous waste collected in one year. So we’re looking at 170 tons of HHW, of stuff that didn’t get into our ground water that we diverted. That’s a huge success. That number, it's growing about five percent each year.

The number of participants is outstanding; 6,139 between the 15 towns. So if you think we have 215,000 year-round residents and we’re getting 6,000 people to come in one year. How often do you clean out your garage? Once maybe every 10 years. We’re getting a large portion of our population to participate in these collections. So it's great. We have great buy-in. We are doing this regionally, having the resource where they can call our office and I can answer all the questions. How do I get rid of a microwave? Or I just took pesticide and sprayed it on a glue mouse trap and put it in my refrigerator, what do I do? There’s
always something. I have radioactive rocks from New Mexico that my uncle collected that actually happened, in a lead box.

So we get all the obscured questions coming in, but at least they have a resource here, a regional resource. They have a local expert where I can help out everyone that has the immediate needs when they’re moving, and we make sure that we get all the waste in and it’s not being dumped in the conservation area or placed in the trash.

Actually, I think in Bourne a few weeks ago, there was a garbage truck fire as a result of someone putting cleaning agents altogether and there was a reaction. So we want to make sure that we minimize all those exposures.

So here are the highlights. Last year, 23 collections, 6,100 participants, 170 tons. And we do -- except for the central Cape where Dennis, Barnstable, and Yarmouth, there’s so many participants that come to those collections, we can’t combine with other towns because we wouldn’t be able to get people through the line efficiently. Most other collections are regional.

So if you live on the Outer Cape, you can go to Provincetown, Truro, or Wellfleet collections. They’re all reciprocal with each other. I keep track of the number of vehicles that come in and the amount of waste and we break up the bill that way.

It’s been a great success. We’ve had -- we get a lot of pats on the back, but the bigger -- I think the bigger accomplishment is seeing all this waste being diverted.

So, let’s see. I talked to you a little bit about Dave. If you have very specific questions about recycling or smart or pay-as-you-throw, Dave’s the expert in that. And Dave does the -- the beautiful thing about having Dave in our office is he is the direct line to MassDEP. If your town’s having an issue, a solid waste issue, you can call Dave and he can communicate with the powers to be at the state and get things done. So his contact information is at the end of this presentation as well.

I did want to mention Dave has a workshop, it's October 27; is that right, Dave?

Mr. DAVID QUINN: Yes, that’s right.

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: October 27 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in the Harborview room. And Dave’s going to be talking about the recycling markets and what's happening. All the commodities kind of took a nosedive at the same time. The New York Times just ran a big article on it. And these commodities are notoriously volatile. So we’re looking at -- we want to make sure that all municipal officials have the opportunity to come in and go to this. Certainly all staff can come to this from your towns and also elected officials just to understand the markets, understand where they are, and bring in the regional experts to talk about it from the industry and from outside. So we encourage you to come to that.

And Dave’s also -- there’s a handout with -- on the top it says, “MassDEP Sustainable Material Recovery Program” or SMRP, Smurf, SMRP Grant Request. So the first column -- do I have that up here? Okay.

So the first green column, you can see Dave assisted the towns with applications for recycling dividend programs. So $53,800 came in through those grants. Then another 11 thousand and change came in from the small scale grants. That’s all in green. Those have been awarded to those towns.

And then if you look at Round 2 requests in tan you’ll see eight towns have applied to this carpet and mattress recycling grants. And that’s great. The state’s actually going to be
paying -- or if anybody -- I’m sure you’ve paid for disposing of a mattress; its 20 bucks or more. The state’s actually going to subsidize the disposal of mattresses to try to get a recycling facility -- to get enough mattresses to come in to get a recycling facility established in the Commonwealth.

So a bunch of our towns are probably going to be the recipients of those awards. We don't know when they’re going to -- the next few months they should be -- I guess the end of October he’s saying. But, in any case, that should be a great cost savings. You’re going to see a lot of happy residents who get to get rid of their mattresses for free, hopefully, through this grant program for at least two years.

There are some other large-scale grants that were also applied for, but Dave’s been integral in working with the towns on those.

So if you have any questions about hazardous waste, solid waste, Dave and I would be the folks to talk to and Kalliope, but she’s not here today. She works with us.

That’s my contact information and Dave’s.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Brian.

Mr. O’MALLEY: Mr. Maguire, thank you. This is a great presentation, and I think this is really one of the most key critical programs that goes on here given our sole source aquifer and our dependence on our groundwater. There’s nothing more important than keeping crap out of it because its way cheaper to keep it -- as expensive as it is, it’s cheaper than trying to recover the water afterwards.

I can remember back in the early 90s, really before recycling, Provincetown Board of Health for years, and we were plagued with complaints about how one of the conservation areas out at Clapps Pond was always filthy and there was stuff thrown around, people disposing of stuff.

And I remember the perspective we took which was, “If you don’t give people a way to get rid of it properly, they’re going to chuck it away in the woods. What do you expect?”

So what you’ve done is remarkable and the scope of it is big, and I see that it’s still going on. For instance, the mattresses and the carpets. I know I’ve been to my town DPW and said, “What do we do with carpets?” They won’t take it. They won’t take it. They actually said to me, on the slide, “Cut the carpets up and throw them in the trash.”

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: I mean we’re at that point.

Mr. O’MALLEY: That’s really not the answer.

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: And that’s the nice thing is having Dave here and having other municipal assistance coordinators, it’s a two-way street now. We can communicate to the state and tell them what our problems are. We know, you know, obviously, mattress, carpets, a bunch of other things are problems, and they will work on it for us.

Mr. O’MALLEY: It creates channel flow. That’s great. I actually have a question.

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: Sure.

Mr. O’MALLEY: Do the towns pay any of the cost of these collections?

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: The towns pay the disposal cost. So if they’re not, you know, they’re not paying our staff time. They’re not paying for -- we do the advertising. Actually, Covanta SEMASS, they had 15 -- 14 of the towns trash and now they have 7 of the towns trash. But there’s still paying for the advertising for the brochures that get mailed out
for the households, the majority of it.

But as far as the way that the physical stuff that’s collected that day, the towns pay the disposal cost.

Mr. O’MALLEY: Okay. So I went to -- we had a Provincetown one last Saturday.

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: Yes.

Mr. O’MALLEY: And I brought 5 empty gallons or gallons of old stain, shingle stain.

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: Yes.

Mr. O’MALLEY: Can you tell me approximately what it costs the town to get rid of that empty gallon or that full gallon?

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: Yes. I mean I’m going to give you general numbers, but it’s about, with the current pricing, it’s about $3 per gallon for flame liquid. So it depends. So if they poured it off and you only had 3 gallons, then they paid $9. If they, you know, if it was in a container that couldn’t be opened or poured off and it went into a cubic yard box, it would be like -- it still would be $3 but it would take up 5 gallons instead of three.

Mr. O’MALLEY: Okay. All right. That’s actually less than I thought the cost to the town. Thank you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: John.

Mr. OHMAN: Thank you, again, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I want to give a shout out to David Quinn. If anybody does not know him, he’s been instrumental in the success of our Pay-as-you-Throw Committee and process of going to Town Meeting recently.

And I wanted to also say that he’s an AmeriCorps grad. So he’s a young person that’s actually landed here on a permanent basis. What year were you, Dave?

Mr. DAVID QUINN: Nine -- so that’s 2007.

Mr. OHMAN: 2007.

Mr. BILL CLARK: Michael was too.

Mr. OHMAN: Michael?

Mr. BILL CLARK: Yes.

Mr. OHMAN: Wow. So I just think that that's great that we’ve gotten actual young people with real careers here, and I just wanted to let the committee know that.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay.

Mr. BILL CLARK: If I could just follow up on Dr. O’Malley’s --

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes.

Mr. BILL CLARK: -- quickly first? Regarding costs, the towns pay to have their hazardous waste disposed of. However, the County’s cost is Mike's time, Dave’s time like any other. We have a small amount of money in our contractual line where we hire contractors, a small amount of money, where they come, they’re trained, and they help out at the collection.

So when you went through the line at your collection, you saw people there doing surveys and helping distribute. They were contractors we hired, and we have AmeriCorps members as well who show up at these. They’re trained; they show up, and they help us.

So we do all the logistics. Mike gets the bid processed and then hires the contractors, arranges the contractors. So we do all the logistics and show up and then coordinate it with
the different towns, generally the Board of Health and the DPWs.

Mr. O’MALLEY: It was very smooth. It went really smoothly.

Mr. BILL CLARK: We had some cold, wet people there Saturday morning too standing out there for three hours in the cold.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Let’s get off of this and on to something else. Julia.

Ms. TAYLOR: I just wanted -- I get the brochure in the mail. I like that. Is a year-long schedule on the County’s website of this? And if so, what do I press?

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: It is. It’s on the Cooperative Extension’s website under “Hazardous Waste.” What we do is we actually post a map so you can just click on your town or your region and it will tell you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Deborah.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Yes. They have recently been some rather large layoffs at DEP of senior staff, particularly in areas that are community-based efforts; how has that affected, if it has your ability to deliver the scope of services that you deliver?

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: That’s a great question because our primary contact I think was about within six months of being able to take that early retirement and it would have affected us. She’s still there, so we have a great -- we still have a great direct line of communication with them.

And they actually really appreciate local communities input and instead of them hearing from 15 different towns, it’s just them hearing directly from Dave is a very efficient manner for giving them that information. So it seems like we get a better response with them when Dave goes to them with a concern.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Can I just have a follow-up?

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: I’m not sure I understand your answer. You’re saying it’s more -- it’s easier to communicate with DEP because there are fewer of them?

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: Oh no, I’m sorry. So the folks that retired are hotlines - - the folks that retired were not the people that we deal with on a day-to-day basis so it did not affect us.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Oh, okay. Thank you.

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: Yes.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Linda and then Pat.

Ms. ZUERN: I’m just wondering where the products go to after you collect them, the mercury, and the needles; are they burned? Are they buried?

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: So every one of them is regulated a little differently. The needles actually go to an autoclaving facility in Maine. The company that we hired is actually out of New Hampshire. They’re the cheapest. They transport them up there and they’re melted and rendered safe.

The mercury goes to a facility in New Bedford where all the mercury is processed and recaptured and actually reused because they want to stop taking mercury out of the ground. They still use elemental mercury in fluorescent lightbulbs and other places. So it’s actually recycled.

And then the hazardous waste that’s collected the days of the events goes -- the vendor we use is Stericycle which is also called PSC and they’re in Rhode Island.
Some of the flammable liquid is fuel mixed, fuel blended and used to make energy. Some of it is repurposed. The gasoline can be refined if they pour off gasoline and reused. And then some of -- a lot of it is haz-waste incinerated at a special facility.

Ms. ZUERN: Thank you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Pat.

Mr. PRINCI: Just quickly because Mr. O'Malley touched on this. I've got to say it’s a seamless process. I mean the Barnstable recycling at the Barnstable Transfer Station, it’s a huge, huge place, and you pull up to that area and I just want to let residents know it might look intimidating but I’ve done it. I’m in and out of there within five minutes generally and it’s very well run. Thank you.

Because, otherwise, if it wasn’t well managed and well run for the drop-off, people wouldn’t have the time unfortunately. So thank you for that.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, I’ve had an opportunity to take advantage of this in Chatham, and, of course, I had a boat. I’ve got gasoline. Sometimes I pick up a container of gasoline and I say, “Now is this the 50 to 1 I mixed for my weed wacker or is this pure gas or is this the 40 to 1?” Since I have a doubt, I bring it to you guys to dispose of it.

And, of course, there’s fiberglass and there’s also some materials that people use in business and so on that has to be disposed of.

And if you're in a business, you, of course, probably have a procedure you follow to get rid of it, but individuals who deal with this don’t and it winds up in their garage or their basements.

But I noticed in crunching these numbers, there seems to be sort of a dichotomy in the town’s use of these opportunities. For instance, in Barnstable, Barnstable’s about, oh, a little over twice the size of Bourne, yet they have four times as much households participating, you know, or they have four times as much hazardous waste produced.

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: Because each town is paying for their waste disposal, it's up to the town to decide how many collections they want to have. The town of Barnstable has four collections each year. And the Upper Cape also has four collections but only one in each town. They’re reciprocal but it's more likely that Bourne residents would probably come to the Bourne collection than the other collections.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, well they have it on only one side of the bridge is that - - I'm serious.

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: No. So, I wanted to -- Bill touched on this -- I wanted to make sure that you do know that this is an opportunity for us to collect data. So every single person that comes in is asked a series of questions and we’re looking for trends. We try to figure out who’s coming to these collections, why are they coming, who are we missing? And, certainly, retired people are generally -- they do come. It’s a struggle to get younger families to come. And if we don’t keep it fast, then they’re not going to -- who wants to sit in line for an hour and a half with hazardous waste in their car on a beach day in July? We go to get them through.

Speaker BERGSTROM: So Chatham provided -- I see one of the numbers -- 522 handheld flares as opposed to let’s say 22 from Dennis. I assume -- what do they -- they pile them up and then one day they bring it in?

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: And it’s a product of marinas essentially probably
aggregating them from their customers and bringing them to the fire department.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Doc, you’re back.

Mr. O’MALLEY: Just to kind of follow-up on that question. I’m chagrined to see my town, Provincetown, with zero flares. Is this an anomaly? Is this this year? I mean we’re a big port; what’s going on?

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: No, no, no. I think what happens is we probably don’t get to Provincetown as often. So I would assume that if I looked at the 2013 or 2015 numbers, there’s quite a few that came in.

Mr. O’MALLEY: Okay.

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: It happened to be an anomaly that year.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Teresa.

Ms. MARTIN: Yes, I just want to add one thing. Thank you. I think most people want to do the right thing and don’t know how or what or where. And I think as you have said, you just sort of push it to the back of your shed somewhere.

And I would love to know the story behind some of these just because I had pictured these things sitting someplace else. So in Eastham, we had 25 pounds of mercury. That’s a little scary.

Mr. MICHAEL MAGUIRE: So this is a great story and I don’t want to take up all your time.

So, I get a call from a real estate agent that was in the attic of a house that had been sold and they were pitching things out of the second floor of a garage or a barn into a dumpster. And she was standing there on her cell phone and she called me and she said, “I’ve got this thing in my hand and it’s really heavy and I don’t know what it is and it’s liquid.” I was like, “Oh, does it look silver?” She said, “Yeah.” So she said, “It looks kind of like a long tube and there’s this thing.” I said, “I think it’s a home-made barometer. Can you take a picture on your cell phone and send it to me?” She said, “Yeah.”

And this is like a DEP massive response if it gets broken. I’m not telling her this. Okay. “Can you just put that down on the side of the garage.”

So to make a long story short, we had -- Covanta SEMASS has a mercury-separation program. They paid. They were great. They paid to come out to the residence and had this home-made barometer collected and disposed of.

So anything over a pound that’s spilled is an automatic DEP response. We’ve had high schools get shut down for barometers that break and have been anywhere between 50 and $400,000 in clean up if it gets spilled everywhere.

This is the kind of thing that could, well, not only ruin the real estate sale but put somebody in financial hardship if it was ever broken.

So it’s great. She had the forethought to call and so that -- you would have had .8 that year, but we got a 25 pound barometer in.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Well, thank you, very much, and, obviously, another valuable service that we perform here.

Mr. BILL CLARK: If I can just add to that, you can see we’re on the frontlines. Over 6,000 people were served by Barnstable County, and I think every person that comes through we tell them, “This is your County at work.”

Not to mention all the background work with the towns before we get there. So just
thought I’d throw that out because it's good for the County to get some recognition and some press that we are doing these things.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Thank you.
Okay. Do we have any Communications from Public Officials?
Do we have any Communications from Members of the Public? Hearing none.

Assembly Convenes

Speaker BERGSTROM: The Assembly will now convene.
Do we have any committee reports? No, we don't have any committee reports.
Report from the Clerk.

Report from the Clerk

Clerk O’CONNELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder of what will be coming up for the next Assembly meeting. The Assembly will be voting on the Proposed Ordinance that the Finance Committee reviewed today, a very important Proposed Ordinance because it's for a copier for the Assembly.
In addition to that, on the agenda there will also be the Proposed Resolution that was submitted today. That does not require a public hearing, so that will be placed on the agenda, and that was for the transfer for Children's Cove.
And I am anticipating two committee meetings next week -- I’m sorry -- next Assembly meeting. One of them will be with Finance and I think that’s going to be at 3:45 p.m., and that’s for the Proposed Ordinance that was submitted today to rescind debt.
And I also heard from the chair of another committee -- I guess its Telecommunications and Energy and he would like to schedule a meeting that same day as well. I’m thinking that’s probably going to be at about 3 o'clock. So that's just a heads up.
And other than that, that's all I have to report.

Other Business

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Do we have any other business to be brought before the Assembly?
Ms. MARTIN: I have a question; is this the right time to ask it, but the meetings are taped, which is a beautiful thing. And a couple of our towns would always run them on their local stations and they haven’t been showing up on any of the sharing sites anymore, via the Commission or the Assembly.
So I had a couple people call me and ask if I could ask can we make sure this is getting on Mass. access so that members of our communities can easily see it on their local locations.
Speaker BERGSTROM: You mean somebody actually watches this?
Ms. MARTIN: Actually, they do. It’s weird. They do.
Speaker BERGSTROM: I’m only kidding. I’m only kidding.
Ms. MARTIN: No, but seriously, if I could sort of ask of you if that could get
reinstated on the sharing sites.

Speaker BERGSTROM: I will. Janice will contact the proper authorities and find out.

Clerk O'CONNELL: As a matter of fact, I had a community call today, but, unfortunately, they called the wrong office and they were looking for this information. It was the TV department in town X. And they wanted to know why they weren’t getting these videos any longer. And I said, “Gees, you need to call IT.”

Ms. MARTIN: They must've called me instead. That’s what happened. I’ve got several calls in the last few weeks.

Clerk O’CONNELL: No, I gave them the right phone number. So I presume that there must be some glitch or some issue with wherever this stuff is getting saved to, and I presume that it’s going to be corrected shortly but I will call and find out.

Speaker BERGSTROM: We’ll have an answer for you. Okay. Anything else?

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Motion to Adjourn.

Mr. OHMAN: Second.

Speaker BERGSTROM: All those in favor?

Whereupon, it was moved, seconded, and voted to adjourn the Assembly of Delegates at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janice O’Connell, Clerk
Assembly of Delegates

List of materials used at meeting:

- Proposed Ordinance - to rescind unissued County debt
- Proposed Resolution - Children’s Cove budget transfer
- Aquaculture Research Corporation Project process chart handout
- Cooperative Extension Hazardous Waste Program overview handout.PowerPoint