Barnstable, ss.

At a regular meeting of the Barnstable County Board of Regional Commissioners on the twenty-twentieth day of May, A.D. 2020, held through remote participation pursuant to Massachusetts Governor Charles D. Baker’s Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law on March 12, 2020

Board Regional Commissioners:

Ronald R. Beaty Present remotely
Ronald Bergstrom Present remotely
Mary Pat Flynn Present remotely

Staff Present:

Jack Yunits County Administrator
Sean O’Brien Director, Health and Environment
Owen Fletcher Executive Assistant, Administration
Elizabeth Braccia Director of Finance/Treasurer
Sean O’Brien Director, Health and Environment
Deirdre Arvidson Public Health Nurse, Health and Environment
Vaira Harik Deputy Director & Senior Project Manager, Human Services
Susan Quinones Human Rights Coordinator, Barnstable County Human Rights Advisory Commission
Ian Roberts Technical Support Specialist, Information Technology
David Murphy Assistant Register of Deeds, Registry of Deeds
Kristy Senatori Executive Director, Cape Cod Commission
1. **Call to Order**

Chairman Bergstrom called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. The Chairman noted the Board held the meeting through remote participation pursuant to Massachusetts Governor Charles D. Baker’s Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law on March 12, 2020.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Moment of Silence**

Chairman Berstrom asked for a moment of silence to honor all members of the United States Armed Forces serving at home and abroad.

4. **Public Comment**

The Board permitted members of the public to join the meeting online, asked that all public comments or questions be directed Mr. Yunits by phone or email, and stated it would address any submissions at its next meeting.

Mr. Yunits informed the Board he received a question by email from Mr. Steven Buckley regarding the The Cape Cod Reopening Task Force. Mr. Yunits explained representatives of businesses and government started the task force was started by to prepare guidance for reopening. He further explained the task force progressed into an advocacy group for Cape businesses. He highlighted the work of the State Legislative Delegation and the Cape Cod Commission in assisting businesses with questions regarding reopening.

5. **Approval of Minutes**

   a. **Regular Meeting of May 13, 2020**

   Motion by Commissioner Beaty to approve the minutes of the Board of Regional Commissioners’ Regular Meeting of May 13, 2020 as presented, 2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0

6. **General Business**

   a. **Update on COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) and Barnstable County**

   Mr. O’Brien gave an update to the Board and noted the downward trend in both new confirmed cases of COVID-19 and hospital use related to the virus. Ms. Harik
highlighted the success of hospitals on the Cape dealing with the surge in cases during the month of April. She also spoke regarding the need for continued social distancing, and masking if distancing was not possible. Commissioner Beaty asked if there was available evidence for the effect of these measures on flattening the curve of increasing cases. Ms. Harik explained that though there were no statistics specifically for Barnstable County, there was ample studies showing such evidence.

Chairman Bergstrom asked what the effect of widespread infection on the community would be. The Board had a lengthy discussion on the issue, and Ms. Arvidson spoke of the need for testing individuals for active virus even if testing showed antibodies present in individual cases. Commission Flynn spoke regarding the recent election in Falmouth, the first during the crisis.

b. Recognizing Amanda DaCruz as the recipient of the 2020 Annual Malcolm McDowell Award

*Motion by Commissioner Beaty to recognizing Amanda DaCruz as the recipient of the 2020 Annual Malcolm McDowell Award, 2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0*

Ms. Quinones explained the history of the award, and detailed Mr. DaCruz’s achievements.

c. Authorizing the verification of the Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative, Inc. as administrator for the County’s photovoltaic projects

*Motion by Commissioner Beaty to authorize the verification of the Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative, Inc. as administrator for the County’s photovoltaic projects, 2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0*

Liz Argo, Executive Director of the Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative (CVEC), explained the need for this technical item. The Board clarified the Commonwealth required CVEC to certify the County’s compliance with renewable energy requirements for such projects.

d. Discussion regarding the economic impact of COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) on Barnstable County’s Economy

Mr. Murphy gave an update to the Board. He reported the Registry would likely reach it’s estimates for the fiscal year though revenue was down for the month of May year-over-year.

Ms. Senatori explained the Commission’s data dashboard on economic impact from COVID-19. Commission Beaty highlighted a survey created by the Cape Cod
Commission working with the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce. Chairman Bergstrom expressed concern there would be different rules for each town. Ms. Senatori and Mr. O’Brien reinforced this was the decision of each town, but there was hope towns would make similar decisions based on use of the same data.

The Board had a lengthy discussion on differing standards for towns during the emergencet so far. Ms. Arvidson noted at this point there was no plans to open residential housing for tourists until later in the summer.

7. New Business – Other business not reasonably anticipated by the Chair

There was no new business at this meeting.

8. Commissioners’ Actions

   a. Authorizing the execution of an agreement with the Town of Harwich, up to a maximum contract amount of $ 93,141.00, to do and perform all dredge related work at Allen Harbor

   Motion by Commissioner Beaty to authorize the execution of an agreement with the Town of Harwich, up to a maximum contract amount of $ 93,141.00, to do and perform all dredge related work at Allen Harbor, 2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0

   b. Authorizing the execution of an agreement with the Town of Harwich, up to a maximum contract amount of $ 34,065.00, to do and perform all dredge related work at Wychmere Harbor

   Motion by Commissioner Beaty to authorize the execution of an agreement with the Town of Harwich, up to a maximum contract amount of $ 34,065.00, to do and perform all dredge related work at Wychmere Harbor, 2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0

   c. Authorizing the discharge of a mortgage by Feber Sabarense to Barnstable County, acting by and through the Cape Cod Commission, dated February 3, 2006, and recorded with the Barnstable County Land Court Registry as Document No. 1025461

   Motion by Commissioner Beaty to authorize the discharge of a mortgage by Feber Sabarense to Barnstable County, acting by and through the Cape Cod Commission, dated February 3, 2006, and recorded with the Barnstable County Land Court Registry as Document No. 1025461, 2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0
9. **Commissioners’ Reports**

The Board offered no reports at this meeting.

10. **County Administrator and Staff Reports**

Mr. Yunits spoke regarding efforts to coordinate with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to open the Route 6 Rest Area. He also congratulated newly elected State Senator Susan Moran, a member of the Assembly of Delegates.

Ms. Braccia gave an update to the Board. She assured the Board and the public that County employees have continued working through this emergency. She noted though there were additional up-front costs to provide for the ability of County employees to work, savings in energy and supply costs would off. Chairman Bergstrom asked that Ms. Braccia come back before the Board at a future meeting to discuss estimates for the remainder of the fiscal year.

11. **Adjournment**

_Barnstable, ss. at 11:04 A.M. on this twentieth day of May A.D. 2020, Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 2-0-0 (YES: Bergstrom, Flynn)_
List of Documents:

- Draft minutes of the Board of Regional Commissioners' Regular Meeting of May 13, 2020
- Press Release dated May 8, 2020 by the Barnstable County Human Rights Advisory Commission announcing winner of Malcolm McDowell Award
- Barnstable County Human Rights Advisory Commission Malcolm McDowell Award Application of Anna Dacruz
- Email from Liz Argo, Executive Director of the Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative, sent Monday, May 18, 2020 at 9:12 AM to Ron Beaty, Jack Yunits Jr., and Don Reynolds with the subject "RE: Verify CVEC as administrator for the County's PV projects"
- Agreement with the Town of Harwich, up to a maximum contract amount of $ 93,141.00, to do and perform all dredge related work at Allen Harbor
- Agreement with the Town of Harwich, up to a maximum contract amount of $ 34,065.00, to do and perform all dredge related work at Wychmere Harbor
- Discharge of a mortgage by Feber Sabarense to Barnstable County, acting by and through the Cape Cod Commission, dated February 3, 2006, and recorded with the Barnstable County Land Court Registry as Document No. 1025461
Approved, Board of Regional Commissioners:

Ronald Bergström, Chair  
Mary Pat Flynn, Vice-Chair  
Ronald R. Beaty, Commissioner

5/27/2020
Date

The foregoing records have been read and approved, May 27, 2020

A true copy, attest:

Janice O'Connell, Regional Clerk