

**CAPE COD REGIONAL GOVERNMENT - ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES  
ASSEMBLY CHAMBER HALL  
FIRST DISTRICT COURTHOUSE  
ROUTE 6A, BARNSTABLE, MA 02630**

**APPROVED Journal of Proceedings - September 16, 2015**

Speaker BERGSTROM: Good afternoon. Welcome to the September 16<sup>th</sup> session of the Cape Cod Regional Government, Assembly of Delegates.

Is anyone recording this besides our normal recorder? Okay.

In that case, I will call this meeting to order. And we will 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), Marcia King (6.49% - Mashpee – left @ 5:35 p.m.), Edward Lewis (4.55% -Brewster), Teresa Martin (2.30% - Eastham), Suzanne McAuliffe (11.02% - Yarmouth), Deborah McCutcheon (0.93% - Truro), 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), Edward McManus (5.67% - Harwich – arrived @ 4:10 p.m.).**

Clerk O'CONNELL: Mr. Speaker, we have a quorum with 91.60 percent of the Delegates present; 8.40 percent absent.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Thank you. You have in front of you today's Calendar of Business. Are there any additions -- are there any changes in the Calendar? Hearing none. I need a motion.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Move the Calendar.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Moved and seconded. All those in favor? Opposed?  
(Motion carried.)

Speaker BERGSTROM: You should have received the journal of our last meeting, September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Are there any additions or corrections to the Journal?

Mr. O'MALLEY: Move to approve as distributed.

Mr. LEWIS: Second.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Moved and seconded. All those in favor? Opposed?  
(Motion carried.)

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. I have in anticipation of our budget process coming up after the first of the year, we're bringing in various department heads and so on to explain how their departments work, what services they provide, and how they're organized so that we don't have to try to do that in some short-term meeting in May.

So, today we have with us Beth Albert from the Human Services Department. Welcome, Beth.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: What about us?

Speaker BERGSTROM: Oh, wait a minute. Did I jump the Commissioners? They're here. Okay. I'm sorry. Please.

Communications from the Board of Regional Commissioners

Commissioner LYONS: Good afternoon. Thank you. I just want to give a report. I know you're going to be hearing from a lot of people here today. There are a lot of issues that are out in the community. You will have an update on SHINE, which is what you are to review today.

I will say that we did conduct an evaluation and in discussion with the Executive Director of the Cape Cod Commission today, we are reviewing contract and we did the evaluation. So that is a conversation that is ongoing, and when it's finalized, we will give you the details of that.

I then had to attend the Cape Light Compact meeting. What you can see if you looked at our agenda there was a presentation/discussion with Felicia Penn today about the Cape Cod Economic Development Council. And, actually, their response to a person's letter saying that, you know, not much is being done here and it was really, basically, pointing out things that have been done.

And there have been articles and a letter that was written by Felicia in response to that person so I'll be happy to give you that. It's attached to my minutes here.

And then today there was a discussion that Bob presented, and I wasn't there, so I cannot speak to that.

But also there was a discussion and request for support of CVEC of a one-cent adder to commence in FY17 to be added to the power purchase agreement costs for route one open PV Initiatives, and I believe that that was passed by both Commissioners. And they would've had an affirmative from me as well.

I do want to give a report from the Cape Light Compact. I did just attend that meeting. And just to let you know that back in August, I did attend a meeting with the Attorney General and members of the Cape Light Compact to discuss steps forward. And there was -- it was a disagreement between the Attorney General's Office and the DPU. There was a determination ruled by DPU that the one-cent mil adder was, indeed, a legal fee and not a tax.

And the Attorney General expressed to us that they agree with -- well, they're not going to dispute that opinion. As far as they're concerned, that is now a moot issue.

So, we did say, gee, it would be nice to have that and could you say that out loud. And in response to that, they sent a letter to Jeff, who is Jeff Bernstein who is the attorney for Cape Light Compact, but it was in response to our meeting. And it was a very productive meeting.

Basically, the reason I wanted to go there is that I wanted to state as the Commissioner, now liaison, that I am very adamant in requesting that all departments, including the Cape Light Compact, if there are issues, if there's going to be new initiatives, if there's going to be anything that they might have a question about might be the legality that we can call upon them. We want to have a new partnership with the Attorney General, one that's not contentious but more in a partnership and information sharing.

We're not trying to do anything behind anyone's back or just on our own, and we just want to make sure that we're always in compliance with the law. So it was a very positive meeting.

And I would like to read to you this letter. And I will give a copy to Janice. You can scan it and make sure that the members get it.

So this is from -- so it was stated to Jeff Bernstein: "Dear Jeff, this email follows the July 28 meeting between the Attorney General Healey and representatives of the Cape Light Compact, or the "Compact," as well as discussions you've had with the interim -- in the interim with Melissa Hoffer, Chief of the Energy and Environment Bureau, and Assistant Attorney General Nathan Forster.

At the July 28 meeting, the Compact explained that it sought a statement from the Attorney General's office that the Compact could share at a public board meeting to explain the AGO's perspective on past and current matters involving the AGO and the Compact.

You or the Executive Director or members of the Compact should feel free to use this email at the Compact's September 16 board meeting to reflect our recent discussions.

As you know, the Department of Public Utilities, "DPU, approved the Compact petition for approval of a revised Municipal Aggregation Plan in the Department of Public Utilities 4-19 (sic) that was done on May 1, 2015, and DPU 14-69 at the May 18, 2015, or the "Proceeding."

The AGO has elected not to appeal or otherwise pursue claims with respect to the proceeding in which the prior AGO alleged the Compact's assessment of an operational adder which generated revenue to fund certain Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative, Incorporated, renewable energy projects and to cover the costs of the Compact's attorneys' fees was unlawful.

Beyond that development, the AGO is, or the Attorney General's Office, is committed to developing a more direct and constructive relationship with the Compact to address any issues that may arise in the future with the respect to the Compact's power supply rates including in connection with the Inspector General's ongoing review of Compact's records.

In that vein, I understand that you and our office have had a productive discussion concerning the Compact making available publicly the terms of the Compact's Energy Supply Agreements. These are positive steps that will allow the Compact's customers to have a better understanding of their rates.

We look forward to continuing our dialogue with you on these and other issues that may arise. This email is designed to reflect the Attorney General -- Attorney General's Office discussions with the Cape Light Compact in recent months.

Please feel free to share this email with the Compact's board members or make it part of the board's record as the Compact sees fit. And please feel free to call me with any questions. Sincerely, Chris Barry-Smith, First Attorney General."

So that kind of takes cares of that long saga that many here were concerned with and several members of the public. So I do think that it is -- when it's all said and done, I think that the Compact operates in a much more transparent and professional manner. And there might've been painful growing periods, but I think that most of us here on these boards, whether it be County boards or even Town boards, are learning that it is our duty to be transparent, and it is our duty to be inclusive and build consensus.

So it's a learning curve for everyone, and, you know, I think that this letter reflects that

the efforts of the Compact were not unnoticed.

That's the only development.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Do you want to ask questions or do you want me to go?

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes. Do you have any questions on this? Yes, Suzanne.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Just, and I appreciate the update, but with all due respect, because you say something is happening isn't necessarily what's happening. And as you know, we have not had much success in having Cape Light Compact come just to answer simple questions.

So I think -- I hope that what you say is true but kind of putting a bow on it and saying, okay, we're all done, let's move on, isn't necessarily where the Assembly is just yet. And I think it remains to be seen.

I appreciate that you, you know, brought this information to us. But we have been unsuccessful in meeting with Cape Light Compact people over the last at least two years. So maybe now we will be successful in having people come in and answer our questions.

But I just wanted to say thank you for the update, and I hope that what you said is what's going to happen. Thank you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: All right. Let's keep our questions to a discussion of what they discussed in other words. Ed.

Mr. LEWIS: Just one comment. Anything you said is fine; I respect that and I thank you for that. But from my own perspective/professionalism, the Cape Light Compact may have not always been as the Assembly would like or the Commissioners would like from a transparency situation. But as far as professionalism, they conduct themselves in a very professional manner, and they've done a tremendous amount for Cape Cod.

So I just would like put into the record that from a professionalism standpoint, I don't think -- I've never questioned their professionalism, and I have not heard anybody here question their professionalism, maybe their transparency, but the ability to do what they do, I think, has never been questioned.

Commissioner LYONS: I agree with that. Thank you for clarifying that, Ed.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Jim.

Mr. KILLION: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, Commissioner, on the agenda of the meeting today, they were talking about a vote to authorize execution of a Statement of Principles. Was an actual vote taken and do you have a copy of that statement that they were going to execute?

Commissioner LYONS: I don't believe that it was executed, but, Leo, if you want to speak to that.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: I wasn't there.

Commissioner FLYNN: No, no.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: We're talking about the Cape Light Compact.

Commissioner LYONS: Oh, you're talking about the Cape Light Compact.

Mr. KILLION: Yes.

Commissioner LYONS: I thought you were going down on our agenda. No, they gave the draft of that for people to bring back and to see if there were any other changes. That's going to be voted on I believe in November.

Mr. KILLION: All right. So this, apparently, is still some type of back-and-forth between Cape Light Compact and the Attorney General's Office?

Commissioner LYONS: No. It's not between the Attorney General's Office; it is the wording that is being approved by the governing board of the Cape Light Compact and the aggregation.

So today there was just really the discussion was putting in to that agreement the role of the Administrator to make that very clear because like you would hire your town manager and you're giving them authority to carry out the day-to-day tasks and to do whatever it is that they need to do to keep the town running. Maggie is the executive that is being empowered with those types of duties, and she has the authority through the board. But it's not clearly stated so that was really the discussion here that they want to be able to put that in. The language was put forward for people to digest, bring home, and there will be a discussion on that in November. But it has nothing to do with the Attorney General's office.

Mr. KILLION: Well that's exactly what it says in the agenda. That an execution of statement of principles between the Compact and the Attorney General regarding power supply.

Commissioner LYONS: Yes. So that is being somewhat -- that's still being hashed out but we haven't sent it back to the Attorney General with them coming back to us. Whatever the discussions have been have been through these various discussions that were highlighted and referred to in this letter.

So what was put forward today was reflecting the recommendations from those conversations. And it's for the governing board now to adopt those recommendations.

Mr. KILLION: It has not been approved. The authorization for this execution has not been completed yet; is that what you're telling me? They're still working on the details of that?

Commissioner LYONS: They have until November to pass that in. So we just want to make sure -- there was some discussion on it today; I had to leave. But I left under the impression that this was for us to take home, to share it with our towns. Each representative should be bringing it before their town boards letting them know that they're going to, you know, be voting on this. If there was any questions from those towns, please say so now and I'll carry it back for that future discussion and it can be incorporated.

I will have that discussion and I will pass out my copy to my Commissioners and you should be -- I'm sure we can get you a copy too if you want to do that. But it really is for the representatives of that governing board to go back to their towns and discuss it.

Mr. KILLION: So the framework of this agreement then has essentially been completed; is that what you're saying?

Commissioner LYONS: The framework has not all the language.

Mr. KILLION: Okay. Thank you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, Deborah.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: I'm sorry, Sheila. I'm just a little confused, and maybe I just missed something. In what capacity were you attending the --

Commissioner LYONS: I am the liaison now to -- I am the Commissioners' representative.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: To?

Commissioner LYONS: To the Cape Light Compact.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: And in that capacity, you attend the meeting at the Attorney General's Office?

Commissioner LYONS: I did.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: And I missed the part of the letter that said that the power supply contracts will be made available to who?

Commissioner LYONS: Are you referring to the letter that I wrote?

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Yes, the letter that you read.

Commissioner LYONS: That I read.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Yes.

Commissioner LYONS: It said, "First, as you know, the Department of Public Utilities approved the Compact's petition for approval of a revised Municipal Aggregation Plan."

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Right.

Commissioner LYONS: And that was done -- the first section was done on May 1, 2015. The second decision was May 18, 2015, in parentheses, "the Proceeding". You will get a copy of this letter because I'll have Jan scan it to you.

The AGO has elected not to appeal that decision or otherwise pursue claims with respect to the proceeding in which the prior AGO, Attorney General's Office, allege that the Compact's assessment of an operational adder which generated revenue to fund certain Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative and Renewable Projects and to cover the costs of the Compact's attorneys' fees was unlawful.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Right.

Commissioner LYONS: That was the prior stance and that was the issue that was looming that was at great discussion here and in many emails. And this Attorney General is not going to dispute the decision of the DPU, and they feel that there is no illegality, there is not merit.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Wait a minute. Wait a minute.

Commissioner LYONS: There is not merit to pursue -- it's not meritorious.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Did she say in the letter that she thought there was no merit in it?

Commissioner LYONS: They basically felt that if we are not appealing this decision, our decision stands as its -- there's no action.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Did they say -- I don't want to interrupt you, but they have a previous decision by the previous Attorney General who said it's illegal.

Commissioner LYONS: There's an opinion by the Attorney General.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Right. Now did this Attorney General say we have reviewed that decision and we decided that it is -- and we were wrong and it's not illegal?

Commissioner LYONS: They did not say it was wrong and it was illegal. They decided it did not -- it did not rise to the level of pursuing it any further.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Okay. I would like to ask a question that I asked initially a different way, if you would, please.

I listened to that letter that you read to us, and it's very hard to sort of absorb it when I don't have a copy of it. Will you come back in front of us after it's been distributed so we can ask questions about this letter?

Commissioner LYONS: Absolutely.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: And I would like to know along the way here just exactly whether their power supply contracts are power supply contracts. As, for example, the contract with ConEdison are going to be made available to us or the public or not? That's what

I'm interested in.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Anyway, just a follow-up on this. I listened very carefully to that letter. We have a letter from the previous Attorney General signed by six lawyers who say that the mil adder is illegal.

So I waited as you read that letter to say, I, the Attorney General, have decided they were wrong, that it's not illegal. But instead what she's saying is, ignoring that, and said we're not going to pursue it.

So where we are now is we still have the letter that says it's illegal but we're saying we're not going to do anything about it.

Commissioner LYONS: It's a new Attorney General. This is -- we -- that was one of the things as he states in the letter -- we requested something to reflect the opinion.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Right.

Commissioner LYONS: And the opinion is the appeal or lack of appeal should stand as an opinion in the court of law, that's how it's looked at. This is as close as they will get because they, you know, there's always another issue. They're not going to hold our hand and say you're great and we're going to be with you no matter what.

And so that we don't have this again, I was there stating that I think that I would rather have a partnership and an open dialogue to ensure that there isn't a confusion, misunderstanding, misreading by us or by the public. So to make --

Speaker BERGSTROM: Or by the lawyers of the Attorney -- previous Attorney General.

Commissioner LYONS: By the -- it is what it is. It's a court case that is done. And it is no longer on the table, and it is time to go forward and, you know, do good work.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, no offense, but you're sort of naïve in that, you know, regard. Have you ever met with the Attorney General on this issue before this?

Commissioner LYONS: No.

Speaker BERGSTROM: So this is the first time you've ever discussed with her the Cape Light Compact?

Commissioner LYONS: Yes.

Speaker BERGSTROM: All right. Yes, Ed.

Mr. LEWIS: The Attorney General's not going to rebuke the other Attorney General.

Commissioner LYONS: That's right.

Mr. LEWIS: They're not going to do that. What they've done from the political statement is more or less is we're not going to appeal it. So as far as they're concerned, they've washed their hands of it. It's over.

Commissioner LYONS: Right.

Mr. LEWIS: And for us to continue to bear down and bore on this, in my opinion, is a waste of our time. The Assembly, before I got on it, the Assembly for several years went through this and continued to go through it and continued to go through it. And I think it's a mistake on the part of the Assembly to -- this Attorney General said they're not going to appeal it, so that's over, that part. It's over. You may not think it's over, but to them it's over.

Commissioner LYONS: Yes.

Speaker BERGSTROM: All right. Anybody else have any comments? Yes, Deborah.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: I have one brief comment. Having switched from Cape Light Compact and seen my electric bill drop \$300 a month, I think it's important to find

out what this history is whether the AG's interested in it or not. I see people in my community who are paying to Cape Light Compact far in excess of what for-profit providers pay. I'd like to know why.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Anyway, let's -- Leo, do you have something to say?

Commissioner CAKOUNES: I do. Following that report, by the way I just want to remind everyone, that was Ms. Lyons attended the Cape Light Compact meeting and was unable to be at our second half of our meeting, which I would like to get back to, if I may, Mr. Speaker, just to report on a couple of things.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, go ahead.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: One is, and you may not be interested in this or you may, but we are taking on the bonding issue quite seriously now. We're starting to do things, I think, in a lot better fashion.

One of the things that we approved today was a -- it's a statement of life expectancy, if you will, of the things -- items that we're going to bond. And we're going to bond with a Gas Chromatographer and Spectrophotometer, which, you know, I know last 10 years; I don't know about you people. A security gate at Children's Cove, we put a 20-year lifespan on that, and just general department equipment, office equipment and we put a 10-year life span on that.

So just too kind of clarify that vote because I know a lot of you are interested in the financial ends and actions that we may or may not take.

The other vote that was taken without Chairman Lyons there was -- and she mentioned briefly -- we had a presentation from CVEC, and you need to bring this back to some of you -- you need to bring this back to your boards and towns because CVEC is in a peculiar situation now.

The Round One Projects, Solar Voltaic Projects, the contract -- the Power Purchasing Agreement did not allow CVEC to collect any money whatsoever for the services that they're providing of monitoring these systems. And it's becoming quite relevant that if CVEC wants to continue to exist and provide these services that we have to go back and charge those eight photovoltaic projects of this one-cent adder.

What we had to vote on, because we're an actually off-taker from that, so we had to also approve that change in the Power Purchasing Agreement. The actual language that we approved today was just to support the idea because what has to happen now is CVEC has to go to all of these eight towns that participate in Round One and ask all of them to support the idea to be charged a one penny adder.

If they all agree, then, subsequently, CVEC will be coming back to them with a Purchase Power Agreement Amendment. And at that time, we'll actually be executing a document. We did not execute anything today. We just took a vote that we supported that action.

And just so you'll understand what the costs are because I know you're all relative to that, in the presentation, and, by the way, all this is in our packet, with the agenda on it. In the presentation, there is one slide in which CVEC has allocated a one-cent adder to last year's revenue that we collected from or saved because we didn't collect the revenue, saved from Round One. And the cost to the County now, this is just the County what we've got to vote on today, was \$3,300.

So each town will be different as they are either bigger users or off-takers. So,

basically, I think it's an important issue, and I think you need to -- those of you who are in Round One will be hearing more about this.

The third thing and final thing, and I believe your Clerk has distributed; we spent some time today talking about a budget message and budget development guidelines. Again, the Chair was not present so this is all new to her. She didn't hear any of this. Although this draft is in the, again, the packet, but it was put together by me as a single Commissioner. Commissioner Flynn and I discussed it in length. We also discussed the difference between budget policy, budget message, and guidelines.

So, basically, what ended up today was that we agreed that it needs to be brought back when the full Commissioners are there. The reason why I, first of all, it is a public document as of today, and I asked that it be distributed to all of you because I think you'll notice, and I won't go through them all, but you'll notice that I did highlight some things in this guideline document that I picked up from my time sitting on this side of the table listening to the things that you people were wrestling with as we were going through our budget period last year.

So if you do have anything on there that you may want to have added, you certainly can address it to me personally, and I'll be more than happy to review it over and put it on there. Or if you want to go through Janice, that's fine too. But I would not all cc: all three of us and ask all three of us to respond to you because that would be in violation of the Open Meeting Law.

So, other than that, I think I'm all set.

Commissioner LYONS: Actually, I think it would be good to either go through Janice or Alisa and send those so that they can be added for all the Commissioners to see at the same time and that sort of thing. Just for that piece of it.

I do want to state that I did receive a call from the Speaker who was concerned about the homeless issue and what were we doing about it. The last meeting that you had, we were unable to attend because our meeting went on until 5:30. And a lot of that discussion wasn't -- that discussion that kept us late, but there was a previous discussion that backed it all up.

I asked for an update from the Regional Network on Homelessness to discuss the County's role, what we have been doing, and how we've been monitoring the situation because I know that a lot of people are raising of, you know, the County has to get involved. It's not like we have not been involved for 18 months. We've been following this. And for more than about seven years we've had this network trying to build coordination and a plan.

To me, what we need is measurements and outcomes and that sort of thing. But what are those and what do they look like is what the community is dealing with and grappling with. But there are people here from the Human Service Department, Paula Schnepf, I heard her name several times on the radio today. She's getting very popular, but I'm sure she's not appreciating it. She is just an employee -- a person out there trying to help us, our consultant.

But I will let them speak to that. They've been great to work with and you will hear from them. So those things --

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, I just have to add to that the purpose of my --

Commissioner LYONS: They did have to assure that it was on our agenda and I wanted to --

Speaker BERGSTROM: The purpose of my discussion with Sheila was to suggest that the Commissioners should raise the profile of the County. I appreciate what Paula does. She's a consultant. She's not about -- if people start badmouthing the County or demanding that we

do stuff, she's not about to stand up to them but you could or Leo.

Commissioner LYONS: Had we made it that day, I would have reported to you that we were doing exactly what you were asking so.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Could I?

Commissioner LYONS: Yes.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Sorry, Mr. Speaker. I kind of forgot that we did not make the September 2 meeting, so I'm just going to run through some things very, very quickly, just, hopefully, bear up with me.

We did vote to execute a Proclamation for recognizing September 6 through the 12th the Suicide Prevention Week.

We actually voted to appoint Ms. Mary T. McIssac as the Director of Finance and Treasury. So we do have a new Finance Director that the Commissioners have voted to appoint, and I believe she'll be starting the 23<sup>rd</sup> but don't quote me on that date, but I believe before the end of the month.

We also approved a draft charge for the Facility Complex Manager. We reviewed that quite at length. Well, we approved some financial things, one for the Massachusetts Association of the Health Boards for Region V Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordination for 139,000-and-change.

We also -- two other major motions in which regards to the budget. We did approve that through the Home Rule Charter that we assess the towns a tax and the amount was 3,046,865, and also through the Home Rule Charter the Environmental Protection Fund tax which is the Cape Cod Commission fund for 3,266,655-and-change.

And we also approved a Fund Balance Reserve which totaled about 6,542,000-and-change. And then the Cape Cod Commission funds a reserve of 3,174,000-and-change. All those actions had to be taken because, and I think you're going to be getting a copy; there has been a prepared, formally prepared statement that we'll be sending in to the state showing our actual financial position now.

So that's the update on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Again, I'm sorry to take so long.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes

Ms. MCAULIFFE: And a target date for or progress update on the new County Administrator?

Commissioner LYONS: All I know is that they met. They had their first meeting. That's all. We can't know.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Okay.

Commissioner LYONS: We don't know. You know as much as we do.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Okay.

Commissioner LYONS: It's going to be a big surprise.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Julia.

Ms. TAYLOR: Yes, we met twice. Yes, we've met twice, and we will be having interviews in early October.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Okay. Thank you.

Ms. TAYLOR: We invited people for interviews.

Speaker BERGSTROM: We have to focus our attention on the Commissioners report and not get into other issues that we could discuss.

Commissioner LYONS: Thank you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: I think we should move right along here and get Beth back. Sorry, I pulled you there.

Communications with Human Service Director Beth Albert

Ms. BETH ALBERT: That's all right. Thank you. And let me make sure that this is working. Nope. Well, I might need to sit up there unless somebody wants to come and advance.

Commissioner LYONS: I will.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: You know, Patty's here. Would you mind advancing it, Patty? Sorry; I was all excited about using this because it advanced.

Well, thank you for -- I think if you can sit right there and just advance it that would be great. I'm going to go through this pretty quickly.

So thank you for inviting me to present today. What I prepared for you is a PowerPoint presentation on the Major Initiatives and Programs in the Department of Human Services. I also asked Paula Schnepf to be here; she's our Regional Network on Homelessness Coordinator. I anticipated that there would be some questions. So if there are questions, Paula's here and I'll bring her up.

But I'm going to go through this presentation. You can advance. Again, the mission of the Department is to plan, implement, and develop programs that enhance the delivery of Human Services in Barnstable County. We want to promote the health and well-being of County residents through regional efforts that improve coordination of service. So a couple keywords -- regional efforts/improve coordination.

We have a long history of organizing regional approaches that promote health and wellness for underserved populations by mobilizing a community response.

So what I prepared for you is a very, very high level overview of the major initiatives and programs that we're currently involved in.

So this is just a framework that we use to organize our work. The four major areas that we work in are: Health Promotion, Housing & Homelessness, Behavioral Health, Aging and Disability. So these four areas are how we organize our work. We do align the work that we do with the County's Strategic Plan in addition to data that we've collected over years about critical health and human service needs on the Cape.

So, just quickly, the SHINE Program. This is one of our programs. We did a presentation earlier today with the County Commissioners. The SHINE program is -- it stands for Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone. Its mission is to provide accurate health information to Medicare beneficiaries. Extremely important on Cape Cod. We have 68,000 beneficiaries, both people who are over the age of 65 and also people with disabilities.

We're right now working under a three-year grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. This is a real partnership between the County and the State in addition to we -- we have received a small grant each year from Cape Cod Healthcare. We have volunteers. I think we have 59 volunteers, 59 highly-trained SHINE counselors and 23 host sites throughout the County, mostly at the Councils on Aging.

This program has, since we have taken it on in our office and hired Sheila Curtis, really a very, very high-performing region and we're being recognized with other SHINE regions across the state in the number of people that we serve and the number of counselors that we

have.

Regional Substance Abuse Council; important issue. We convened a regional counsel in January of 2014. I had worked with my Health and Human Service Advisory Council for about 6 to 8 months and with some technical assistance from the state to convene a Regional Substance Abuse Council. We did issue a baseline assessment this past March. The councils comprised of about 35 elected officials. We have a representative from each of the towns who want to participate; key providers, parents, the recovery community, and local experts.

There is in the packets -- and, Janice, you handed them out, there was also in addition to the PowerPoint there was an envelope. In that envelope I gave you the executive summary of that baseline assessment. In all of that, the information and our reports are on our website.

So the Regional Substance Abuse Council; some highlights. We adopted a regional plan in August. We're working collaboratively across the region. We are working very, very closely with Cape Cod Healthcare and the Office of Community Health. We are supporting several town coalitions, substance abuse coalitions, building some capacity in the Town of Bourne. We're working with the Town Administrator there. Working very closely with Yarmouth, they have a lot going on; Sandwich, Mashpee. We've also secured two major grants to support the work.

Some of you may be aware that the governor released an Opioid Plan. We have aligned our regional plan as closely as possible, but I also want to point out that we're not just focusing on opiates. We're also looking at alcohol which is an endemic problem.

Prevention and Wellness Trust. This is a community-based partnership led by our department. We're one of nine partnerships across the Commonwealth. We're receiving funds through the Department of Public Health. The purpose of this really is to chronic some target - - I'm sorry, some -- target some chronic health conditions that have very high costs when people are hospitalized; so looking at hypertension, diabetes, and falls among seniors.

We have five partners in this. We're working with two community partners, the Healthy Living Coalition of Cape Cod, which is comprised of the VNA and Elder Services and the YMCA. And we have three clinical partners: Community Health Center of Cape Cod, Duffy Health Care Center, and Harbor.

The Regional Network on Homelessness, I mean I can do it either way. We can stop here and entertain questions or I can breeze through this and have questions which --

Speaker BERGSTROM: Well, why don't we stop there and see if anybody has any questions on it. Do you have any questions?

Ms. BETH ALBERT: So far?

Speaker BERGSTROM: So far? No. You should like -- you've explained yourself absolutely perfect.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Oh, thank you. Maybe I'll skip over this one and come back to it.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, that's fine.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Let me just do this briefly and I think -- you can go back to the Regional Network. Just go back two slides.

So the Regional Network -- this was created in 2009. There was a time when the state broke up -- the State Department of Housing and Community Development funded Regional Networks. So the state was kind of divvied up. Our Regional Network was -- the area was comprised of the Cape and Islands. It was created in 2009, public/private partnerships. And

the purpose is really coordination of stakeholders, systems, and resources to address homelessness.

So we've been doing this since 2009. The state funding ended and we continued because we really saw value in a region and organizing around homelessness. Right now the regional network provides training, planning, and coordination of efforts, sharing of information, which is huge because a grant comes in one organization, the rest of us may not know about it and there's a resource sitting there. So we're trying to target -- connect people to available resources. Right. There are scarce resources. There are a lot of people in need. I hear about the need for housing every single day. I actually have some personal experience with it with a child. So it's a big issue.

I can talk to you about specific initiatives that are underway in particular to Hyannis, but I think I'll wait to bring Paula up to do that, okay, because we've been -- she's been representing the County for the past 18 months with the day center planning, all of the planning that's going on with the group in Hyannis about moving the NOAH Shelter.

But just to get through this, the Continuum of Care grant. This is a grant that we're administering from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The purpose is permanent, supportive housing for chronically homeless. Our federal fiscal year funding was about 1.5 million and it supports 161 beds of permanent supportive housing in the region.

Our department plays two roles. We administrate the grant with a collaborative applicant for the region. So our partners are like the Barnstable Housing Authority, Duffy, HAC, Provincetown Housing Authority, the Department of Mental Health, Vinfen, CHAMP Homes, and Falmouth Housing Authority. They're our partners in this. They're the recipients of this money for beds. We administer the grant and provide a grant writer and do all of the reporting and working with HUD on this.

We also play another role. We also administer a planning grant. That's a new grant through this funding that the department has. The planning grant is primarily focused on creating a coordinated assessment system. And this is key to the work that Paula is doing in Hyannis. So I'll just point that out to you.

Right now, we're piloting this according to the assessment among our Continuum of Care partners. Other parts of this are data collection, reporting to HUD, the Annual Point-in-Time count and things along those lines.

HOME Consortium; you're all familiar with this, I hope. The grant from, again, it's a HUD grant. Purpose is to provide decent affordable housing to residents of Barnstable County. The grant moved to our department from the Cape Cod Commission effective July 1. The County is the responsible party. The County is the participating jurisdiction. The HOME Consortium Advisory Council is made up of 15 towns, two at-large members. And I think this is critical to hear, the overall investment since 1992 is over \$14 million, 1,300 units of affordable housing, 621 first-time homebuyers were assisted, and 201 homeowners received rehab assistance.

If you've been following this, the trend is it's being funded less and less every year. But as we talked a lot about during the budget, the County's still responsible for monitoring the units that were created with this money.

So Michelle Springer from the Commission has moved over and we'll be hiring the second person for that in the next few weeks.

So just a summary of the current grants. Prevention and Wellness Trust is 1.4 million

over three years -- 1.4 million per year and then it's three years; I should clarify that, and that's through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

As I said, we secured two major grants, the Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative, that's \$100,000 over 7 years -- \$100,000 per year for 7 years. The MOAPC, or Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative, \$100,000 per year over 5 years. The Continuum of Care, approximately 1.5 million to the region annually. The Continuum of Care, Planning Grant, that varies from year to year; this year it's 20,000, next year it maybe 50. Once the NOFA gets released we'll know. The HOME Fiscal Year '15 funding's approximately 360. Again, that annual amount varies. And the SHINE Program, we receive \$69,000 from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

So just in summary of some current grants, current programming, current initiatives. We receive other small grants. I'm not going to go through all of that in the interest of time.

And just a couple big other things that the department does; we do a tremendous amount of connecting people to what's going on in the community around Health and Human Services. We have a department newsletter that goes out, and I think most of you are on that list. I don't know how many of you open it, but it's a great resource. We send it out to about 1,700 people. We get lots of positives. It's a great marketing tool for the department and for the County.

We also do something similar for substance abuse. There's a lot going on in the community around substance abuse. We pull it together. We follow legislation, you know, research and then also events, and we're also putting that out.

We have a great website: [BCHumanServices.net](http://BCHumanServices.net). We also have two very robust online tools around health and wellness and behavioral health. The behavioral health web portal has a comprehensive service directory where we've, you know, all of the resources are around Health and Human Services in Barnstable County are in one spot. And we're constantly working to update that, market it, get the word out about it. It's a tremendous resource.

And then finally, we do handle data requests around Health and Human Services data. And this is just a list of some of the groups that we've had requests from: Falmouth Service Center, The Suicide Prevention Coalition, Duffy, the Sheriff's Office, Sandwich Substance Abuse, Emerald Physicians, Private Citizens, the Cape Cod Times as well as requests from the towns.

So this is what we do in our department, high-level, very quick. And now we will take questions. I will take questions.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Deborah.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: I want to thank you for a really good presentation. It was well-organized and informative. I'm glad you kind of brought it all together for us.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Thank you. Thank you, very much.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, Pat.

Mr. PRINCI: I just thank you very much for all the good work you do and this presentation today and always your work when we go through the budget process.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Thank you.

Mr. PRINCI: I appreciate it. As far as the mission, the Plan Development Implement Programs which enhance delivery of Human Services in Barnstable County, is the group looking about delivering services in Barnstable County as a whole, like meaning more services in, for instance, the Lower Cape area and the Upper Cape area rather than all the services in

Hyannis?

Ms. BETH ALBERT: So that's a really good question. This mission statement I inherited when I got here several years ago, so it was created before me, and when I came, you know, I was like, really, what does the Department of Human Services do?

So when we -- pretty much any initiative that we're looking at, we are looking to see what the regional impact or the potential for regional impact is. We work very closely with groups on the Lower/Outer Cape that participates with the Lower Cape Forum, which is a group of human service providers that gets together. Actually, the topic that they're looking at for the past year and a half has been around affordable housing.

So I'm always looking through that lens of, you know, what can the County Department of Human Services with the staff of four do to really bring resources to the region and then get it out to the region, and we're always looking at geographic distribution.

Fortunately, some of the grants are targeted to particular populations. Prevention and wellness trust, we could only serve areas -- I think we -- I believe it was 120,000 people. So we wanted to do the whole Cape but we had to focus it in particular areas.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes. Linda.

Ms. ZUERN: I just have a question about the HUD Program. I was reading something recently about how controlling they were. They come into communities and they can actually force you to change your zoning laws or require parks or different kinds of things that you probably wouldn't have in that area. Have you seen that with that particular program that is just very controlling within the community?

Ms. BETH ALBERT: I have not had that experience. I thought when you talked about controlling, I thought you were going to talk about all the reporting.

Ms. ZUERN: Well that's part of it too.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: No, I have not had that experience.

Ms. ZUERN: Okay. Thank you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Yes, Doc.

Mr. O'MALLEY: The model for the HOME Consortium is homeownership; is that correct? Whereas, -- let me stop. Is that correct?

Ms. BETH ALBERT: So there are several priority areas that are identified that we can work on during our consolidated plan. So primarily its rental, development of affordable rental housing, and I could get into that more but there's some deed restriction things that prevent make using home money for home ownership, like units that are built for home ownership more difficult.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Okay. So my question really is particularly around the Continuum of Care. You raised that it supports 161 beds of permanent supportive housing.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Okay.

Mr. O'MALLEY: And my question is what's the model? Who owns that? How does that work? These are affordable rentals; does the County own them?

Ms. BETH ALBERT: No.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Who owns them?

Ms. BETH ALBERT: So the County's only role with the Continuum of Care is administrative. We do not -- we also get planning grants, but we don't get the money to support the beds. They go through things like the Barnstable Housing Authority, Duffy, HAC, and Provincetown Housing Authority. So the money comes to them. They're the eligible

applicant.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Okay.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: We're a pass through.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Okay.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Exactly.

Mr. O'MALLEY: I see.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Yep. And there are other models in other parts of the country; I won't get into that. But our model here is the money passes through. We administer, you know, support the grant writer because we have to apply for this money. It's competitive. We have to make sure we're doing all of our reporting properly so that we qualify. We have to do the Annual Point-in-Time count; it's required. So, yeah, we're more of a pass through.

Mr. O'MALLEY: So to follow that through, just from my own experience in Provincetown, we have voted at the spring Town Meeting to address the affordable housing situation by, in fact, having the Housing Authority seek out appropriate properties and purchase them for affordable rentals.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Yes.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Is there anything within your purview that would provide any assistance -- that might provide any assistance with that kind of a program?

Ms. BETH ALBERT: So the Continuum of Care is for people who are chronically homeless.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Right.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: So these are people in order to get into one of these beds, it's permanent supportive housing. It's very specific.

I think there may be opportunities under the HOME Consortium depending on, you know, what is going to be happening to have some conversations about a project, how those funds could be leveraged with other funding streams.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Okay.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Okay?

Mr. O'MALLEY: Thank you. I will try to keep that going.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Yes. No, I think the beauty at least, and this is still very early stages for me. We just moved the HOME Consortium over to us in July. I'm on a very steep learning curve. I don't mean to obviously be the expert in all this because we have staff to do it. But looking at the Continuum of Care, CDBG, and the HOME, how all these things fit together and looking at it through that lens, it's very leveraging and making the most used of the money.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, Suzanne.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: I think one of the things that I really appreciate about the Human Services Department in the County is that it is not necessarily involved in the day-to-day delivery of services. It is sort of the super agency that does the networking, the overview, provides the organization that you sort of -- the oversight of everything.

I was so impressed when you were doing all your research and doing all the data, and so a lot of these reports and things that then target what the County is doing well and what the County needs to do and what the needs are.

I think it truly exemplifies to me what the mission of a County Human Services Department is. It's not someone who necessarily runs an office where people come and get

their services.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Right.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: It's someone who coordinates -- you leverage what you get, and we get I think a much bigger bang for our buck because you're sort of the over-layer of everything.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: And that's a really good point. Thank you for saying that because that's how I see it and I try to keep true to that because it's easy sometimes to get pulled away from it.

So when we have opportunities, it's always is it regional? Is it something that's going to go back out to the community because we don't really run programs per se. And SHINE's a little bit different. We run the regional office but we also work in each of the towns and have, you know, 59 volunteers doing the work.

I was just going to point out that when we did that, when we pulled together all of those health indicators and we put it out in a report, the socio-economic landscape which we're going to be updating, every five years seems to be about the right timing for us because it's a big investment and things don't change that much from year to year. Funders have used that and you know that -- that have used that so when they're looking at what the need is and who should they fund, so private foundations and the United Way and the Cape Cod Foundation they've used it as well so.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Okay.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Beth -- excuse me. Did you want to say something, Linda?

Ms. ZUERN: You can go first.

Speaker BERGSTROM: You know, I've been reading in the press a number of people who, you know, basically weighed in on these issues, demographers and stuff. They're talking about what the Cape has to do and stuff.

But I have to say though when I was a Selectman in Chatham, we did more for affordable housing than any time before or since, you know. We did a lot.

But there's an issue that comes up that people aren't discussing which is the Cape is a very desirable place to live. Housing is a limiting factor. Housing and jobs are the limiting factor. That's why there aren't 500,000 people here.

And I think that, and I know that I agree with Suzanne, you're not there to deliver services. But I think somebody should do -- to do a study on whether or not we're just chasing our tails on this because we provide more housing; a lot of people come and go. They come, say, gee, I love the Cape but I can't find a house, can't find a job so off they go.

And so let's say we're carrying 10 percent more people than have jobs or homes. If we provide that 10 percent with jobs and homes, there's going to be 10 percent more who are going to try because they'll feel that things have eased up.

Now I'm not suggesting we should --

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Well it's a balance; right? I mean --

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, it's a balance. Are we basically working toward a good - in other words, are we making progress or are we simply chasing an inevitable equation that's going to last forever?

Ms. BETH ALBERT: I'm not -- I don't think I could answer that one.

Speaker BERGSTROM: I'm sorry; .....extreme of cautiousness.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: No, I think that too. You know, it comes up every single

meeting I'm in; housing and jobs, housing and jobs, housing and jobs. So it's the balance; you have to have enough housing and that people can afford that. They have to live here and work here to support everything that goes on. So it is a balance. I think there have been quite a few studies that have looked at that. I don't know what the magic number is though.

Speaker BERGSTROM: No, well, anyway. Yes, Ed. Oh sorry, Linda.

Ms. ZUERN: First, I'd just like to commend you on the program, the SHINE program because I know a lot of people in Bourne use that.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Oh yeah.

Ms. ZUERN: And it's very useful to those that use it. I wanted to ask about illegal citizens though in the housing program. I was told there are people who are not citizens who are in affordable housing units including Bourne and how do you address that? Do you --

Ms. BETH ALBERT: That's not something I would address. I would leave undocumented -- dealing with eligibility criteria to the housing authorities. They have guidelines that they have to operate from. So it's not something I would get involved in.

Ms. ZUERN: So we don't require citizenship in --

Ms. BETH ALBERT: I honestly don't know all of the eligibility criteria for affordable housing or subsidized housing.

Ms. ZUERN: There are several people in Bourne who are elderly and they're waiting, you know, to get on -- they're on the list. They're waiting to get those units, and, yet, we have more people coming in who are illegal or they're refugees and they seem to be at the top of the list.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: I'm looking to Paula. I honestly -- I don't know all of the regulations about eligibility. I honestly do not and I --

Speaker BERGSTROM: Anyway.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: I'm sorry.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Deborah, did you have a question?

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: As I understood your answer, you were talking about the local communities administer eligibility in these programs; is that right?

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Yes.

Well, no, no, what are you talking about; public housing authorities?

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: The public housing authorities and other local communities. In the local community, that's where the applications are taken and the screening is done.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: You're talking about a couple different things, and this is where things get really confusing.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Right.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: So I just want to take a step back. I'm not prepared to get into minutia about program eligibility.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Right.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: If we want to have -- because I really am -- I just want to be very clear because I know how these things go and then you're going down, you know, taking it away.

Mr. LEWIS: A life of its own.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Yes, it has a life of their own. So I just want to stop and take a step back, not answer that. I think if we want to have a presentation about particular eligibility

criteria for housing programs, if that's something that interests this Assembly, that's something that should be prepared and presented. I'm not in a position to do that today.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Well, I can appreciate that because I used to work in legal services and we do a lot of work around eligibility for subsidized housing and it's not so easy to get.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: It's not easy; it's not clear, and every program's different.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: That's right.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: So I just -- I think it's something that if there are questions, it's worthy of a more thoughtful, prepared discussion.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: I agree with that.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, Ed.

Mr. LEWIS: I really think we should concentrate on what we have control over, and that's not within, at least my judgment, that's not within the purview of the Assembly of Delegates with regard to requirements as to eligibility. It's really not in our purview. It may be -- I think if you want to get into that, you better have a lot of legal people here, better have a lot of state people here, and that's one --

Ms. BETH ALBERT: I'm not proposing it. I'm just saying if that's her - that's what would need to happen.

Mr. LEWIS: Because I think that's not good. Concentrate on what's in our job description.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Ed.

Mr. MCMANUS: On the issue of eligibility for housing, each program has, to the extent that they have state or federal funds, the grantee gets the eligibility criteria when they sign up for the program and the sheets should be easy to put together and make copies or email to folks that are interested to do it. It's fairly cut and dry, the eligibility requirements.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, John.

Mr. OHMAN: Hi, Beth. Thank you for everything you do. I'm very appreciative of the hard work that you're able to put together with a staff of four.

In all of this in the prevention and wellness section, I have not heard anything about Alzheimer's, and that's a growing population here that I wondered do you have any ability to address?

Ms. BETH ALBERT: So we're not currently involved in anything actively around Alzheimer's. I actually am meeting with Spalding Rehab and the Alzheimer's Family Support Center later this month. They have reached out to me about doing something collaboratively, particularly around training for caregivers and things like that.

In previous years, we did -- well, I have another answer to that too because we did support -- we underwrote a program at Cape Cod Community College, the Gerontology Intensive Workshop in one of the sessions -- this is training for professionals that are working in the field of gerontology and working with people with disabilities. And we did -- there was a session that was focused on dementia.

So as far as our direct involvement, it would be supporting educational efforts for workers, you know, people who are working with people with Alzheimer's. And then also I'm totally open to collaborating with Spalding Rehab and the Alzheimer Family Support Center about something that they're thinking of doing. So I have a meeting with them later in the month.

Mr. OHMAN: Thank you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: All right. Ed, do you want to follow up?

Mr. MCMANUS: Just a comment. I do know in Harwich and Chatham and Brewster, the Council on Aging do a lot trying to put together sort of bootstrap whatever they can to assist the couples, older couples in their communities that are going through that crisis and maybe supporting the efforts that they're trying to put together would be a good direction.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Right. So the Councils on Aging do put on different caregiver support programs and things like that. I thought the question was what am I doing specifically? And I can't -- we support the Councils on Aging in so many ways, even getting the word out about the things that they're running. Those are the kinds of -- those are the ways I see we can support those particular efforts because we're not -- it's a big problem and it's draining for families and caregivers. Again, there are direct service providers.

So what can the County do to support the work that's going on? And it's using our communication; it's using our connections; it's getting the word out about things, and collaborating on possibly a forum that those two groups want to have around dementia.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Suzanne.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: And don't forget they have an incredible website, probably one of the best you'll ever see that does link people. It's not just talk. You go on and you're looking for things, they can actually link you to a lot of these programs and a lot of these things. It's not just, you know, we're putting out flyers or something. The website gets you to this information.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Thank you. Yes, that's true.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Well, anyway, some people ask -- once in a while they ask me what -- we ask ourselves what are the core functions of County government, you know. And you can argue about all the little things we do, you know, the Extension Service and so on, and the Fire Training Academy.

But I mean, to me, your department -- I mean if we had to look at the core department, yours would be one of them because providing services to people in Barnstable County, whether it's directly or through other agencies, I think is probably the most -- one of the most important things we do.

I fully support your department. If you ask us for any more money, we probably won't have it. But if we do, we'll see what we can do.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Thank you. That's why I bring in a lot of grant money.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Yes, you do.

Ms. BETH ALBERT: Thank you.

#### Commissioners with Children's Cove Director Stacy Gallagher

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Moving right along. Communication from Children's Cove Director Stacy Gallagher. One of you is going to have to speak into the mic, whoever's giving the presentation.

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: Good afternoon. I'm Stacy Gallagher. I'm the Director of Children's Cove. Also with me is Lenny Fontes; he's our associate director. Thanks for having us today. We appreciate the opportunity to talk about Children's Cove and our program. And we appreciate that some of you have been out to our agency before. So, we're

obviously not located onsite here. And we offer the opportunity at any point for you all to contact us to come and visit at any time. So I just want to put that out there before we start.

We're just going to give you a very brief overview of our program and our services. Lenny will touch on our programs, and then we'll take any questions.

So Children's Cove is our level Child Advocacy Center, and we serve children ages 2 to 17 -- ages 2 to 17 who have been sexually abused, severely physical abused, witnessed a domestic violence. And we're getting into child exploitation and trafficking and I'll talk about that a little bit more.

So we are a child-friendly agency consisting of seven full-time staff with one part-time staff that is funded through Cape Cod Healthcare, which is our pediatric sexual assault nurse examiner.

We are one of 11 Child Advocacy Centers in Massachusetts. Child Advocacy Centers serve every county in Massachusetts and there are also over 700 in the country. All sort of the same mission, but, obviously, services that are provided to children are based on funding. We're fortunate enough to have 18 years in our agency and have the funding to be able to have all of our programs onsite versus other agencies that may have off-site locations such as in the hospital or in district attorney's offices. We have exactly what we need for a Child Advocacy Center which is in a child-friendly home where children and families want to go to talk about child sexual abuse or their abuse situation.

I'm going to let Lenny take over what we do in a second, but I'll get more into our exploitation and trafficking partnership. So we're actually -- there's a statewide grant that we're getting into now and we are the third of all 11 Child Advocacy Centers that are addressing child exploitation and trafficking. Unfortunately, it's happening everywhere, and it is happening on the Cape and Islands.

So we are in the very, very beginning steps of putting together a task force to address this issue. And Lenny and I are working really hard to partner with agencies that are appropriate for a response to exploitation and trafficking. So it will be an additional program of what we already do at Children's Cove.

Lenny, do you want to talk about it?

Mr. LENNY FONTES: Good afternoon, everybody. So in a nutshell, I'm going to cover what we do as an agency or department of Barnstable County. First and foremost, we assist law-enforcement anytime there's an allegation of child sexual abuse involving a child between the ages 2 and 17 from Bourne to P-town, and we also cover both islands.

So law-enforcement and DCF within their investigations, they're pretty much our second consumer, right behind the family -- the victim in the family and the non-offending family members.

We have the ability to organize the Multi-Disciplinary Team at the office at Children's Cove. We've got some slides of the office setup in a little bit. You'll see later on in this presentation. But the team will meet at Children's Cove and put everything at that table at that time around that investigation. That discussion will be had right there in the office.

The alternative, years ago, it would've been done in several offices, several different times, and not really accommodating the family and the victim and not getting a quality statement from the victim because multiple people have interviewed the family, interviewed the victim, and it would happen several times.

So being that we're doing it at Children's Cove, it makes it a lot easier and cleaner, and

more likely helpful for the investigation including the DA's office.

So following the interview, we're able to assist with wraparound services. We have advocacy for families outside of the forensic interview. As an employee of Barnstable County, I probably do 99 percent of the interviews of the children that come through. So I'm the one that these come into and they meet and I bring them downstairs into the interview room behind the one-way mirror, which we also have slides of and you'll see in a little bit.

With the wraparound services, not just the advocacy, but we can assist families with anything. Our family advocate, which is one of our staff members, will assist with anything that's non-therapeutic. That could be ranging from camp scholarships for the summertime to fuel assistance to school clothes, any assistance that we might be able to assist that family with, we find the resources and we're constantly looking for more and more resources throughout Barnstable County to assist the families that we serve.

Medical Services, we're able to provide right there onsite. You'll see a picture of the medical suite here in a little bit as well. The medical suite is done for both wellness checks, which is always a nice thing for a kiddo to know that their body is normal and that everything is okay, as well as the nitty-gritty part of the work that we do and that's evidence collection. So we're able to do that right onsite at Children's Cove versus going to the emergency room and sitting and waiting. We're able to do that right on the property.

Obviously provide consultation and training and outreach through the community, and that will range anywhere from law-enforcement to school departments to Boys and Girls Clubs to the YMCA, clergy groups, anybody that has any interaction with children would benefit from having these trainings around whether it be mandated reporting, symptoms and signs, how to keep your kid safe, what to look for, and what to do if you should hear a disclosure. Because there are proper steps and then there are some steps that might not be so good for that investigation.

Mental health referrals and consultation. Stacy talked to you a minute ago about the TIP Network. The most important piece when a child discloses child sexual abuse is going to be the healing piece, and that's going to be something that we really focus on at Children's Cove and has the healthiest outcome for the child and the family. How do we help the family get through this tragic event? What services could we assist them with getting in place for them? And make it easy and simple as possible because often times when they come to Children's Cove with that allegation, that earth-shattering news, they're not thinking about resources. They're not even thinking about do I have to call my insurance company, and how do I get services in place. So they really do need that hand-holding and we're able to provide that.

Multi-Disciplinary Team, we refer to it as the MDT, the Children's Cove, we are the hub of the Barnstable County Department; Children's Cove is the hub of the MDT. So we're able to bring all law-enforcement officials in from Bourne to P-town. When it's a caretaker, the Department of Children and Families, medical experts, as well as a representative from the DAs office to examine the allegation and move forward with the investigation to assist the family.

Again, I talk about the investigative piece; obviously, that's a priority for law-enforcement and for the prosecution. As an advocacy center, we're looking at healthiest outcome for the child. So we are -- we're doing wonderful work and we're seeing good results.

I've been with the agency for about 15 years and early on in my career at Children's Cove I've seen families come in and talk to me about the abuse that had been going on for years, or, you know, months or years prior to being reported.

Now because of awareness and because of our ability to get the message out, kids are coming in and talking to me about an incident that might happen once or twice, but they knew what to do after it happened because you hear our radio ads; you see our print; you hear about it in schools; you hear about it at camp. In my opinion, that's success. So we're seeing it.

Some child-friendly setting pictures that we brought. We have a playground out front that we're looking to possibly redo. We're looking into grants and funding for that.

Downstairs, upper-left corner is our waiting area for the families. That's just probably 20 feet from the interview room. And that sliding door goes into that waiting area off the downstairs' porch. So during these warmer months, families can sit outside. We didn't have too many of them sitting out there last winter though. Not too many people wanted to sit outside.

And that upper-left slide is my home away from home. That's the interview room. That's looking at it from the observation area. That's where the team will sit and watch the interview. We're able to video tape it. You can see on the ceiling on the top-right corner of that slide there's a sphere in the ceiling where there's a camera. We have two cameras. We videotape 4 to 10 year olds. And I apologize if I'm talking fast but I was told I had 15 minutes.

But the interview room is, obviously, a child-friendly setting. You see a dry erase board. We have some developmental posters on the back of the wall with the rules and regulations of the room and it's just the way to do it.

Interviewing a five-year-old is a lot different than interviewing a 30-year-old. And if you have a five-year-old, it's a lot different than interviewing a 10-year-old. And if you don't have an expertise and ability to do that, it's not going to be successful for the investigation, but it's also going to be damaging and maybe re-traumatizing for the child. So we should be proud, as a County, that we're doing this work the way in which we're doing it with the standards.

Direct services; our counseling referrals post-interview, we're able to assess all of their needs, both for the child and the non-offending family. It's interesting to see -- doing this work and seeing how it impacts the family. Often times, the kid will need a referral, the child will always need a referral. The family needs more clean up than the child actually does. The family's devastated. It's almost like a weight is lifted off a child when they disclose and we're able to assist them with more resources in the community. But it's always the family as a whole that will need the support.

Family advocacy, again, this is outside of the mental health referral. This will have to do with like I had mentioned earlier, camp scholarships or any other assistance that they might need outside of mental health.

And then, obviously, our training and outreach which I think is a priority because there's folks in the community that don't know what to do with this when they hear it or get it, it's not going to make it to the proper folks that know what to do with it.

So we're constantly getting out into the community, and we're trying to find new initiatives and newer groups, new populations that we can reach and assist in getting them that information, and it's been well-received.

I'm going to let Stacy talk to you about the TIPnet.

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: Up and down, but I wanted to talk to you about the TIPnet Program because this is a program that the County has graciously assisted with funding in the last couple of years.

So our Trauma-Informed Provider Network is a program that's been running and it comes from, you know an assessment of our agency where we had done counseling onsite. And then we looked at after years and years and years and had said, you know, we have this trauma-informed expert kind of doing therapy with kids from 2 to 17 and we're in Barnstable County. So after a forensic interview, we would make a referral to our therapist onsite and kids coming from P-town to Bourne would have to come back to our agency several times.

So we realized we need to regionalize this approach for trauma-informed treatment for our kids. So we then moved to a format of providing a network for already existing providers in the community, clinicians, therapists, that we then, you know, can train in trauma-informed modalities, very specialized treatment, very different from general treatment. We can train them, and then we can refer to those -- right back to those therapists in the community. It's been working great for us. We've provided three learning collaborative, meaning not just a two-day training but 10 months of practical treatment that they can use within their own practices.

So I wanted to really bring this up because it is something that the County does support and has supported over the last couple of years.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: The medical exam is both, again, for wellness exams as well as evidence collection. This will follow the forensic interview which is what I would do. And if there's any reason to move the child upstairs into the medical suite based on the information gathered in the forensic interview, we have the luxury of doing that right at our address, which is incredible. Not too many advocacy centers across the Commonwealth have that luxury.

So having the child have that one-stop shop, so-to-speak, is really convenient for the families that we serve. And the level in which we are able to collect that evidence is at a high level of expertise with Sandy Hebenstreit, our nurse examiner. She's a Cape Cod Healthcare employee provided to us on a part-time basis.

This is a picture of the medical suite. It's right upstairs in the same building. And the nice thing about it is there's no referral following the interview. There's no insurance that we have to look at. There's no giving them the address to where they need to go. It's right there.

If the child can't tolerate that medical for that particular day, we'll have them come back. We've done that with the interview as well. You know, it's one of those things that everything we do is child-friendly from down to the physical plant to the type of interview that happens to the time that they're ready for the interview or they're ready for the medical. We're not going to rush them into anything. The child is in total control.

And then we have some ad campaign information Stacy's going to talk to you about. Whew!

MS. STACY GALLAGHER: And this slide has just prompted me to sort of talk about our awareness campaign. I know I've been sitting right here and talked about this several times during budget season. And, again, it's something that the County has graciously funded in the past several years.

Hopefully you've heard our radio ads. I think we play them to death right now, and we'll be turning those over a little bit, but I think my voice is probably out there enough at this point.

These are some of our print ad campaigns. It's a pretty powerful message, so I just want to show something, you know, how we're actually spending our funds, some of funds anyway.

So the budget for our marketing and our awareness campaign is print ads, radio ads, and awareness overall. So, you know, when I came to Children's Cove almost 10 years ago it was -- and I don't live on Cape Cod and the message was it's not happening on Cape Cod. And, unfortunately, it is. It's happening here as much as it is everywhere else.

So my plight was to really get the awareness out into the community about this -- the devastating statistics that are happening with abuse.

So for the past 10 years we've been really trying to push a great awareness campaign, and it's, again, something that we will continue to push in the budget because I think it's important. Kids are coming in and even speaking to Lenny and saying, "You know, I'm disclosing today because I heard your radio ad." That's powerful in itself, and I think people are hearing it.

And we're also using it as an opportunity for parents to talk to their kids. Some parents just don't know how to talk to their kids. We have a great website with exact words on how to talk to you kids. There's a video that you can show your kids.

And I think this media campaign and the awareness campaign really do that too and really help parents talk to their kids about body safety and what they should be doing. And if they're reporting sexual abuse, what the next steps are.

And I think that's it. Questions?

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, thank you. Do you have any questions?

MS. STACY GALLAGHER: In your packets, I'm sorry, in your packets, we have a two-day conference and were in our 15th year of planning this conference. It's supported and sponsored mostly by the District Attorney's Office, but it honestly is one of the best child sexual abuse conferences in the Northeast, and we're really proud to put that on.

We bring in -- I work really closely with our National Children's Advocacy Center in Huntsville, Alabama. And they essentially put on a two-day, really big conference and we work with them to sort of replicate that on the Cape and sort of take their speakers.

So it's a great conference. If you can attend, that would be fantastic. If you would like to just show up for a keynote during lunch, please let me know. We invite you to do that well.

Any questions?

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes. Linda.

Ms. ZUERN: There is a Bill at the Statehouse right now on female genital mutilation to do away with that, and I think it has support from both sides of the House. It's still in committee, I think. But have you had cases of female genital mutilation coming in as part of abuse?

MS. STACY GALLAGHER: I haven't seen any in the 10 years that I've been there. I don't know that Lenny has either.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: Neither have I. I have not.

Ms. ZUERN: No. And the other thing it seems that we keep getting higher numbers every year of cases like this and, you know, in other departments as well. Do we look at the source of what is causing these kinds of problems? Are we addressing it in that way at all? Why? Is it the pornography that the kids are getting sometimes? There's the literature that they're supposed to read in school --

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.

Ms. ZUERN: -- that's, you know, causing some of this or is it the lack of --

MS. STACY GALLAGHER: It's all the above.

Ms. ZUERN: -- you know, parental --

MS. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes, I think it's a couple of things. I think that we are seeing multigenerational abuse. So we've got moms that come in and are bringing their kiddos in to see us and, unfortunately, they have also been abused, potentially by the same offender. And they may not have gotten help when they were young. So it just continues the cycle of abuse. I think that's one explanation.

I think the second explanation is exactly what you had said about -- and we're working on -- is exploitation. So the Internet, you know, I think our last three cases that have come in are kids that are either meeting up with people that they meet online, you know multiple sexual encounters with these people and that is what is growing. I think that's what we're seeing more of. And I think we're seeing more of child-on-child abuse as well because of the multigenerational piece.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: And the opiate addiction. The whole opiate --

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: It goes hand-in-hand.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: It's all connected.

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: You know what, that's talked about. It's all connected. Homelessness, the opiate use; we see so much of it and it's all -- you know, domestic violence. We're working really closely now with Independence House as well as the Cape Cod Center for Women and a great collaboration to do some trainings throughout the community because they're all connected. They're all interconnected.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Stacy, can I ask you a couple questions. You seem to be -- you talk about kids coming in and reporting, it seems to me that you're referring to children let's say teenagers; 13, 12-13, or even younger than that?

MS. STACY GALLAGHER: Two to 17.

Speaker BERGSTROM: All right. Well, I mean a two-year-old can't just walk in your door. Obviously a parent has to bring them; right?

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: And for the most part, parents are bringing all of the kids.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay.

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: For the most part, they're coming with all the kids. Cases come into our agency through either the Department of Children and Families or law enforcement. If mom calls us and says, "I think my kid's been abused, they're disclosing something," we'll certainly talk them through and get them to the appropriate place for a case to form. But for the most part, caretakers are taking them in.

Speaker BERGSTROM: I don't think you're doing justice for your department because this is a very difficult issue, and you make it sound like -- you've got a handle on it, but I know for a fact that it's a very difficult -- are you familiar with the Fells Acres case?

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes. Oh yeah, yeah, yeah. We base most of our research and work on what we do. So, you know, we're a national organization. We've been trained in this. Lenny and I have been working in the field over 20 years, but there are a lot of things that we couldn't do either. So, you know, I think we do what we do. We all do it well within our agency. And we take care of ourselves.

So I think that, you know, taking care of ourselves in working with this is a huge piece of what we do. And when I talk about that, I say it because we try to instill constant development within our agency because if we're not taking care of ourselves, we couldn't do this work.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes. You know, I mean in some cases, not all, allegations of child sex abuse are used when people are going through a divorce or they're fighting each other.

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.

Speaker BERGSTROM: They drag the kid in and say my husband, the rat, has been doing this. I mean how do you deal with these ongoing --

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: Lenny's dying to talk right now so I'm going to let him.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: Did you pick up on my vibe right now?

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: You know, those cases are interesting, and I think when you have cases that are affiliated in any way with Probate Court, I think there's a person that sits on that bench that has to make those difficult decisions and that's not for us as an agency, as a neutral party. We're investigators.

So my role as a forensic interviewer is to ask the questions, assist with that investigation and have to sort through some of that. But you're not -- you know, that's the truth. There are cases that come through where there might be a concern with the allegation being coached or the child being prepped for that investigation. We have to sort through that as a team.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Do you have a legal definition of abuse? I mean do you have something that you say well --

Mr. LENNY FONTES: We took the slide out. We actually had a slide with the definition of abuse. And it was, in my opinion, it was very detailed and probably a little bit much for this audience.

Speaker BERGSTROM: I don't want details but there is -- do you have criteria that you can either refer or not refer a case to the district attorney?

Mr. LENNY FONTES: Well, the District Attorney's Office is going to base their ability to prosecute on the police reports that are submitted. So that's why the Multi-Disciplinary Team, the team approach is so valuable because it's not Children's Cove saying yay or nay, it happened or it didn't happen. It's a team of professionals sitting at the table.

And as a neutral party, it's going to be really law enforcement and the Department of Children and Families putting together that investigation.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Do you get dragged into court? Does somebody put you on the stand and say you said this and my client denies it?

MS. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes, we get subpoenaed all the time but most child advocacy centers in the country try to work with their attorney to not go in court because we'd be in court all day.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: Right.

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: And we'd be pulled down. So, you know, essentially, we say there are other records they can assist. They usually put law enforcement on the bench for that. But we work with a pro bono attorney to assist us in those cases.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: Yes.

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: But I think the difficulty in these cases and it's difficult for the community to understand is that it's not so cut and dry as, you know, a homicide investigation or -- your only witness here is the child, and I think that's really difficult for people to understand. If you have a two-year-old or a four-year-old who's disclosing, that child has to literally go through the same kind of court process that anyone else would. And it's very, very difficult to prove. There's not that medical evidence that you get that you see on CSI all the time. It's very, very rare. So you only have a child's testimony and that's where the forensic interview comes in and that's where the specialty comes in of really trying to get the details.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: Without being --

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: And if the child's not ready, then we make a mental health referral because we're not forcing the child to talk about anything that they don't want to.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Well it's an interesting discussion. I'm taking up too much of the Assembly's time.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: Come visit us.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, I will.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: We'd love to have you.

Speaker BERGSTROM: You perform a valuable service and it's not easy.

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: Thank you.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: Barnstable County does; yes, it does.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Any other questions? Okay. Well, thank you, very much.

Ms. STACY GALLAGHER: Thank you.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: Thank you.

Mr. LEWIS: Thank you, very much for the work you do. We appreciate it.

Mr. LENNY FONTES: Thank you.

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

### Assembly Convenes

#### Committee Reports

Speaker BERGSTROM: The Assembly will now convene, and we will begin with a Committee Report, Finance Committee, the Proposed Ordinance 15-07, Fire Training Academy Water Quality Assessment for a total of \$232,000.

Mr. OHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Finance Committee met on Proposed 15-07 on September 2. It was a pretty comprehensive meeting with Mr. Cambareri from the Cape Cod Commission.

And, essentially, we all know this has been ongoing at the Fire Training Academy for decades. What's happened is there's been a lot of evidence that there have been damage to the environment especially with plumes and such regarding former practices within the Fire Training Academy that have since been remedied but still exists historically that have to be addressed.

So this Ordinance is for \$232,000 to begin to address those problems. We've been advised that this may be the only fiscal 2016 but not with complete surety. There may be other costs involved.

So we had a long discussion; it's fairly detailed. I'm sure you got the chance to read the minutes, but we approved the Ordinance for 232,000 as requested. And, therefore, I would look -- ask the Assembly to vote to approve this Ordinance as written.

Ms. KING: Make a motion.

Mr. OHMAN: I make a motion to do so.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Second.

Speaker BERGSTROM: All right. Moved and seconded for discussion on the table. Any other members of the Finance Committee or anybody want to weigh in on this? Pretty much -- yes, Jim.

Mr. KILLION: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think Mr. Ohman glossed over quickly, but I think it's important for everyone needs to know that this is probably going to be an ongoing process.

So I don't want anybody leaving here today saying -- approving something and then six months from now when they're back not expecting it. So everyone should be aware of that.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Mr. Speaker, do we have to approve the minutes of our meeting before we do the Ordinance? Are we into the Ordinance part of the agenda?

Clerk O'CONNELL: Well it's a combination report/minutes so.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Okay. So I guess we should approve our minutes and then move onto the Ordinance.

Speaker BERGSTROM: It confused me because we gave this -- John gave this report last time too.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Right.

Speaker BERGSTROM: I remember exactly what we did.

Mr. LEWIS: We did approve the minutes last week -- two weeks ago.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: We didn't have minutes. We had the meeting. We didn't have minutes.

Mr. OHMAN: Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that we had minutes two weeks ago.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Right.

Speaker BERGSTROM: There's no law against approving minutes twice.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Move to approve the minutes.

Deputy Speaker MCCUTCHEON: Second.

Mr. OHMAN: All those in favor? Opposed? Okay.

#### Assembly Vote

Proposed Ordinance 15-07: To add to the County's operating budget for Fiscal Year 2016, as enacted in Ordinance No. 15-02 by making supplemental appropriations for the Fiscal Year two-thousand and sixteen.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Okay. So now you have the Proposed Ordinance on the table.

Speaker BERGSTROM: We have the Proposed Ordinance. All right. Are we ready to take a vote on this? Okay. Let's hear it.

**Roll Call Vote on Proposed Ordinance 15-07:**

**Voting YES (97.27%):** Ronald Bergstrom (2.84% - Chatham), Ned Hitchcock (1.27% - Wellfleet), James Killion (9.58% - Sandwich), Marcia King (6.49% - Mashpee), Edward Lewis (4.55% - Brewster), 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 (2.73%):** Christopher Kanaga (2.73% - Orleans).

Clerk O'CONNELL: Mr. Speaker, Proposed Ordinance 15-07 passes with 97.27 percent of the Delegates voting yes; 2.73 percent are absent, now known as Ordinance 15-07. (Motion passed.)

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. John, where is this money coming from?

Mr. OHMAN: Thank you for asking. This is from the General Fund Nonrestricted Project Stabilization Reserve Account, which currently has \$500,000 available.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. I would like to -- at some point we'll bring in both Tom Cambareri and whoever is running the County at the time because if this is going to be a big expense, a million dollars/\$2 million, it should be bonded for it eventually. I would rather take it out of individual budgets.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Right.

Speaker BERGSTROM: So I'm hoping we can get -- I know it's early in the process but, hopefully, a more comprehensive view of where we're going.

Mr. OHMAN: Mr. Speaker, there was some surety that this would be the only cost going forward with FY16. There's no surety after that. So I think that's a very prudent way to look at things with the new administration coming in to look into bonding this.

Thanks.

**Report from the Clerk**

Speaker BERGSTROM: I guess we're now going to get a report from the Clerk.

Clerk O'CONNELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Quickly, I want to let everyone know that you have mileage logs in your folders. If you can, sign those today and return them to me. I'd appreciate it.

Second, the next time you meet which will be on October 7<sup>th</sup> because of the way the calendar falls, it's almost like having an extra week off.

So we'll have a Proposed Ordinance I think submitted today from the next item on the agenda by Mr. Ohman so there will be a public hearing scheduled before the next Assembly meeting.

And finally, just to give you a little bit of an update, I attended two meetings last week in Sandwich. One I'd like to just share a little bit of information with you about the AG's office provided a workshop to people who are able to attend on Open Meeting Law.

And it's always great to attend workshops especially when you take away information

that's new and useful and that's what happened at this workshop.

So there are a couple of things that I want to bring to your attention. I did send to you the complete PowerPoint presentation that we received. I think I sent that to you in a packet this week for information purposes. But important to take note is going forward now in the future when and if we ever receive another open meeting complaint, we will have to place that item on the agenda for the body to consider the action that it wishes to take. And it may be as simple as giving it to the Speaker to direct it to be sent to County Counsel to be addressed but that will be decided obviously in the future.

Also, you will note that at this point going forward, any items that are used at the Assembly for a presentation, I have been placing them on the website for access. But in addition to that, the Attorney General's Office would like us to also list them at the bottom of the minutes. So now when you get your journal, you will see a list at the bottom of presentations, like, for example, the ones you received today.

In addition to that on the journal, another slight change that was made a few meetings ago was to include in the heading of the journal, the place that your meeting is occurring at. And that's something that -- Bob's nodding out in the audience -- that bond counsel requests. Hey, it's great you've got an agenda that tells us where the meeting is, but it's got to tie to your journal where it needs to be stated in the journal we met on this time and this date but where did you meet. So we're doing that now too.

And, also, there was some discussion about making changes in the agenda and the fact that we have a 48-hour noticing requirement. And what I can tell you is the gist of what I took away from that was you want to really try to avoid ever making any changes in the agenda if you're within that 48-hour window. So once that happens, that's it.

And if there's an error on the agenda, the Speaker or the Chair has to make a determination as to what the consequences are of that error. Is it something that's going to impact the public's ability to really be properly noticed or is it just a scribe's error? And you won't know what that is until you encounter it.

So I'm not going to bore you with examples. We'll probably encounter it at least once in the remaining lifetime that I maybe have on the Assembly and we'll deal with it then I guess.

And that's it. That's all I have.

### Other Business

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Under Other Business, Pat, did you want to say anything about that letter you gave me or are we going to leave that alone?

We'll leave it alone.

Mr. OHMAN: Mr. Speaker.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Yes, okay. We've got somebody with some other business.

Mr. OHMAN: I would like to initiate a Proposed Ordinance – a Proposed Ordinance to add to the County's operating budget for fiscal 2016 as enacted by Ordinance 15-02 by making a supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year 2016. I'd like to read the whole thing.

Section 1: Based on a revised estimate of income of Barnstable County for the current fiscal year is made by -- on September 1, 2015. The sum sets forth in Section 1 for the purposes set forth therein and subject to condition set forth in Section 4 through 12 of

Barnstable County Ordinance 15-02. I hereby appropriate from the General Fund a supplemental appropriation of Barnstable County for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. Said funds shall be derived from the Statutory Reserve funds set aside at the close of 2015.

This is to add \$6,000 -- take \$6,000 for the replacement of a copy machine for the Assembly of Delegates.

Speaker BERGSTROM: If you submit that Proposed Ordinance to the Clerk today --

Mr. OHMAN: I would like to submit that and have the Clerk schedule it for a public hearing.

Speaker BERGSTROM: You have to physically submit it to the Clerk.

Mr. OHMAN: I'm on my way.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. She has to stamp it received.

Clerk O'CONNELL: To be explained at the public hearing.

Speaker BERGSTROM: You know, for a minute there I thought you said coffee machine. My gosh, that explains a lot.

Mr. OHMAN: That's for future.

Speaker BERGSTROM: Okay. Is there any other business to be brought before the --

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Move to adjourn.

Clerk O'CONNELL: Oh, Mr. Speaker, I need to remind John Ohman, Teresa Martin, and Patrick that we have the posters at the back of the room that need to be taken and the certificates that you need to take to your community to formally present them. That's it.

Speaker BERGSTROM: All right.

Ms. MCAULIFFE: Move to adjourn.

Mr. LEWIS: Second.

Speaker BERGSTROM: All in favor?

**Whereupon, it was moved, seconded, and voted to adjourn the Assembly of Delegates at 5:45 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted by:**

**Janice O'Connell, Clerk  
Assembly of Delegates**

List of materials used at meeting:

- Communications from Massachusetts AGO re: Cape Light Compact dated 9/15/15
- PowerPoint Presentation: Initiatives & Programs of the Dept. of Human Services dated 9/16/15
- PowerPoint Presentation: Children's Cove
- Standing Committee on Finance Report re: Proposed Ordinance 15-07 dated 9/2/15
- Memo and financial information re: Proposed Ordinance 15-07 (3 pages)
- Proposed Ordinance 15-07
- Open Meeting Law PowerPoint presentation made in Sandwich on 9/9/15