



Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission

MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 24, 2025

via remote technology

CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 pm

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Steven Ewing, Frederick Khedouri, Wesley Mott, Kristen Reimann, Sarah Thulin,
Nancy Weaver, Peter Wells

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS ABSENT AT CALL TO ORDER

None

STAFF PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Harrison Kisiel, James Lengyel

OTHERS PRESENT DURING THE SESSION

Addison Antonoff (*Vineyard Gazette*), Philip Cordella

PRESENTATION OF THE WARRANT

Warrant no. 2025-38 was made available for the Commission's inspection.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Hearing no proposed additions, Mr. Mott declared the agenda approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2025

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted in a roll call vote six in favor, none opposed and Mr. Ewing abstaining to approve the minutes as written.

COUNTY AND LAND BANK COMMISSION TREASURERS' REPORTS

None

TRANSFER FEE REVENUES

Revenues for the week ending February 7, 2025: \$141,000.00

Revenues for the week ending February 14, 2025: \$118,940.00
Revenues for the week ending February 21, 2025: \$313,009.76

NEW BUSINESS

1. Poucha Pond Reservation et al. (Town of Edgartown)

The Commission discussed a January 14, 2025 letter from the Trustees of Reservations (TTOR) in which TTOR requests permission to make field observations of the salt-marsh here and on the Cove Meadow and Toms Neck Preserves, as part of a project to restore salt-marsh habitat on Chappaquiddick Island. Ecologist Julie Russell recommends approval, with the usual conditions (viz., [a] coordination of all activity with her and [b] supply of all data to the land bank).

After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to accept the staff recommendation, with the additional condition that TTOR secure in advance any necessary permits.

2. Trentfield Farm (Town of Edgartown)

The Commission reviewed a February 20, 2025 staff memorandum regarding the five proposals received for an agricultural lease here: (1.) Johanna Douglas, dated February 11, 2025; (2.) Collins Heavener et al., dated January 21, 2025; (3.) Kara Hume et al., dated February 11, 2025; (4.) Bridget Sampson, dated February 12, 2025; and (5.) Ray West, dated February 12, 2025. Mr. Kisiel recommended Mr. Heavener's proposal, as Mr. Heavener alone among the applicants currently lives on Chappaquiddick and has been pasturing sheep there; he also does not need a well. He wishes to lease only seven of the seventeen available acres; staff hopes to use the remaining acreage for the agency's livestock grazing program, viz., pasturing and/or haying.

Mr. Wells advocated for Mr. Heavener, whom he knows for his conscientiousness and motivation. After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to enter into its standard lease with Mr. Heavener.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

ENDORSEMENT OF THE WARRANT

The Commission endorsed Warrant no. 2025-38.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call

vote to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the purchase, lease, exchange or value of real property. Mr. Mott stated that the subjects to be discussed are the purchase or value of real property and declared that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Commission. He further announced that the Commission would not reconvene in regular session after the conclusion of the executive session. The Commission entered executive session at 3:10 pm.

certification: 

Kristen Reimann, Secretary