

**CAPE COD REGIONAL GOVERNMENT - ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES
HARBORVIEW CONFERENCE CENTER @ 4:00 P.M.
BARNSTABLE COUNTY COMPLEX
3195 MAIN STREET
ROUTE 6A, BARNSTABLE, MA 02630**

APPROVED Journal of Proceedings - August 1, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Speaker MCAULIFFE: I'm calling the meeting to order. It's the Cape Cod Regional Government, Assembly of Delegates. We're in the Harborview Conference Center, and it is Wednesday, August 1st, 2018, at 4 p.m.

Please start 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.

SPEAKER MCAULIFFE: Thank you.

(Moment of silence.)

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Will the Clerk please call the roll?

ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

Present (70.18%): Ronald Bergstrom (2.84% - Chatham), Mary Chaffee (4.55% - Brewster), Lilli-Ann Green - (1.27% - Wellfleet), Christopher Kanaga (2.73% - Orleans), James Killion (9.58% - Sandwich), E. Suzanne McAuliffe (11.02%-Yarmouth), Susan Moran (14.61% - Falmouth), Thomas O'Hara (6.49% - Mashpee), John Ohman (6.58% - Dennis), Brian O'Malley (1.36% - Provincetown), Linda Zuern (9.15% - Bourne).

Arrived Late (20.92%): Patrick Princi (20.92% - Barnstable @ 4:30 PM).

Absent (8.90%): Edward Atwood (2.30 - Eastham), Peter Hughes (5.67% - Harwich), Deborah McCutcheon (0.93% Truro).

Clerk O'CONNELL: Madam Speaker, you have a quorum with 70.18 percent of the Delegates present; 29.82 percent are absent.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Great. Thank you. And one or two people may be late.

CALENDAR OF BUSINESS APPROVAL

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So, the next item is the approval of the Calendar of Business. Is there a motion to approve?

Ms. CHAFFEE: So moved.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Second.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: And a second. Any discussion on that? All those in favor? Aye. Opposed? It passes unanimously.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS APPROVAL

Speaker MCAULIFFE: The next item is approval of the Journal of July 18th, 2018, our last meeting. Is there a motion?

Mr. O'MALLEY: Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER MCAULIFFE: Yes, Brian.

Mr. O'MALLEY: I have reviewed those minutes and move approval as directed -- as distributed.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Is there a second?

Ms. MORAN: Second.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Any discussion? Okay. All in favor? Aye. Opposed? And one abstention; I will abstain as I wasn't here.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So, we are now going into Report from the Regional Commissioners.

Commissioner BEATY: Madam Speaker, I'd like to ask your indulgence and come back to this because I know Leo is here; we just don't know why he isn't here yet.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay. We'll come back after.

SUMMARY: Communication and Presentation from County Department of Health & Environment Director Sean O'Brien on Septic Loan Program

- **PowerPoint presentation on the Septic Loan Program provided to delegates and audience members**
- **Septic loans are provided to Barnstable County citizens to assist with the repairs of a failed septic, alternative septic systems, and sewer connections**
- **Loans are taken out for a period of 20 years, at a 5% rate of interest, and there is a lean placed on the property until the loan is paid off in full**
- **Since inception of the program there have been 3600 loans made and approximately 1700 have been paid off**
- **Average loan request is approximately \$11,000**
- **Septic Loan Division has 1 part-time and 2 full-time employees**
- **On-line billing and receipt of payments will begin within a week**

Speaker MCAULIFFE: It takes us then to our major presentation, which is communications from the Department of Health and Environment. And we have our Director Sean O'Brien here about the County Lab renovations and the Septic Loan Program.

And we also have the Beach Program Coordinator, Bethany Traverse, regarding Beach Monitoring. So where do we start with this, Sean?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: We're going to start with Septic Loan and Laboratory.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: And then we'll go right into the beach sampling. We have a PowerPoint presentation for you tonight.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Okay. For the record, my name is Sean O'Brien, and I am the Director of the Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment. And with

me is Bethany Traverse, and she is the Coordinator for the Beach Sampling Program.

We were asked to come in and give you three presentations, and it's actually very nice to come in and talk to you a little bit about what's going on within our department. We have a lot of activity and it's a busy time of year, and it's great to have that opportunity to come in and share all that we're doing with you.

First and foremost, you know, we appreciate everything -- all the assistance that we get from the Assembly. It's a great opportunity, you know, just everything -- the support we get and what we're able to do with our different programs through budgeting and everything else. So, thank you, very much.

The first thing to discuss this evening was our Community Septic Loan Program. As you know, here in Barnstable County we have a very unique program which allows homeowners to come in and to apply for loans to assist them with repairing failed septic systems. And so what I was going to do is give you a quick presentation behind you of what we do with this organization, this division within Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment.

So back in 2006, we received approval from the clean -- it's now the Clean Water Trust to look into developing a loan program for the citizens of Barnstable County. A little bit earlier a lot of the towns were doing this, and the thought came through that maybe a regional approach is more effective. Having it done by one entity instead of 15 individual entities, it really offers just a little bit more of a comprehensive program.

So, this program basically offers people within the County a funding opportunity should their septic system fail, and it encompasses everything. It works from design to installation all the way to the site recovery as well. So, if a tree comes down or a lawn needs to be receded as a part of the installation process, it's all covered under that process.

We have a very simple application. So normally what happens is if folks need assistance and they have a failing system, they come in and they fill out an application, usually within a couple of days we have an approval. It's a pretty easy -- it's a pretty easy program. This is there to help people who may not be able to get loans in another way. And we protect ourselves because we have a betterment, so we have something put in the deed in order to make sure that we're first; we receive payment first should there be a problem on the property.

So, basically, when folks come in, they look at a loan. It goes for 20 years, and it goes at a 5 percent interest rate. It covers conventional systems, alternative systems, and sewer connections. That's a biggie right now especially as towns are looking at expanding sewer -- sewerage within their communities. This will pay for that connection from the house to the road. And we have gone and we have met with some towns and discussed it with them; Harwich, in particular. It's a nice opportunity to help people with that as well.

So originally in 2006, we borrowed -- we went through the Barnstable County Commissioners and the Assembly and we borrowed \$30 million. I think it was in two \$15 million packs from the Clean Water Trust, and that 30 million has been what is going out to the -- originally what was going out as part of the loans to the community.

We have actually not been using that 30 million recently. We've got about 45 million in loans out, excuse me, 41.7 million in loans out there, and we're actually using the principal now that's coming back into the program. The program kind of is a good rotation. We loan money out; money gets paid back in; were able to loan money back out.

It really works out well.

So, so far, we have over 3,600 loans that have been made to homeowners since its inception till last week and about 1,700 of those have been paid off. So, we currently have about 1,800 and change/1,900 and change loans still out there.

The average loan request is about \$11,000, which is around what it costs to do a system these days. It covers engineering. So, it will cover the plan, the test holes, all of the installation and then, as I mentioned before too, the restoration, and that would be paid back over a 20-year period. It would cover if it was a house in a nitrogen-sensitive area. It could cover an innovative system that could go along with that as well.

Additionally, it isn't maxed out. This is an average loan request. So, in some cases the loans -- we've had some loans, you know, well into the five figures, you know, 50,000 maybe. It could be a house that might be in an area with high groundwater and it has to be a vaulted system or something like that, like Dennis Port or something down there.

Mr. OHMAN: Orleans.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Or, yes, Orleans with bad soil, absolutely.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: So, you know, because the soils can be tough in Orleans. These systems, they don't always -- they don't always -- they can be higher and a lot of times too they can be a lot less. It could be an easy repair. It could be just replacing a leeching area and having a certified plan with that.

So, the operation of the loan program, we have two full-time and one half-time person. That is actually covered. We are allowed to take the administrative fee from the program and it covers them and the cost to operate the program as well.

So, to date, as I mentioned, we have loaned out about \$41.7 million. This past spring we hit 40 million. It was a big celebration for us because, you know, it just shows how successful the program has been.

And, again, since October of 2014, we've been using repaid principal in order to make the new loans. It's just -- it is a nice, as I mentioned, a nice way to, you know, money goes out and money comes back in, and we're able to make it available again.

I will say it is for properties only; homeowners, residential. It is not -- we did try to do a little bit of work with small businesses. Unfortunately, we were asked not to and that's okay because we have plenty of work out there for the homeowner or for the residential property and this will work.

So, we think that we -- we kind of review it every couple years, to be honest with you. We think that we're not going to have to look at doing a loan again from the fund, from the Clean Water Trust for at least another couple years, and we said that two years ago as well. It really seems to be working out where we're hitting an equilibrium where we can have money in and money out. And the thing is if we do have to borrow, this time it's at a 2 percent rate. When we borrowed back in 2006, it was not -- it was at 0 percent; now it would be a 2 percent. So, we want to keep going as long as we can without having to pay an interest rate.

And I mentioned to you earlier that we have -- we have a little bit of security on this, and that's where we have a superior betterment loan secured with the notice of betterment assessment by the Registry of Deeds. And that way if there is a problem, we always get the money back. If for some reason somebody can't pay off that loan or a

property is foreclosed, we really only have about a 5 percent default rate, and we're pretty good about getting everything back as well. You know, we just try to work with people as best we can to make sure that we're getting money back in and we, you know, if we have to work a little harder, we will.

Currently, we have about 131 projects that are underway, and we're coming in at the right time because this is the first week that we're actually doing online billing options as well. We've had great help from our finance office, Mary and the rest of the staff there, have assisted us greatly with trying to get online paying options done. So instead of folks having to do, you know, everybody else is going to email billing, it's time for us to as well. And so we now have email billing available.

We also have the ability now, probably later this week or next week, we should be able to start taking credit cards as well within the office too, and that should make things a little bit easier, and we can do electronic checks. So, the more options we can make for people to pay their loan back, its better. And it's a great program. I mean just becoming the director, I've learned so much more about it, and it's a nice jewel in the crown of the department. So I'm very proud of it and very proud of the people in the efforts they do to make things happen for the citizens here in the County.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: How do people find out about the program? How do people know that they can borrow from the County?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: We do whatever we can to get the word out there. So, a lot of times -- we've got brochures. We try to get it out to home shows, to things like that to go out and advertise about it. A lot of it too is word of mouth because all of the towns have a pretty good idea of what somebody may be dealing with when it comes to repairing their failed septic system.

So, for example, if there was an issue -- is we had a failing septic system in Yarmouth, a lot of times that may be a recommendation or a suggestion from the Board of Health that there is another option for you out there. And that allows us to, you know, people come in. Could we do more? Yes, absolutely we could, and I think we're working on a lot of that now.

Especially, we've done a really good job of making our Web presence better as a department. We have a really strong website, and I think that helps us out quite a bit. But, you know, honestly, our customers also know about it and so do the septic installers. So a lot of this is said by the septic installers, and they're the ones who are going to be doing a lot of this anyways. They give the homeowners that potential option if, you know, they're called out there to pump and, you know, a failing system, they may say, hey, you know, if you need it, there's an option here that can help you out.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Great. Yes, Brian.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Thank you, Sean. If you could, tell me about the Clean Water Trust and what else -- that's a state fund? What else does it do?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: It is. It's a state fund. It's, I think if I'm not mistaken, it's managed by a nonprofit and DEP but its money that's made available for these types of environmental properties.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Just for this?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I think wastewater and environmental, yes.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, Linda.

Ms. ZUERN: Thank you. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you for your presentation. You said there was a 5 percent default. Was that eventually recovered through liens or?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: In most cases yes. It's very rare when it doesn't happen. So, it could be handled through liens or collections, things like that.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: Thank you.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Great. Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Mary.

Ms. CHAFFEE: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you, Sean. This is such an important tool that the County has available, so it's really important that you had the opportunity to discuss this here.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Great.

Ms. CHAFFEE: And I wanted to add a little bit more to the Speaker's question. When I served on the Brewster Board of Health, we always had information about this loan program available for anybody who was facing replacing the failed septic system and had information on our website and in the Health Department office. So, we really got the word out to anybody who could benefit from it.

And one of the comments I want to make, and then I had a couple of questions for you.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure.

Ms. CHAFFEE: This is when you report in your PowerPoint that we have loaned - - made 3,609 loans --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Ms. CHAFFEE: That's 3,600 failed Title V systems.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: That's right. It's an important thing to note because if you think about the Cape, and we sit on a sole-source aquifer, and the fact that we started this in 2006, we're dealing with new Code Title V. And so in some cases, it's replacing an old cesspool. In some cases, it may be just a system that's not working well or that wasn't designed properly, whatever it could be. And what it's done is its either put in a compliant Title V or if it's -- if that property is in a sensitive area, it could be putting in an alternative or in those cases where sewer is available, it's able to put it into a wastewater treatment plant and a sewer connection.

So, it's a really important point that in a sense 3,600 failing systems have been upgraded and been brought off-line.

Ms. CHAFFEE: Indeed, and our water's being protected because of that.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Excellent.

Ms. CHAFFEE: A question -- just clarify for me. If a property is sold, can the loan be transferred to the purchaser?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: My understanding is no, that it would be -- it would have to be taken care of at the time of purchase, the loan is paid off. Yes, it is paid off at that point.

Ms. CHAFFEE: And one final question about how the financial aspects of the program are managed. So the money that is not actively engaged in a loan right

now --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right.

Ms. CHAFFEE: -- how is the County earning interest from that?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: It is actually set into -- it is actually set into a line-item account, a fund within the County itself. So, I don't know if the County is to be honest with you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: We can ask Mary.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes, that would be a question for Mary.

Ms. CHAFFEE: Okay.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes, but it is in an 8,000 account, so it is within a separate fund.

Ms. CHAFFEE: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, Ron.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Yes, you know, I'm going to follow up on that because I was curious -- am I online here? It's been a while, two weeks. I'm curious as to whether or not we actually were given \$30 million to put in our account and used for this fund or whether we simply had access to it, but we've actually been given \$30 million?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right. We have and we've been paying it back.

Mr. BERGSTROM: All right. Now, paying it back, what do you mean -- oh --

Speaker MCAULIFFE: It was a zero-interest rate.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: The initial -- yes. A certain percentage goes back in, and then some of it as part of our agreement with the environmental fund, we do a repayment.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Oh, okay.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: And then we also have extra that goes into an 8,000 account that Mary had asked about.

Mr. BERGSTROM: So that repayment is a fixed amount every so often. It has nothing to do with how many loans we put out or how much?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right. But there's always enough to cover that payment.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Now, you say that we -- obviously, we're in the banking business; we're lending money out at 5 percent.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Mr. BERGSTROM: And we don't have any clients or people borrowing. In other words, we don't have any accounts.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure.

Mr. BERGSTROM: I've got, you know, give you 2 percent on your -- you know.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Mr. BERGSTROM: So, what do we do with that money as it starts to build up?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: We loan it back out.

Mr. BERGSTROM: And so the number of loans has been increasing?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: We still see -- we still probably see about maybe 30 loans a month still coming in. So, we still get quite a few loans and quite a few loan applications.

Mr. BERGSTROM: What I'm saying is that you started for 30 million, right?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right.

Mr. BERGSTROM: And you lend out X amount of dollars.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Mr. BERGSTROM: And you get it back.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: We get it back and we --

Mr. BERGSTROM: But now you're --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: And so we pay off a loan -- we pay off the fund --

Mr. BERGSTROM: Right.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: -- and then what we get from interest and for administrative costs, we're able to loan back out.

Mr. BERGSTROM: So, actually, the amount of money from the original 30 million actually decreases if you pay that off.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Mr. BERGSTROM: But it increases by the 5 percent.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right.

Mr. BERGSTROM: And that's pretty much balanced out.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: That's right.

Mr. BERGSTROM: So, we're not hoarding millions of dollars away somewhere?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I don't think so, but there is an account with some money in it, yep, that allows us to go back and make loans available.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Yes. Having money with accounts -- accounts with money in it, you know, it's like how many do we have of those but I'm sure it's all --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: And that's something we can discuss at another time as well.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Yes. And the other question I have is that current interest rates have been pretty low. I mean home equity loans have been probably below 5 percent at some point.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes, they have been.

Mr. BERGSTROM: So, what is the advantage of them coming to us?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Well, we've actually, you know, in most cases these may be properties where folks are unable to get it. We have talked about lowering the interest rate with it or even maybe having a specific interest rate for maybe Veterans or something like that, and those are things that we can work on.

I think the thing is with that 5 percent, it's really been able to come back in and to be loaned back out and get back out there in the community. But those are things that we've talked about before, and we can talk about again. If we ever have to go back and borrow money, again, you're looking at a 2 percent that would go to the Environmental Trust or the Water Quality -- the Water Trust.

So, in a sense, you're then now to 3 percent. Rates are going back up again. We are seeing rates go back up again. We really haven't had too much negative feedback about the rate because it's also a 20-year loan. And I understand interest rates are a lot lower with a mortgage and everything, but it's --

Mr. BERGSTROM: So, there is some advantage to a homeowner with equity in his house to come to us rather than a bank?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: It could be, yes. I mean and especially, you know, sometimes even things will be happening as a part of a sale. You know, they may find a failing system within a sale, and this is the perfect time to get it fixed. But, unfortunately,

there may not be an equity available.

So, some folks may come in, take out the loan as they could, and then as soon as that property is sold they paid it off in full right afterwards, and it's a great tool that we as well.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Plus an equity line, in the process of going for one because our previous one is going to expire; it's not a simple thing. You could have your house paid off and be in great shape and they still have to go through all the things in terms of title and credits and paystubs and tax -- you know, it's not like you walk in and say, you know, I want this loan, where this is much more of a two to three day. I would say an equity line could be two to three weeks to longer.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So, it seems like this is immediately accessible.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: It is.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: For me, the 5 percent is crucial because then it becomes a means of paying the administrative cost.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Because if we don't have that, then the County is paying the administrative cost.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So, the 5 percent is sort of the cost of doing business in a sense.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: It is and I'm happy to sit down and share the exact details on the budget some other time with you too. It is a self-funded program.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Well, come budget time, I'll bet, now that we have some information --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: -- we will want to get into the weeds a little bit on that.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: That's fine.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, John.

Mr. OHMAN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. So, Sean, first of all, the most important thing is what you're doing is just great --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Thank you.

Mr. OHMAN: -- and it's serving the water quality.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: It's really the staff there. They're out of this world; Kendall and Angela and Cinthia.

Mr. OHMAN: But putting my businessman's hat on, you know --

Mr. BERGSTROM: Retired businessman.

Mr. OHMAN: You piqued my interest when you said you were thinking of taking credit cards.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Mr. OHMAN: You have a very small 5 percent gross. Credit cards tend to be north of 3 percent.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes, that would be a fee that would be pushed back on the card holder.

Mr. OHMAN: That was what I was going to say.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Mr. OHMAN: So, I just noticed that other municipalities, universities, all these public officials --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: We'd be doing the same.

Mr. OHMAN: -- they put a pushback so it wouldn't be five; it would be five plus two-and-a-half.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Exactly. And that's --

Mr. OHMAN: So, you would be taking that into consideration.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right. We have.

Mr. OHMAN: Which protects what Suzanne had asked about.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Exactly, because we want to make sure that we have the proper money coming in from the interest to pay for the administration's program.

Mr. OHMAN: Yes, so there would be a subcharge as part of that.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right.

Mr. OHMAN: That makes a lot of sense. Okay.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes. That was one of the first items we discussed with Mary. She wanted to make sure that we were able to cover that cost.

Mr. OHMAN: I'm sure that Mary's on top of that.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Oh, yes, she is.

Mr. OHMAN: I just wanted to make sure.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: She's done a great job and has been a big help getting this up and running.

Mr. OHMAN: And the world is turning to all credit cards.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes, it is.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Linda.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: I just thought of another question.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: How much have we already paid off then or how much do we still have left to pay on the loan?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I think on the original 30 million we've probably paid somewhere in the neighborhood of 21, I think was the last number I looked at. Yes.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: How much is that a year?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I'd have to look it up for you, Linda. I would have to look up to get you that exact amount but I could get it for you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: I think now that we have a little bit more information, now we'll be more informed when going over the budget numbers and being better able to ask informed questions come budget time.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sounds good.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, Jim.

Mr. KILLION: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Good afternoon, Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Good afternoon.

Mr. KILLION: Question, you said almost half the loans have been paid off.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Mr. KILLION: And these are essentially 20-year notes. Are people paying off because of a sale or paying them off early?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Could be sale, could be early because the payments are -- it's a 20-year loan so the payments may be lower so they're doubling up if they have that ability to do it. It, again, could be, yes, property transfer. So, a couple of different reasons why.

Mr. KILLION: What is the average payback period?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Oh, if I had to guess, I would say that we're probably less than 20 years and primarily because we have been doing it for 20 years. So, I would say that we have having folks that have gone into say year 12, but it would be hard to figure that number out. I'd really have to sit down with a number of loans we still have out there but maybe probably 10 years.

Mr. KILLION: So, you don't offer a shorter payback? Its 20 years or nothing?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: its 20 years. If they want to pay it back earlier, they pay it back earlier.

Mr. KILLION: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, Ron.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Yes, I would just suggest that, as I was going before, if someone were to go for a home equity loan to put a roof on or something like that --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure.

Mr. BERGSTROM: -- they may be asked to incorporate previous loans. In other words, if I went to the bank and I said, well, I want to borrow money at 4 percent to do renovation or something.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right.

Mr. BERGSTROM: So, they'd say, well, you have this other loan out for 5 percent, why don't you incorporate all that rather than have the two loans out.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure.

Mr. BERGSTROM: So that could be a reason.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: That could be a reason as well. Yes.

Mr. BERGSTROM: And they would --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes, consolidation. Yes. Just another point to add, we also have the ability, since I got the camera; we also have the ability here to do loans for underground storage tanks.

We have the ability to offer loans for the removal of underground storage tanks as well. And it is a similar program, and it is also a long-term loan. It is a 20-year loan again, and I think we're still working at a 5 percent interest rate. We had received basically a -- I think there was a property somewhere on Cape that had a settlement with DEP, and Mass. DEP provided us the money to make available for people to borrow in order to take out their underground storage tanks.

We have funding left to continue to do that. And it's interesting, a lot of the tanks have been removed but there is still funding available if people need it. And so I figured I'd take this opportunity to advertise another loan program as well. And to get underground storage tanks out of the ground is huge for us because, again, the whole sole-source aquifer thing and petroleum contamination so.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, Mary.

Ms. CHAFFEE: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Is the loan availability for

underground storage tanks only for residences also?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Only for residences also at this point. We have made an inquiry to the Attorney General's office who was involved with that, and we're waiting to see what they say because there may be a couple of other opportunities.

There's been money for a while so we'd like to get a loan out there. I wish it could be for above-ground tanks but right now -- and we're also asking for a clarification on that, but the way this was presented to us, it was primarily for underground storage tanks.

Ms. CHAFFEE: Thank you.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Thank you. Great.

SUMMARY: Communication and Presentation from County Department of Health & Environment Director Sean O'Brien on county lab renovations

- **PowerPoint presentation on county lab renovations provided to delegates and audience members**
- **The lab provides water analysis services to county residents and municipalities for a fee**
- **Lab and staff are certified**
- **Lab has 10 full-time and 3 part-time and 3 seasonal employees**
- **In 2017 the lab collected \$839,000 in revenue**
- **On-line payments being accepted**
- **New initiatives within the lab including a new Lab Safety Program**
- **Lab renovations such as cabinets, plumbing and ventilation will accommodate the expansion of lab analysis programs**
- **New lab testing programs could generate \$50,000 to \$75,000 in additional revenue**

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So, the second topic is the County Lab Renovations, an update on that.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: All right. And the next PowerPoint presentation, there we go. All right. Well, as you know, the building next to us has a loud air conditioner that probably affects your meeting, but we have a laboratory right next door and that's the Barnstable County Water Quality Laboratory. And, basically, the purpose of the laboratory is to provide water analysis services to Barnstable County's residents and municipalities alike.

Our laboratory is certified. We go through a certification through the Mass. Department of Environmental Protection. We have ten year-round employees and three part-time employees, and we also get about three seasonal employees. So, when you see the budget, you'll see those folks that are there. They work hard. We have a lot of analysis coming through the laboratory these days.

We do a lot of work for water departments. We do a lot of work for -- we do a lot of work for municipalities, whether it be post-closure monitoring for landfills. We work in -- we do monitoring around 11 landfill sites here in Barnstable County. We provide services to alternative -- to around alternative septic systems. And the fact that we are the septic system test center, we get quite a bit of wastewater coming in. And we're finding nowadays that wastewater is one of our larger media that comes in. We do a lot of

drinking water. We do a lot of -- and Bethany will go into some of our bacteriological work with surface waters and beaches, but we see that we have a lot of freshwater but a lot of wastewater as well. And we're in kind of a unique situation too because we have a test center; we have the ability to write some of the analysis costs within the grant and that assists and supports the revenue from the laboratory.

And so last year we saw, in fiscal year 2017, we had an \$839,000 revenue brought in from the laboratory, and we keep trying to push that even more.

Our laboratory director works really hard at trying to bring more business into the lab and to assist us with trying to increase our revenue numbers. And you'll always see and we thank you this year because you and the Commissioners approved for some new equipment for us this year. When we do this, we always try to buy equipment that is going to be as automated as possible to assist with some of those labor costs. Now, granted there may be times where as we grow we may ask for additional staffing and everything, and we'll go through that the ways we need to go through it.

But for the most part, you know, we try to buy equipment where we have a lot of automated samplers and a lot of automated sampling. I highly suggest whenever you have the time, I will make myself available, come over and see the laboratory. See what you've approved over the years and come in and see that building and what our capabilities are. It really is a nice -- it is a nice set up. It's a green building too. We recycled the old gymnasium from the jail and it was designed as a green building. So, come on in and take a tour. We'd be happy to have you there.

So, you know, as I had put up there we have quite a bit of services that we provide. We do some marine water quality testing, bacteriological and chemical analysis for water departments. We do wastewater analysis from public and private treatment plants. We assist wherever we can there with the municipalities.

We do some post-closure monitoring of landfills and waste sites. We've spent many years -- our laboratory was instrumental in actually identifying historically many of the waste sites that we've dealt with over the years, whether it be contamination from a landfill and even some of the things around the years and years ago -- this is how far back I go -- years and years ago over at the Joint Base Cape Cod, we were involved there.

We also work with our school systems. We do a lot of lead and copper testing in the schools to make sure the water is suitable for the students. And Bethany's going to talk about our Marine and Freshwater Beach Program.

We have also been doing some new initiatives within the laboratory. Having this nice, new building and everything, yes, we have folks in nice areas of -- a nice new building and a nice office area, nice spots to do their work. But we also, now that we're there, we wanted to make sure we initiated a new Laboratory Safety Program. And the Laboratory Safety Program is there to make sure that are 10 workers or 13 workers right now have a good idea of what safety procedures are in the laboratory. We want to make sure that our workers are in a safe environment.

And should there be an issue, they can talk to a safety officer in order to get that issue corrected. We deal with a lot of hazardous, you know, we have samples coming in from hazardous waste sites, wastewater, etcetera. So, we want to make sure that folks have a pretty good idea that they're going to be coming to work in a safe place. And if not, they know the safety procedures how to respond if there ever is an emergency, and

we're working with them on that too.

We also are just working on online payments as well, and that will work very well with municipalities who have now come up to line -- doing online payments. And also with our subcontract laboratories, I will be very upfront; there is so many analytes out there that we can't do everything at this -- we're going to try though. We are going to try. But certain things like 1,4-Dioxane or BODs, we actually sent those out to a subcontract laboratory, and that cost is passed on to whoever requests it. It is not something that the County eats. It is a cost that goes on to that client. So, we have, you know, we have two that we primarily work with, and they do quite a bit of work for us.

So, the other thing that we're looking to do is we're looking at expansions into some of the analysis that we can do. As you all probably have heard, we own a piece of equipment on the second floor of the laboratory that has not been put into play in a little while. It's called a Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrophotometer; Mass Spectrophotometer. And I do, I have to say that twice; I don't know why but I do. My chemistry minor is not taking me that far into it or my almost chemistry minor.

So, this instrument is a little older but it's still the benchmark instrument. And over the last six months, we've been really trying to get a laboratory area set up for it and get it up and running. That is going to assist us with looking at a lot of the contaminants for emergent concern that may be out there.

We have been going through a construction project on the second floor of the laboratory. We have increased plumbing. We have increased electrical. We have done some additional ventilation. My goal is after next -- probably by the end of -- let's say the beginning of the week after, we should have all the benches installed and everything ready, and we should have an instrument ready to be set up by the manufacturer. And I'll get into a little bit more detail on that.

But that instrument, we're looking to try to make sure that we can do things such as PFOS's, PFOA's, those fluorinated compounds that we see from firefighting foam but, additionally, we want to be there for pharmaceuticals and things like that too. You know, we want to be able to test for things that may be in suntan lotion, in shampoos, certain drugs, analgesics, whatever may be there; we're looking at trying to see that.

In addition, this instrument has the capability as well so, you know, here we are in the summer; we may have blooms of blue-green algae. This instrument has the capability to tell us what the toxins are, if we're seeing any of those toxins as well. And so it's really an important thing for us to get up and running.

And we've had a lot of help and support from the finance office. I'm trying to focus on getting some things done before the end of the fiscal year, and it looks like we're going to be in pretty good shape.

Once we've got it done and we've got that instrument up and running, we'll invite you over because it will be nice for everybody to come over and see it.

This is actually the laboratory itself, and this is what I wanted to show you. So, this is the second floor. This area was originally -- when the original designs of this building came out, if you look at the side farthest to the right, that was going to be my office. I think Bethany's -- yours was right next to the other one. It was designed as office space, and at the last minute we looked and decided, okay, maybe some expansion of laboratory space needs to be there. So, it wasn't originally intended to be a laboratory, but

it worked out where it could be one.

And so right now this was actually the original design that we looked at for this facility, and this was done by our contractor. We have had to adjust it a little bit because of costs. And so you'll notice there's a sink over to the left, that is not going to be going in there, and the desks on the back wall will not be expensive lab benches but probably desks from WB Mason in order to save some taxpayer money here. But over towards the right of the laboratory, you see where there's a sink and a lab bench, and I'll show you a little bit more detail of that.

And you can see the LCMS is going to be at the front of the room. This instrument is very sensitive. We have to be really careful when we're running this instrument. And even collecting samples to test for fluorinated compounds are difficult. Those fluorinated compounds, if you are wearing Gore-Tex in boots or we can't even -- we usually sample groundwater with Teflon bailers; we can't even use those because those all have PFOA's in them or PFOS's in them. So, we have to be really careful.

So, when we consulted with Waters Analytical, they said this is the best place to put the instrument is right here. So, where the instrument is we now have a ventilation that goes over, and on the other opposite wall, you'll see a hood with that little oval in the middle, that is a fume hood and that's where the ventilation system is running into.

We've got the roughing done for the sink, all the benches will go in, and that instrument will be moved over. We've had the electrical upgraded in order to run that system. So, it looks -- it's starting to look nice, and it's starting to look like a laboratory.

So, I talked a little bit -- the electrical has been completed. The rough plumbing has been completed. We've reduced the number of sinks. The difficulty was we had to do a lot of plumbing. We had some drain issues and where we were going to put things. We also had to vent the system -- the plumbing up there. So one of the issues that we've had is where we're going to place the plumbing vent and it's going to go out the roof, and we need to make sure it goes out the right space in the roof so we don't have a roof leak later on because the last thing you want over a couple hundred thousand dollar piece of equipment is a roof leak. So, we're working on that and moving forward.

We've already done the ventilation expansion. We have plenty of capability within that ventilation. And we've had -- all of the cabinets have actually been delivered; we just need to have them installed. And that's what the cabinets will look like on the other side. That rectangle in the middle is actually a window. That window looks outside at the railroad tracks, so whoever is washing glass, where or what, can see the tourist train go by.

And you can see -- lab furniture can be quite expensive but much-needed. We want to make sure that this is something that's going to last a long time and can handle the harsh chemicals that can be there. So, this would be used for preparation for the instrument.

So, you know, I gave you -- this my "To Do" list over the next couple of weeks. So, the laboratory cabinets we're hoping to have installed in the next seven days. Installation needed of the plumbing vent and the finished plumbing.

After all of the construction is done, we're bringing Waters Analytical in. Waters Analytical has assured us this is still the benchmark instrument even though it may be five years old; it is still the benchmark instrument. So, they're going to be coming in, and they're actually going to be converting that instrument over to stainless steel. So,

basically, the internal plumbing on that instrument is going to be changed from Teflon to stainless steel so we don't have any issues with cross-contamination for PFOS.

The other thing too is with the computers on there, we're going to have to update the software package. After that happens, we're going to be training staff, and we're going to be bringing people in from Center for Coastal Studies to assist us with that, and we're going to also have our own staff trained and some of our environmental staff as well. I've already talked to Bethany about coming in and learning, and we have a few other environmental staff that may want to come in and learn how to operate this instrument.

Once it's up and running and once we go through all of that, we do have a period of time, and I used today at the Commissioners' meeting 8 months; there is a process that we have to go through in order to get this instrument certified. And it's really not the instrument, it's the method, it's the laboratory certified and the staff certified. But we're going to be asking for samples, and we're going to be trying some things out, and we're going to try to get this thing up and running. And so, hopefully, we can get it done even sooner and have it up and running. I see the life of this instrument probably for another five or six years afterwards. We're very good on our instrumentation with taking care of it, so we are just -- you approved a new instrument for us; it's replacing a 10-year-old instrument. So, we're really good about keeping things as long as we can for useful life and it's just when the technology changes.

And that's it.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Excellent. Thank you. Questions? Yes, Ron.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Yes, Sean, on this instrument --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Mr. BERGSTROM: -- you're hoping to have it up and running.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes. It is been a goal since I've taken over.

Mr. BERGSTROM:But you've had it for a while.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: We've had it for a while. It was set up in the old laboratory actually. And if I had to make an excuse, when we moved up we saw such an increase in the other analysis coming in, we really could not -- we couldn't necessarily dedicate a staff person to setting it up and running it.

And you can see that through our revenues. We saw an expansion in wastewater; we saw some additional drinking water and that. So, it was up and running but, unfortunately, when it came up here when we moved into the laboratory about four years ago it was in a box.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Right. So, I guess my question is -- I don't know where you purchased this, but it seems to me that upon purchase you would have had the manufacturer or the distributor there --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Mr. BERGSTROM: -- and they would've --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Set it up.

Mr. BERGSTROM: -- calibrated the thing, set it up, and explain to the staff how it's operated.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: And they're going to do that again.

Mr. BERGSTROM: They're going to do it again?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: They're going to do it again.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Did they do it the first time?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: They did it the first time; it was Waters Analytical who we purchased it from. I don't know who took the training within the laboratory because that was before me, but I know the laboratory director did. And, unfortunately, it's been a little while since it's been operational, so my thought is we should just bring the manufacturer back in to make sure that everybody's trained.

Mr. BERGSTROM: And you'll have a person or more than one person who's trained and certified to operate this machine?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right. We're hoping to, yes, because it is --

Mr. BERGSTROM: The machine isn't going to operate itself.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Well, I agree. I agree but, yes, and that's where the Center for Coastal Studies is going to help us out too.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Okay.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, Lilli-Ann.

Ms. GREEN: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and thank you for your presentations.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Thank you.

Ms. GREEN: I have two questions. One was about the PFOS testing.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Ms. GREEN: So, what are your plans regarding that? Will it be for homeowners, businesses, towns?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I think anybody. I think right now most of the analysis is going to a Canadian laboratory. I think having this resource on the Cape is -- it's, I'll tell you honestly, the reason why this instrument was bought was because of a different contamination at the moment. It was bought for perchlorate and the thought that we were going to be looking at pharmaceuticals in the future in wastewater. And so really when you look at this and as the director of a health department to have this resource available for the homeowner for the private well, for the public water supply, and for the waste site that may need to be cleaned up; this is important and this is an important resource for the people of the County.

So, we would be looking at whoever needs it. It would be there. We've not gone into the business plan of it. We, initially, when we discussed it, we thought, and I think when we talked about it, you know, we probably look at maybe the first year that it's operational maybe a 50 to \$75,000 a year increase in revenue. But we also look at it as it's something important for us to do for public health.

Ms. GREEN: And would you be following up with, excuse me, information of how to deal with it if it is detected, which it will be?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure. Well, I think a lot of that's going to be if it is detected, we usually, for any contaminant, we try to walk a homeowner through what may be seen and how it may be able to be taken care of. You know, in some cases, I mean it could be even down to a bacterial colony in a well sample. We say, you know, we may not have the right suggestion for them on hand, but we will put them in touch with the people with that right determination if we can't answer it.

Ms. GREEN: And can you talk a little bit about the Center for Coastal Studies. I know they're doing training for you, which I think is magnanimous of them to do.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Ms. GREEN: But at the same time too, I've heard the Commissioners talk about the Center for Coastal Studies monitoring that they do and how they're planning to somehow take over that monitoring; can you discuss that at all?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: In regards to the marine monitoring, I'm a little out of the loop on that, but in regards to the association with Center for Coastal Studies, I think this is a good opportunity for collaboration. I think to have an instrument like this and to be able to collaborate with the Center for Coastal Studies is big for us.

I like the opportunity of working with them and also having them come down and work with us. And then even potentially some of our laboratory staff going down and working with them on certain things. You know, it's not like you're working necessarily with a private laboratory; you're working with a nonprofit that's out there trying to do environmental work for the County.

So, this is really a good possibility for collaboration. It's also a good possibility for collaboration with other organizations as well like Silent Spring Institute and groups like that where we can work on that water quality and be able to support, provide the service, support a grant, whatever it might be to assist them and even provide data. You know, whatever the pollutant of the day is, if we analyzed it, we can provide a lot of that data.

Ms. GREEN: Can I ask you why are you out of the loop as far as the marine monitoring? Does that fall under your department or not?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: No, it does not. Yes, that's all being done through the Commission.

Ms. GREEN: Oh, the Commission.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I've been involved in some of the initial -- any initial stuff but, yes, a lot of that is with the Commission, the Water Collaborative. And under 208, you know, we do not do the analysis on that. It's a marine water. We can do it -- we can do the bacteriological marine water, but we have not been too involved in that. I've been in some of the meetings. I'm not at every meeting though, unfortunately.

Ms. GREEN: But the Commissioners -- if the Commissioners move forward with their concepts, then they wanted the County to do the monitoring that it would fall under your department; is that right?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: We would do whatever you and the Commissioners say.

Ms. GREEN: I'm very pleased with the way that it's handled right now. Thank you.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Brian.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Yes. Can you tell me if -- of the contaminants of emergent concern, perchlorates, etcetera, are town water departments currently mandated and, if not, do you anticipate that coming?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I see it coming.

Mr. O'MALLEY: You see it --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I see it coming.

Mr. O'MALLEY: But it's not a current requirement.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: It's not -- my understanding is it's not quite current. We're waiting for I think from EPA and DEP is looking for guidance. So I think there's some

things that are starting to come on the books but we're not testing for it yet.

Mr. O'MALLEY: But clearly somebody was testing in Barnstable.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Oh sure.

Mr. O'MALLEY: And somehow that got picked up.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Uh-huh. Yep, they were.

Mr. O'MALLEY: That was not routine?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right, it wasn't routine.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Not mandated?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I think they might have been routine actually. Some organizations, I'd have to know for sure, Doc. I would have to talk to the water superintendent and see what they were doing on that.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Right.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: But it was seen, no matter how it was, and so hopefully what we can provide will assist with some of those analytical needs to the region.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Right. I mean I'm asking because I'm thinking these are likely to be reasonably expensive tests; so for homeowners, there may be a barrier. Whereas, if water departments are mandated, clearly -- I'm looking for how much volume you're going to be seeing.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yeah, and that's the thing that we're trying to determine too. So, you know, there could be a lot of research around anywhere where there may have been an airport. So, but also think anywhere where there may have been a flight line. So you have military installations, etcetera. So there could be quite a bit from there. There are not as many private wells out there that we have compared to today -- I mean to 30 years ago when I started 30 years ago. It was, you know, there are -- most places are on town water.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Yeah.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: So, you know, a lot of those private wells that were around the Base or whatever have been taken out of service but there's still quite a few private wells out there too. And so, you know, to test for -- to make it available, I mean, those are the things that we would talk with -- regarding fees and we'd be bringing -- any fees for the laboratory, we bring into you anyway.

And so I think as we start to move in that direction, that's a valid question to ask and something that we should be prepared to think about for a private well owner.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Linda.

Ms. ZUERN: I would think it would be a real asset to the towns to be able to do the water sampling right here at the County level.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure.

Ms. ZUERN: Especially for the 208 Plans and just the monitoring. And I also did take the tour, and I just have to say it was one of the best tours I've had. It's very impressive. So if you haven't been over to the lab and, you know, Sean provides another tour for us, each one of us should be able to go. There were just bottles of water all over. I mean they could keep track of everything now --

Mr. BERGSTROM: Don't drink it.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: You don't even want to touch the bottles in some cases.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: -- but it's very impressive.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Maybe we should schedule a field trip.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: I think so. That would be great.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, before -- just Patrick and then you.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Go ahead.

Mr. PRINCI: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and thanks, Sean, for being here today.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: You're welcome.

Mr. PRINCI: My question's more in line with homeowners and residential wells.

Mr. PRINCI: There's areas of the town I represent, there's a lot of residential wells and a lot of individuals are really keen on getting their water tested and so forth.

So, my question is if you could just quickly go through, you know, what's generally tested and how much it would cost? And, also, when you get that information back, are you keeping statistics relative to what you're finding and so forth and relaying that into the towns because there's some areas of Barnstable that people would like to be within a water district and receiving monitored water and they're not, and there doesn't really seem to be any plans for that in the future?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure. Okay. Sure. Well, we do quite a bit of well testing, and we can make ourselves available for anybody. Testing neighborhoods we do quite often actually. So, if there's a need, and I'll use an example; at one point in your town there was a concern regarding lead at a location out by the Sandwich line. And we were called in, and we actually did do some collection out there and ran some samples for lead.

But the great thing for homeowners is the service is available to them and we charge \$40. We're \$40 for a water sample right now.

Mr. PRINCI: And what would it generally cost?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: And that will test for coliform bacteria, iron, nitrate, copper -- I think it's either copper -- you can have your choice, copper or magnesium or manganese, excuse me. It will test for conductants, pH, and I think that's it.

Now if you were using a real estate transfer as well, in that there would be included and that would be for about \$110. That includes Volatile Organic Compounds, which would test for solvents within the well. So chlorinated solvents, something like, oh, gasoline compounds or something like that, and that we're able to do too. And it would include ammonia for that as well.

So, in most cases, yeah, unfortunately, there are a lot of well-owners that do test their wells but there are a lot of places that are still under well that we don't see the analysis for, and it would be good if we did.

So, for \$40, you can get all of that done and it gives you a quick identification of water quality. If there's some additional concerns out there like if you're, you know, might be next to an old gas station or an old dumpsite, you know, we strongly suggest to the homeowner to talk to us. We have environmental staff and we'll talk to them a little bit about what potentially could be seen and maybe what analysis could be done to assist with that.

So we probably need to do a better job with sharing data. Normally, if we see a -- it is available. It's public and everything else, and if we see a problem, we're usually really good about talking to the local health department. So, if we get a water sample in, and some towns actually ask us for our data, so we do a download every two weeks for the

town of Eastham. Eastham gets everything we do every two weeks to go into a water database for theirs -- for their town. So all of Bethany's samples from the beaches go in this mass, any private well samples, any samples collected around the landfill, whatever it might be, every two weeks we download everything. So it's there but not every town is taking advantage of that.

Mr. PRINCI: And, lastly, do you find that there's been any shakeup in the new location in your proximity to the train tracks?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: No.

Mr. PRINCI: Meaning like shaking samples or --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I haven't heard of anything, you know; as funny as it sounds, no. I mean we're all pretty good at knowing what time the train comes around.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: But --

Speaker MCAULIFFE: You set your watches by it.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: -- you know, and it's like -- and I always joke with my wife that I'm racing the tracks over to West Barnstable there, which drives her a little nuts but, yeah, we've gotten kind of used to it. It's kind of cool.

Mr. PRINCI: But it doesn't affect it?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: No.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Commissioner Beaty, did you have something you wanted to --

Commissioner BEATY: I have a couple things. The West Barnstable Fire Station has their testing bottles in there, so anybody that wants to get them tested in West Barnstable can.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Excellent.

Commissioner BEATY: But do you test for pesticides and also for like petroleum derivatives?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure, we can and we do. Probably what we would do right off the bat is if somebody was concerned about their private well, we would do this VOC test, this Volatile Organic Compound test, and that will give us -- so petroleum normally we find compounds in every column; we call it BTEX, which is Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene and Xylene. And so those compounds we can see in there, and we can see those through a standard VOC test. If we need to get into a little bit more detail, we may end up subcontracting some of that out, Commissioner Beaty.

So pesticides, we may be able to see some of it, and we might see some of it in this new instrument, and we may -- but for the most part, something like that is so specific we might end up having to send it out. And that's great because we can -- it's not going to cost -- that's something that we would pass on for that cost, you know, on certain -- whatever the pesticide might be that people want to check, we can at least try to find that laboratory that's certified to analyze it. It is not one of our certified things right now.

Commissioner BEATY: Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Ron.

Mr. BERGSTROM: I just wanted to follow up on something that Brian said; it seems like a long time ago now.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: I'm sorry.

Mr. BERGSTROM: But I was notified that our water would be tested by DEP. They gave us some windows so we'd be available. They were going to come by and test the water. We're on town water and they knew that.

So, I presume that -- they actually had to cancel for whatever reason. So, I presume there are people right now going -- probably ties in to what you saw in Barnstable --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure.

Mr. BERGSTROM: -- that the DEP is going around and checking on town water supplies to see. But it would be interesting to get information from them as to what they're testing for.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Sure.

Mr. BERGSTROM: You know, emergent contaminants. I think emergent contaminants is probably beyond the scope right now of many laboratories.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes, and just so you know, all analysis that comes out of our laboratory, we are DEP certified. So whatever analytes they're looking for we may be certified for. That being said, you know, sometimes DEP does; they'll do a water quality - a water quality review in an area and that may occur. Sometimes too if there's an issue in a certain area, you may see a requirement happen where you have mass samples coming in. That's one of the nice things that I enjoy as director of Health Department and I don't mean enjoy per se; I mean it's something that I have the capability to do. So if I sense a public health emergency, it allows me to prioritize. So if we -- let's say that we found an underground storage tank leak in Wellfleet, okay, and we had to do a little bit of follow-up and we had a hit in a private well in that area; we could go out and we can sample 50 wells in that area or 25 wells in that area just to make sure the other ones are clean. And we've done that before. We've done that on Friday nights before in order to make sure that folks have got clean wells. Now granted that was 30 years ago but it's been a long time. But we have that capability and it's something that, you know, as the director of a regional health department, it's one of the most important tools that I have as director.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Great. Thank you.

SUMMARY: Communication and Presentation from County Beach Program Coordinator Bethany Traverse on the Beach Monitoring Program

- **PowerPoint presentation on the Beach Monitoring Program provided to delegates and audience members**
- **Program assists the towns in achieving compliance with the Massachusetts Bathing Beach Regulations**
- **Program serves all Cape Cod towns plus Nantucket and Wareham**
- **4 seasonal samplers take approximately 350 beach samples weekly and re-tested when necessary**
- **Sampling results are available on the county web page**
- **Funding for the program comes from the MA Dept. of Public Health and from sample fees collected from non-public sources**

Speaker MCAULIFFE: We'll go now to Bethany Traverse and you're going to talk to us a little bit about the Beach Monitoring Program.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Yes, so I'm just going to set up the slides.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Today's Health Department day. Well, it makes sense, everything kind of fits together.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: And her presentation is so much better than mine.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: That is not true.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I was the opening act.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: So, for the record, my name is Bethany Traverse. I am the Environmental Project Assistant and Beach Program Coordinator for the Health Department.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Would you just move your microphone over?

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Yes.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: And that's so the video will pick up it.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Got it. So, I'm very happy to be here today. I apologize; I have one of those Apple watches on and the samplers are still over in the lab right now and we are very busy. So, I was just getting notifications from the lab, but everything's going well. It's just a little hectic.

So, we'll get started. Let's talk about the history and purpose of the Beach Sampling Program. So the Health Department has been doing recreational water quality monitoring for many years, even prior to the start of this formal sampling program. It all started down in the basement of the Superior Courthouse; I think Sean had some role in that back in the day.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I remember doing it in '86 so.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: And so this program came about when the Clean Water Act was amended in 2000 with the purpose of improving water quality in coastal waters.

So in 2002, the Environmental Protection Agency in the interest of bolstering water quality monitoring provided funding to the Department of Public Health, and the County took advantage of that funding and started our formal Beach Sampling Program that we still have in operation today.

It's a regional program, as you know, and the purpose of it is to assist the towns in achieving compliance with the Massachusetts Bathing Beach Regulations.

So, it's been 17 years, believe it or not, since we started this program. We serve 15 towns plus Nantucket and Wareham. We have four seasonal beach samplers that we hire on a yearly basis, and they do all of the sample collection and analysis. So, we train them to do everything from start to finish. We sample over 350 beaches weekly plus retesting when necessary, and we conduct that retesting immediately when we -- as soon as we know that there has been an exceedance, we send a sampler out immediately so that we can get the results back as quickly as possible.

We provide instant communication in coordination with the town health agents during exceedance and closure events.

We also upload our data daily to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health website. That's one of the requirements of the regulation. And we upload our data daily to our own Department website. That's basically just a pass/fail. It has all of the beaches in all of the towns, and you can go on there to see, you know, if you're interested in a particular beach whether or not that beach has passed for that week.

We perform permitting of semipublic beaches at the town's request, so we do that for about half of the towns. We don't charge any fees for that or we don't take any fees. And just as a side note, when you hear me speak of semipublic beaches, I am talking about, for example, an association beach, so be an area where there are multiple residents that have deeded beach rights.

And, lastly, we provide signage to the towns and semipublic beach operators. So in about 2010 when the regulations changed to require signage, we designed signs to be compliant with the regulations and we distribute them. We have them stockpiled up in the lab and we distribute them every year. They're permanent signs but they do suffer some wear and tear from being in the sun all day. So, we provide those as needed for a low cost.

So, I'm just going to start out by talking about what we're looking for. This is our beach sampler, Jules. She's in Provincetown. That's an example of one of signs. You'll see there it says, "Water Quality Acceptable" at the bottom of the sign. And when there's a closure, we have low tack adhesive stickers that the health agent or whoever's posting the beach can go out and paste over that portion of the sign that says, "Water Quality Acceptable." And that's a compliance sticker that says, "No Swimming. Swimming may cause illness." And when the retest shows that the water quality has improved, they can just pull that sticker right off, so it's kind of handy.

So, the bacteria -- we're looking for indicator bacteria, which is fecal bacteria. We test for Enterococci in marine water and E. coli in freshwater. So those are actually pictures of Enterococci in the top there and E. coli on the bottom. Those two plates would indicate an exceedance. While the presence of these bacteria in the water may not be -- while it may not be harmful, it could indicate the presence of other more harmful pathogens in the water. So they're basically a quick and easy -- it's quick and easy for us to test for these indicator bacteria in the laboratory, but it's not necessarily the bacteria themselves that are causing the problems. They're just indicating a problem.

So here are three of our beach samplers last year, actually in 2017, working in the laboratory. It's been great since we've had this new space. We used to be down in the basement of the Superior Courthouse and it was pretty cramped with all of our summer staff, so it's been excellent being up here.

I don't know if any of you are familiar with the process of how we do the testing, but they are conducting membrane filtration, and the concept is basically we pull water through a filter with a vacuum. The filter has tiny pore spaces that are too small for the bacteria to go through, and the bacteria sits on the filter and then we transfer the filter aseptically to a selected media, which selectively grows either the Enterococci or the E. coli bacteria, and then we incubate it for 24 hours. And at the end of the 24 hours, we take it out. You see a plate sort of similar to what, you know, we saw on that previous slide, and then the samplers count the bacteria under the microscope and then, of course, if there's an issue or an exceedance, we contact the health agents immediately and let them know. And we also, you know, provide them with paperwork to track the numbers and be abreast of everything that's going on.

So, what exactly happens when an exceedance occurs? So we immediately notify the health agent or the semipublic operator, if applicable or and/or the semipublic operator if applicable; we always let the health agent know, and a sampler is sent immediately to

retrieve a retest.

Now, in most cases, we only post a beach closed if there are two consecutive exceedances. So after the first exceedance, we perform a retest, let the health agent know. We say you don't have to do anything at this point, but we're letting you know that we're doing a resample, you know, we'll be in touch tomorrow as soon as we know the results.

If that second sample fails, then they are -- they'll go ahead and close the beach. That's a change that occurred in 2014. It used to be that the beach was closed after only one exceedance. But the state took a look at all of the data for all of many, many years that the sampling has been conducted, and they, obviously, noticed that statistically it was rare for a beach to fail two days in a row. And so that's been really huge for the towns. It's taken off a significant burden, especially since, like I said, the data has shown that within 24 hours the bacteria usually clears and the retest will show that, you know, that the results are within acceptable parameters.

But we always conduct a retest no matter what, and we'll do it daily as long as, you know, until the issue is resolved.

Obviously, people want to know what causes these exceedances to occur. So some of the more common offenders are, you know, obviously, animal waste: birds/bird waste, dogs, and in some instances humans. George Heufelder always used to say, you know, refer to the infamous Huggies load when you see babies on the beach with their little diapers. Rain and resulting storm water runoff is a big one. The majority of our exceedances certainly, more than half of them, occur during or immediately after a storm event. So that's a big one. Sometimes we see a definitive correlation with excessive seaweed or wrack. And then also a combination of factors can come together to cause these closures. You know, the seaweed, wind direction, currents, rain; sometimes there's just a perfect storm of conditions that, you know, cause contamination of the water.

And then rarely, you know, there might be an incident involving wastewater. It's not common. I like to think that the sampling that we do would quickly indicate if there was a problem related to wastewater because generally the water quality on Cape Cod is very good, and we would see a spike of contamination if there was, you know, a problem associated with wastewater. And, of course, we would be able to work with the towns very quickly to figure that out.

So how common are exceedances at our beaches? So, I'm sorry for the teeny-tiny little numbers here, but the take away is in the big font there. So this is 2017. This is for public beaches only. There are 2,139 total samples. And out of those, there were 61 single sample exceedances for marine beaches and 11 single sample exceedances for freshwater beaches. So the percentages for those out of the total samples that were taken in 2017 from marine beaches only 2.85 percent of them had exceedances. And for freshwater, it was 1.45 percent. So, obviously, those are really great numbers for our water quality.

Maybe even more importantly than that, there were only six closures. So, on the previous slide I talked about exceedances, that's when the beach water or the beach sample exceeded the limit, right, but there were only six closures. So it means that, you know, since the regulations were amended in 2014, closures on Cape Cod are much less frequent, which is nice.

And I should have mentioned that those are my kids, Will and Sadie, playing at the

beach. So, obviously, it's very important to me, the water quality.

You know, on the flipside, we do have excellent water quality but prolonged exceedance events do occur, and this is when we really see the value of our sampling program. So, this year we've had two prolonged exceedance events; one was in Eastham and one was in Provincetown. It was over roughly 2 weeks, and there was a combination of factors. We have those, like I said, we close beaches when there's two consecutive exceedances. We also close beaches when something called the geometric mean is exceeded. There's a geometric mean standard in the regulations, and that's basically a running statistical average of, you know, the last five non-rain event samples. And the purpose of that is to provide like an overall picture of the water quality over time. And so sometimes it doesn't take actual bacteriological exceedances, it takes sort of high contamination levels, not necessarily exceeding the limit but high, over a period of time and that can close a beach as well. So we saw some of that in Eastham and Provincetown. You know, the last couple of weeks it has improved, but from time to time, you know, we see some -- we saw a lot -- we were seeing a lot of seaweed in both of those towns and that very often can be associated with high bacteria levels.

So just to give you a sort of brief picture of our funding; we get money from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health grant. They give us funding for the marine -- the public marine samples for a certain number of weeks during the summer. And in 2017, that amount was \$51,500. Then we also collect sampling fees from what I'm going to refer to as our nonpublic samples. So, we have over 100 semipublic customers that pay for weekly sampling. They also, in addition to the towns needing to be compliant with the regulations, they need to be compliant as well and so that total is \$54,695 for a total of \$106,195.

The costs of the program include labor, so that's our seasonal staff, mileage, and then samples that are not covered by DPH grant funding which would include freshwater samples, any preseason sampling that the town might want to do prior to Memorial Day and prior to when the grant funding kicks in, and then maybe any informational samples that the towns request. So that total is roughly \$56,000. I put a little asterisk there to mention that some of the labor is -- one of the beach samplers' salary is paid for out of a fund account that we have for the Beach Sampling Program. We started that in 2010 so that we could feed some of the revenue that we take in from the semipublic customers for supplies and other needs of the program.

So, then you'll see at the bottom there that we, essentially, out of the revenue, we pay the laboratory back for all of the samples processed through the Beach Sampling Program and that was roughly \$44,000 in 2017. And then finally the money that, you know, stayed in our fund account for, again, our supplies and some of our salaries and all of that was roughly \$11,000.

So, finally, I wanted to mention our website and it's, as Sean mentioned, we have a really great -- or we're very proud of our website; we think it's really great. And right now, front and center is BarnstableCountyHealth.org and front and center you have the "Beach Sample Failures." You can click on it. You know, someone had mentioned that sometimes it's sort of hard to navigate and when you're looking for something, you know, you have to go through all of the programs to figure out where, for example, the beach sample failures are. So, in the future, we can look at making sure that there's a permanent

link right on that homepage to that beach sampling data so that you can access it at any time. But right now, it's right there on the front page.

And then here's an example, once you click on that "Beach Sample Failure" link right there, this is Provincetown right here. So, you're doing great this week. This is their sampling data from Monday the 30th. And then you could click on any one of these beaches to see precisely what's been going on at that beach during the summer -- during the season.

And that's about it. Are there any questions?

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Great. Thank you. Questions or comments? Yes, Linda.

Ms. ZUERN: I had mentioned going onto that site too because it is difficult sometimes, but you do have to go into BarnstableCountyHealth.org, like you said. And I actually had to go to a bar that said, "Programs and Services" on a black bar, and then it brings up another page with all the different pictures. You can go in that way and then click on a picture that says, "Beach Water Quality" and the beach maps. And I found it very interesting to go into that site.

You did mention Nantucket and Wareham, but I didn't see anything on the website, any statistics including those two; is that because they're not on the Cape or?

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Yes, that's just, you know, because they're technically not a part of Barnstable County. But it, you know, it might be worth -- I could definitely communicate with the health agents that there's an interest in their data and see if they'd like us to post it on the website. I'd be happy to do that.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: And were you requested to do that through Wareham to do the beach sampling, or do you do it because of the wastewater treatment plant there or?

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Yes, so they, basically, they do their own sampling, and they bring the samples to us every week for analysis, just like Nantucket. Nantucket sends them over on the boat, obviously.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: And we're reimbursed.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Yes, and we are reimbursed for those, all of those samples.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: Yes.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: So, yes, they sort of jumped into the program because of their proximity to us, and they had the same needs. We get funding through DPH for their samples as well, and then we bill them for all of their freshwater samples, their semipublic samples, etcetera.

Ms. ZUERN: Okay. Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, Brian.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Okay. So I'm following this link that you provided.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Sure.

Mr. O'MALLEY: I'm looking at the beach where I go, which failed by the way.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Which beach is that?

Mr. O'MALLEY: But failed -- it has a date, 7/23/18 failed, and then retest passed 7/24. I thought it needed two samples to fail? Does the fail mean it already was closed?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: It's closure.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Yes.

Mr. O'MALLEY: It's already twice?

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Well, no. So, if it fails -- if it said, "Retest passed," --

Mr. O'MALLEY: Yep.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: -- that means it passed the retest, right? So it wasn't closed.

Mr. O'MALLEY: But the beach was flagged.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Which beach was it, if you don't mind me asking?

Mr. O'MALLEY: Atkins Mayo Road. I ignored the flag but -- I said I'm going. I don't care. It's hot. I'm going swimming.

Mr. KANAGA: Spoken like a true doctor.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Exactly.

Mr. KANAGA: You write your own prescription.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: You know, I think there might've been -- I'll have to take a look at it. It might have been a geometric mean-related closure.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Okay.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: But, if it said, "Retest passed," that would indicate, you know, if it says it on the website, that would indicate that it had been reopened.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Okay.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: And so potentially the town just may not have gotten around to taking down the sign.

Mr. O'MALLEY: There had been a ton of weed come in, a ton of weed flushed in.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: We see a huge correlation to seaweed and bacteria. You know, it's a nice, dark substrate for the bacteria to grow on.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Yes.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: And then it washes up on the beach during the high tide and, you know, people come by with dogs and birds are, you know, hopping around merrily on the beach. And then the tide comes in, takes all the weed back out, and you just get a nice, you know, refresh of -- a refresher of bacteria in your beach water.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Right. Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, Lilli-Ann.

Ms. GREEN: Thank you. Thank you for the presentation.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: You're welcome.

Ms. GREEN: It's very interesting. So, I'm from Wellfleet, and the whole Lower-Cape or Outer-Cape depending on what we're calling it today, has an issue as far as the seals are concerned.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Yes.

Ms. GREEN: And I know that one of my beaches in my town was closed last year due to fecal content. So could you speak to fecal content in the water?

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: So that's essentially what we're testing for, right. So, you could call it fecal bacteria so that's what the beach would have been closed for. It's most likely in your case, in your beach's case in Wellfleet, it was probably a very transient event. Was it closed? Was it one of our beaches or was it a seashore beach just out of curiosity?

Ms. GREEN: No, it was a town beach.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: It was a town beach.

Ms. GREEN: Yes, and it was just closed for a short amount of time.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: A short time.

Ms. GREEN: Yes.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: So, one of the limitations of our sampling is that we can't know exactly what causes an event. We can take an educated guess, and a lot of times because the water quality is so exceptional on the Cape, there are some really obvious indicators of what the problem might be. Maybe it rained that, you know, maybe there was a rain storm that week. Maybe there was a lot of seaweed. You know, maybe there's been a chronic issue with geese or ducks. So, in that specific instance, I wouldn't know. It would take some bacterial source tracking to know, to pinpoint it or PCR --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Or PCR.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: -- we've talked about in the past. It's more expensive and a lot more technical than what we do in the laboratory. So, it is hard to say. But in theory, if there were enough seals and they were frequenting a beach, then there's no reason why they couldn't cause a beach failure. I think in most cases, they're more -- they're a bit more offshore, and we only take a sample within three feet of the beach. So, our sampling is very close to where people would be swimming versus the seals. But it's not out of the realm of possibility that seals could cause an issue like that.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Linda.

Ms. ZUERN: I just have one more comment about the wastewater because I was glad to hear that that was very low.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Yes.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: And from some of the other committees, you would think that that was the major problem on the Cape that we have to sewer everything because, you know, this contamination is coming from wastewater. But you're saying that that was not really a factor.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Yes, I mean not for -- I would say not as much for the recreational beach water quality. The testing that we're doing is limited to bacteria, right. So that's not going to speak to nutrient inputs, which is another -major issue --

MS. LINDA ZUERN: Right.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: -- on Cape Cod, obviously associated with the wastewater.

Our former director, George Heufelder, always used to say, "It only takes about eight inches of sand to filter the water of bacteria," right?

Mr. O'MALLEY: Correct.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: And so it would take a pretty substantial event for, you know, or a leak or a pipe break or whatever for an issue to occur related to wastewater, but it has happened for sure.

So as far as beach water quality, it's not as much an issue. It's a hot-button topic that comes up all the time. You know, I think when people get upset about a closure in their area, they go to that first and foremost. They assume, you know, my neighbor has this, you know, and I've seen him and they've got all these issues at their house, and I think that's what's happening and it's usually not. You know, we have to sort of talk them down from that because it's usually not the case.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: You're looking at bacteria --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: That's right.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: -- whereas, the testing is the total maximum daily load which is for nitrates, which is another -- this is something that they're not specifically looking into.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Right.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: It is two different things.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes. You're looking at an open-water beach, and you're looking at bacteria level. And in a lot of cases what we're looking at for water quality is estuaries and looking at what that quality may be. So, nitrate could cause some nitrification in those situations.

So, this is just, you know, in a lot of cases it's more of an open water where we're collecting that sample. It might be different when you start getting into a harbor area or into an estuary when it comes to doing the bacteriological sampling and it's not looking at nitrate.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: In one of our local ponds when I came to the Cape over 30 years ago, the local thing was don't swim there in August because the birds will pollute the water and you don't want to, you know, you can actually physically see the change between July and August. So the standard was, well, should we start doing DNA analysis on the E. coli, and then you'll know exactly who's polluting the water but that's a whole reach beyond. You just -- if you don't know -- if you have a local freshwater, in-town pond that it does change over the summer.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: If we ever come back for a PCR analyzer, that could be what we're doing.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: And my other comment in terms of the overall lapping, its amazing how things evolve because when we were starting on this wastewater journey probably eight years ago, many towns it was all about nitrogen, and then pharmaceuticals were sort of out there, and phosphate was sort of out there. And now as you go down the road, you have things with -- items of emergent concern. So, it's always a moving target. So, it's great that this piece of equipment, which I assume was very costly; I think it was \$300,000 or more, half-a-million?

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: I think he got it for about \$240,000.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Oh, okay.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: It was about \$250,000 just under \$300,000.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: It's great that it can be retrofitted for PFOS because you could take the Teflon out and put stainless steel in --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Absolutely.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: -- and kind of get more mileage out of your expensive piece of lab equipment.

But I want to thank you for --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: -- a very informative and interesting discussion. I think part of us, and I appreciate the numbers part of it too, part of our look at things is in terms of budgeting so we want to see, you know, what's costing us money, where we're getting revenues, you know, how the puzzle fits together? So, this was a really good background

to give us more information when we do look at the budget starting next fall.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Awesome. Excellent.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Is there anything else? I didn't mean to cut anybody off?

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: One thing; can I just mention one thing?

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: About your question, one thing that we do sort of keep an eye out for in the Beach Sampling Program, we don't test for it but we keep an eye out for it, cyanobacteria. And that's another thing that we tend to see in August at some of the ponds. Especially you'll see -- if you see like a scum layer, the paint stain, it almost looks like paint.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: That is cyanobacteria. The state handles -- they call it, they have a HAB program, Harmful Algae Blooms, and whenever we see that, we report it to the state and they did go out and do the actual counts. And then on some occasions, a beach might be closed due to cyanobacteria. But I believe that's another -- another parameter that the new instrument will be able to --

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: -- potentially test for cyanobacteria levels.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: At least the toxins.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: We'll definitely schedule a tour for those who are available. But, obviously, if people can't make the group tour, then perhaps individual tours, and we look forward to seeing the new equipment up and running.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Yes. Come on in.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Thank you, so much.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Awesome. Thank you.

Ms. BETHANY TRAVERSE: Thank you.

Mr. SEAN O'BRIEN: Thank you, all.

Ms. MORAN: Thank you, very much.

The DELEGATES: Thank you.

SUMMARY: Communications from the Board of Regional Commissioners

- **Provided a brief update of Commissioners actions of July 28th and August 1st board meetings**
- **Flood Plain presentation from Shannon Jarbeau**
- **Discussion regarding appointments to BC Coastal Management Committee**
- **Discussion regarding RFP for County Farm and vote to release RFP for bidding**
- **Discussion and vote to approve an updated Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual with appendixes**
- **Commissioners issued Certificates of Recognition to individuals involved with the storm events of the 2018 winter**
- **Agreement signed between SEIU Local 888 and the county for 7/1/18 through 6/30/21**

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So now we can go back to, and I know we shocked

Commissioner Cakounes because he walked in at five after four and they were already underway.

Mr. PRINCI: Shocked me too.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Shocked you too.

Ms. MORAN: Right.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: I'm sorry; I was trying to get the meeting going. So, Commissioner Cakounes you're up next. And, sir, we got off and running right on time.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Wow, I guess you did. I was on the phone outside. I apologize.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: That's all right.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: I thought I was running five minutes --

Speaker MCAULIFFE: That's all right. Other than your presentation, your information, you know, we don't have much on the agenda so.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Well, you went very quickly so. But thank you for letting me come back up again. As usual, we do meet every week. You guys meet every two weeks so I'm going to be giving you a report on two meetings; July 28th and then also today, which is August 1st.

On July 28th, we met at 10 o'clock in the morning. All three Commissioners were there. We did have -- voted our regular minutes. We had a presentation from Shannon who is our Community Rating System Floodplain Coordinator, very informative presentation. Again, I would suggest that as you are going through, Madam Chairman or Madam Speaker, your planning that you probably would like to have Shannon come in. It's certainly something that all the communities are interested in. Here on the Cape similar to the ones that you've just heard, especially the Beach Monitoring one, the Floodplain Monitoring and Floodplain Assistance is something that the County's been very involved in.

We had a discussion regarding the appointments to the Barnstable County Coastal Management Committee. That was a committee that was formulated by ordinance, which this group did pass.

We also had a discussion regarding the Request For Proposals for the County Farm. As I believe I had mentioned the last time I was here, we were looking at putting an RFP out for the County Farm. And on our meeting on the 28th, we did, in fact, vote to send that RFP out. It's being structured in a manner that, as I tried to explain the last time I was here, instead of putting out all 98 acres, if you will, as one parcel and allowing multiple bidders to bid against each other for the full 98 acres, staff and the Commissioners have decided to put out the parcels and number the parcels. There is a map in the RFP that will show these pieces of grounds and the acreage, and this will allow multiple bidders, if you will, to come in and bid on different parcels, and it does not preclude, however, one individual coming in and bidding for all the parcels that are being offered. Each parcel is going to require a technical proposal, and each parcel will also require a cost proposal.

So in the event a single awardee gets five parcels and after three years decides they do not want to extend for another three years, then they'll be able to just tell the Commissioners at that time we only want Parcel 1, 2, and 3; we are not interested in Parcel 2 and 5 -- I'm sorry, 4 and 5. And that way the cost proposal will already be

structured so there won't be a dispute as to how we go forward on the three-year renewal process.

That RFP is out. It is on our website. You can access it, and you can download it. I will tell you that I did not bring a copy here for you today because state law prohibits it. State law requires that when an RFP goes out that anyone who gets a copy of it has to be notified by our Purchasing Department that they have a copy of it so she can follow up on what person is going to respond or not.

So, I could not -- state law prohibits me coming here today with a physical copy to give to you because in the event you pass it on to a friend of yours who might be interested, then the Purchasing Department would not have record of that.

So, if anyone wants it, go to the website, download it. When you download it, your information will be transferred to the Purchasing Department and we will know and have record that you have a copy of it. So, if that's your desire.

Again, that has to go out, I believe, a minimum of 30 days, and then we'll be putting together a review group that we will be reviewing not only the cost proposals but certainly, more importantly, the technical proposals.

We also had a discussion and a vote on the Barnstable County Personnel Policies and Procedure Manual. That has been updated. It is an extensive document, and, by the way, I'm very proud to tell you that we are the leading municipality here in Barnstable County with this personnel policy in place right now. I've been contacted by a number of other municipalities that want to see ours because they want to start putting theirs and formulating and updating theirs. There's a lot of new things that have been incorporated in this. You have already seen a lot of them, things like the Sexual Harassment Policy, things like the Social Media Policy, the Vehicle Use Policy, all those will be addendums to the personnel policy. So, it needed to be updated. It hadn't been updated in a number of years here and, certainly, it did not have a lot of the appendixes that I just mentioned. So that is also available. I believe that is online, and I think it has been sent out.

Your Clerk is nodding so I'll rely on her to make sure you guys get a copy of it.

Under "New Business," we didn't have anything. We also had under "Commissioners' Actions," just a number of bullet-plate things that we do every year. Again, this is our time of year that we are authorizing and accepting grants and creating funds for those grants. These are anticipated grants that you all voted on when you accepted our budget proposals. The ones in particular that we did on the 28th was \$137,000 from the Massachusetts Office of Victim's Assistance to Children's Cove. So, we had to, again, formally not only accept a grant but create a fund for it.

And also the authorization and creation of a fund for another additional grant of \$7,000 to the -- from the National Children's Alliance once again for the use in the budget of Children's Cove.

So that completed really our July 28th meeting. And if you'd like I could move quickly to today's meeting. Today was pretty quick.

Once again, we met here at 10 o'clock in the morning. All three Commissioners did attend again. We had no public and no public comment. We did have a review of our minutes of July 25th, which was approved. And, basically, we went right into general business.

One of the things that I'm extremely proud to report to you today is that the County

Commissioners voted and executed a number of certificates of recognition for a very, very lengthy group of people and organizations that helped the County and through actually Sean's efforts with the Emergency Management Planning through our very horrific winter.

I know that as we sit here today, August 1st, and it's beautiful out and we're all kind of hoping we get a little bit of rain because it's been so dry out. Certainly, I am on the farmers' aspect of it. But we have to think back what it was like in January, February, and March. We had three horrific storms here. We had a wide-range of power outages, and we also had staff occupying this building right here as the Command Center for those three storms.

And the Commissioners felt that it was the least we could do is to thank these organizations and some personal people that came out and helped during those storms. Again, the list is too long, and I don't have it in front of me to go down it, but I just want to let you know that we did -- voted that at our meeting today. We signed all the certificates of recognition, and then I had the honor of actually presenting them at 1 o'clock this afternoon in this room to the recipients.

So, on behalf of Barnstable County, we did a little thing but a little thing that I think really meant a lot, and that's just by thanking these people for their time and effort that they put in certainly over this winter.

The presentations that you just saw from both Sean and from Bethany, we also had on our agenda. So, we got that same presentation that you just got.

"New Business" came up on our agenda; we had none. Under "Commissioners' Actions," once again, this is the area of the agenda where I referred to as the bullet-plate kind of things that we do every single week.

We did authorize and sign a memorandum of agreement with the union. This memorandum of agreement goes from July 1st, 2018, through June 30th, 2021, and it basically reflects -- it is tied to the previous employment policies that I mentioned earlier. So, the memorandum was updated to include a lot of that, but it also was updated to include what actually reflects what we're doing today with a lot of this union personnel. So that document, again, was agreed upon and signed today.

We had an execution of a contract from a grant from the Association of the Health Boards. That also went to the Health and Environment Department of \$140,000 and change. And then we had to, again, create a fund to put that money into. And these, again, anticipated grants that the budget has been formulated on, so they are, in this case, with the Health Department. They did come in, and we've authorized to accept them.

We also had a smaller grant from the MAHB, which I believe, again, is the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards, once again for the Department of Health and it was for \$14,000; \$14,000 and change and that one was specifically to support the Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps. And I asked the question at the time because to my recollection I thought that was less than we had gotten in the past, and Sean had reported that, "Yes, it was and it was going down a little bit each year" and we're able to still though keep the Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps up and running. And it's organizations like that that, again, come into play when we, as I previously mentioned, do the emergency management planning and things like that.

So, basically, that concluded our meeting today. And the only other thing and I've

already reported on is I, again, was able to hand out those certificates at 1 o'clock this afternoon in this room, and it was an honor to do that.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Brian.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Thank you. If you would just clarify, you referenced the memorandum of understanding with the union. You did not specify what union we're dealing with and particularly were there any changes in that memorandum, any major changes in the memorandum?

Commissioner CAKOUNES: I'll answer the second question first. The only major changes in it were things that reflect what we are actually doing now that may have been in the old one. For instance, we were sending union personnel to go to the rest area to empty the trash barrels. That no longer had to be in the new memorandum of understanding. So that whole section was taken out. Things like that were removed to better reflect what we actually do today as opposed to just leaving them in there because it was something that we had done in the past.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Yes.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: And as far as the actual union itself goes, it is the Barnstable County and Service Employees International Union, the SEIU Local 888. It includes the Barnstable County's facility -- the Barnstable County's Facilities Union too. So, this is our, basically, a personnel facilities department, custodial, people like that that we employ, yet as you all know we are contracted and it's part of our arrangements with the state instead of in lieu of a rental payment, if you will. They also pick up and are responsible for our employees or a portion of them allocated to the space that they're using.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Great. Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: I have a couple of questions. The early retirement did not go through the legislature; is that correct?

Commissioner CAKOUNES: That is correct.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So, it went to Third Reading and then was not acted on?

Commissioner CAKOUNES: That is correct.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: And we were counting on the early retirement for some of our budgeting potential. Would it be premature to ask you and the Administrator to come to our next meeting and just sort of talk about what your plans will be going forward? Or are you anticipating further action on this and you want to wait a little bit? Sorry.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Yes, I've been put on double-secret probation by our Administrator.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay. All right.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: I'm not to talk about this specifically --

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So, we will -- okay.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: -- because of my personal anger towards our representation here on the Cape and to those of higher power in the State House having completely, as far as I'm concerned, ignored our request to have this move forward. We did a lot of work on this program. We've done a lot of work on the rehire program. We've done a lot of work on how we're going to back-fill the positions. And to have it not be put on the floor and have the session end, I take as personally offensive; number one.

Number 2, to answer your second question, so that's all I'll say about that. I'd love

to elaborate more but I won't.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Would the next meeting be too early to --

Commissioner CAKOUNES: I believe the next meeting will be too early.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Jack and I, as the chair, I've already sat in Jack's office for about two hours today. We're discussing how we're going to move forward.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: He's going to probably put his financial team together with Mary, and we do have a backup plan. There will be some reorganization that's going to happen. I think two weeks will be a little early. I would ask, Madam Speaker, if I could, let me reach out to you and let you know when we're ready to come forward.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Because you have to remember this is also personnel issues.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Right, right.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: So, in order to have us both sitting up here saying, you know, I can't give you specifics. Or I don't want to say names, or I don't want to say certain things, I think it might be better to wait until we actually have something we can present to you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay. We have Justyna scheduled for our next meeting on the personnel policies.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Excellent.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: And I believe our Clerk did a significant amount of work with Justyna on getting these --

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Not only the personnel, but I'm actually meeting with your Clerk. We're trying to get a date now to go over the handbook which I believe is going to be an essential, absolute essential tool that should have been in place years ago that I can't wait for it to be done, printed, and handed out because your Clerk has been a very, very big help to Justyna and certainly, you know, I've had a lot of input myself in this too trying to get it to move forward.

But as the County appoints people, every time, I'd say it in my motions now; we also put a caveat that they, first of all, get a copy of the handbook when it's completed. Secondly, make sure that they complete all their state ethics tests and file the thing with the Clerk so we know we have a copy of it, and they know open meeting law and at least attend an open meeting law seminar, so they know how to behave in running a meeting too.

So that's absolutely -- it's been a great help and I know that, again, Janice and I and Justyna was supposed to meet but we will soon because that's got to get done. We hope that's going to get done before September in front of the full County Commissioners.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Was there -- I cut out discussion. Yes, Patrick.

Mr. PRINCI: I just wanted to let you know too that I was hoping to have some questions that our Commissioner can't really answer regarding the early retirement issue and going forward.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay. So maybe there will be a little bit more

information in two weeks but there may not be the full plan laid out.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Right. The only thing I would optimistically add to that discussion and, by the way, we didn't really discuss this at our meeting but it is something that is ongoing, and I feel I'm very much within my realm of discussing it because, again, you know, it's a big issue, and it just happened that the legislature closed. But there has been some reporting that whether we have to refile or whether we have to put a heading on this as a Home Rule amendment --

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Oh yes.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: -- or a Home Rule --

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Petition.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: -- petition, thank you; then it can be passed in an informal session.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Oh, that would be great.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: So why I've been put on double-secret probation is because there is a small facet of people who believe that they can move this forward and have it passed in an informal session, and they don't want my nasty mouth to stop that process. So that's why I'm being nice.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay. Lid on for now. Yes, Lilli-Ann.

Ms. GREEN: Thank you. And to that end, what is the Bill number on that, and is it a House or a Senate Bill?

Commissioner CAKOUNES: If I can't find it right now, I will text it to you but I think I have it in my notes here.

Clerk O'CONNELL: 4107.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: What is it?

Clerk O'CONNELL: I think it's 4107.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Yes, that sounds right, 4107.

Ms. GREEN: House Bill?

Clerk O'CONNELL: House Bill.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: House Bill.

Ms. GREEN: Thank you.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: The Senate's ready to move on it according to my sources. We've just got to get it out of the House first.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Oh, just one other thing that we did talk about today too if I may, Ma'am, -- if I may, Madam Speaker? In Jack's reports, and Jack apologizes he had to leave early. He's got some family visiting. We went through a number and discussed very, very briefly a number of things because they were not on our agenda but they're do impact us.

First of all, there's the House Bill 4841, which is the -- everybody's referring it to as the Airbnb Tax Bill that passed. I think that the Assembly and certainly the County Commissioners are going to be taking a really, really close eye on this one. This is designated to set money aside for wastewater and wastewater protection.

And kudos to you, all, for having voted the new Coastal Management Committee in place, and kudos to you all for having put a really good ordinance together with the Coastal -- the Cape Water -- the Cape Cod --

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Water Collaborative.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: -- Water Collaborative because both of those committees, I believe, are going to be in an excellent position now when these funds do start becoming available to make sure that we can not only get our share down here on the Cape and reinstitute it back into the Clean Water. But I'll certainly be able to follow it, track it, and have some responsibility as to where it's being spent. And I know that both those organizations, I think, are going to be looking forward to moving forward on that.

The other one that was also a Senate Bill 2625, which is the Economic Development Bill, that did pass. That has a blue economy language in it and I also believe that the Coastal Management Committee will probably be looking at some language in that also to see if we can somehow grab some monies. And I'm looking at our new chairman of the Economic Development Committee because these, again, are funds that are going to really come down and be available to us. And we have done the footwork, and we have laid the foundation. Now we have the committees in place and they're ready to move forward. So, I think we're going to have a really good spring on that.

The only other one I will add is House Bill 4835, which is an Agricultural Bill, and it has some language in there not only about education but it has language in there about hydroponics and aquaponics. And our staff over at the Extension center is looking very closely at that. And, again, this all ties into the County Farm lease and to a number of the parcels, especially the buildings that we decided not to put out to lease because we're hoping that as things like this come forward, it's going to open up the opportunity for the County to really secure some outside fundings to really do some good things so.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Great. Thank you.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Okay

Speaker MCAULIFFE: That's great. Thank you, very much.

Commissioner CAKOUNES: Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: I see no public officials.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: No members of the public.

ASSEMBLY CONVENES

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So, we will convene the Assembly.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: We have no committee reports, I believe.

SUMMARY: REPORT FROM THE CLERK

- **Clerk's participation on the Personnel Manual Review Committee has been completed**
- **Clerk working with other staff on Committee Handbook**

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Is there a report from the Clerk?

Clerk O'CONNELL: Just briefly, as Commissioner Cakounes indicated on the passage of the personnel policy or the update of it, and I did attend that particular Commissioners meeting because I want to be there to support Justyna's efforts and also

other members of the committee. It was approximately a three-year process. It took three years to navigate and get all that done and up-to-date. So that's done. I'm more than happy to forward to you what Justyna sent to me, the personnel policy and all of the attachments.

I really don't think it probably pertains to Assembly Delegates per se, but I'm more than happy to pass that information along to you, and I will do that via email tomorrow. There are a lot of attachments, so you'll see it.

Also, with regards to working on the committee handbook, that's going to start to formalize within the next week or two as Commissioner Cakounes indicated. It became obvious to me in starting the process where people are being appointed; I'm swearing them in. Gone are the days when, yeah, last week I swore in Mary and, you know, I remember that. There are a lot of committees, a lot of people, so I started to develop like, basically, like a little database that will have the names of all the committees and all the people and the dates and checkmarks which I'm suggesting may be something that, for lack of a better term, maybe not interactive but it can be available on the website so that every member of the public can see who's on what committee, if they've completed their requirements, and it's also helpful for the people on that committee to know, oh gee, I haven't done that yet. So that's coming along.

And as usual, the Speaker and I both appreciate very much when you are able to notify us in advance of any anticipated tardy arrivals or absences because it helps with the planning of the meetings as we go forward.

So that's it. That's all I have today.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Thank you.

Clerk O'CONNELL: Thank you.

SUMMARY: OTHER BUSINESS

- **Speaker nomination and recommendation to commissioners for county committees**
- **Delegate James Killion to BC Coastal Management Committee**
- **Delegate John Ohman to Grants Committee**
- **Interest in receiving an update on 208 funding sources and relationship to the revenue that will be generated from the Airbnb bill**

Speaker MCAULIFFE: My item under "Other Business," at the last meeting I know there was some confusion about nominations for the Coastal Management Committee. I had one request and that person was nominated from Jim Killion.

So, going forward, I don't know if just -- if you approve the nominations, will you notify us when the committees -- you can't speak now

But going forward, my request to you would be, perhaps, once you formally accept nominations or designate the committee, perhaps you could just notify me and I'll notify the Assembly or notify -- I don't know when you're going to make that decision.

And then John Ohman, I had asked him two years ago, I think it was, to be on the Grants Committee. Jack Yunits had told me, I guess about a month ago, that that was going to be reconstituted/reinvigorated and redone.

Mr. OHMAN: Restarted.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Restarted, I guess. I don't know if it was ever started but started. And John Ohman had expressed interest in being on the committee, and he's continued to express interest.

So, obviously, I just want to let the Assembly know that these two requests have been met. And going forward, if anybody has any interest, just let me know, you know, as openings come up so that I don't hear by the grapevine that someone was interested and I didn't know that, okay?

And that's all I have. Anybody have -- yes, Ron.

Mr. BERGSTROM: Just, you know, I'd like to request that the Speaker bring in representatives from the Cape Cod Commission. Apparently, the bill passed by the legislature, there was a set aside of a certain percentage of money from short-term rentals for wastewater management. And it's going to be, obviously, well needed and it's going to work within the 208 Program and the various entities that have been created to deal with this problem. So, it's a complicated issue.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Right.

Mr. BERGSTROM: People reading those stories are not quite exactly aware of how it's going to work.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Right.

Mr. BERGSTROM: And I know we've got this time now before --

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes.

Mr. BERGSTROM: -- so I'd like to get them --

Speaker MCAULIFFE: And that's good. I have a list -- three lists that I'm working from for a topic. So, it depends on -- I've had Assembly members, Mary and Lilli-Ann, and also Jack has given me requests and sometimes people will just shoot me an email. And then, obviously, this.

So, going forward, next week will be -- next time will be Justyna on the policies, and we're still looking for another topic.

In September, we will have Children's Cove, and I'd like to also, looking at this, have some sort of legislative -- try and get some sort of legislator here together. It might be challenging in election season, but it might also be that's when they want to come.

So you never -- I'm not sure how that's going to work because I'm becoming aware that there's a lot legislatively going on that we're not aware of that maybe we should be aware of, especially as they impact the County in general, and we can work with Commissioners in terms of supporting things that, you know, have an impact on our lives going forward.

And I appreciate the input because it's good to have everybody's wish list. And I appreciate the interest in the variety of topics that I've gotten to work from.

Anybody else? I'll take a motion.

Mr. O'MALLEY: Move to adjourn.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: We are adjourned. Thank you.

Whereupon, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the Assembly of Delegates at 6:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

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

List of materials used at the meeting:

- **Business Calendar of 8/1/18**
- **Unapproved Journal of Proceedings of 7/18/18**
- **PowerPoint presentation slides – Septic Loan Program**
- **PowerPoint presentation slides – County Lab Renovations**
- **PowerPoint presentation slides – Beach Monitoring Program**