



Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission

MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2020

via remote technology

CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 pm

LAND BANK COMMISSIONERS PRESENT AT CALL TO ORDER

Pamela Goff, 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 Kiesel, James Lengyel, Ian Peach, Julie Russell

OTHERS PRESENT DURING THE SESSION

Sharon Cooke, Philip Cordella

PRESENTATION OF THE WARRANT

Warrant no. 2021-14 was made available for the Commission's inspection.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Agency Administration: Public Input

Philip Cordella stated that he never hears, at Commission meetings, about communications from the general public that may have been received by the land bank. Mrs. Thulin noted that the land bank will be conducting its regular public input session at 4:30 pm on October 26, 2020.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

By a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to approve the minutes as written.

COUNTY AND LAND BANK COMMISSION TREASURERS' REPORTS

None

TRANSFER FEE REVENUES

Revenues for the week ending September 25, 2020: \$857,080.18

NEW BUSINESS

1. Agency Land Management: Goat Husbandry

Crew manager Harrison Kisiel and ecologist Julie Russell were present; they (1.) summarized the process by which they interviewed candidates for the position of goatherd; (2.) outlined their reasons for recommending Zachary Jessee for this position (Mr. Kisiel spotlighted his livestock experience and mechanical and carpentry prowess); and (3.) fielded Commissioners' questions about him and his skills.

Mr. Jessee joined the meeting at this time. He reported having been raised on a South Dakota cattle ranch, with upwards of 400 head of livestock at any one time; he moved to California to work as a fisheries biologist and now works as a marine mechanic. Commissioners posed questions to him, following which he departed the meeting.

Mrs. Thulin conducted a straw poll; all Commissioners favored hiring Mr. Jessee. Ms. Russell reported that her investigation of housing charges in like island situations — Felix Neck Sanctuary; Preservation Trust — leads her to believe that \$1000 per month for rent and utilities is fair.

Discussion occurred. After discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to offer the position to Mr. Jessee on step 4 of grade 7, viz., \$55,571. After additional discussion and by a motion made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously in a roll call vote to reimburse, upon submission of proper invoices and receipts, \$1,500 to Mr. Jessee for moving expenses.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Agency Administration: Public Input

Philip Cordella (1.) asked about the goatherd's cottage; and (2.) reiterated his earlier comment about communications received by the land bank by the general public.

ENDORSEMENT OF THE WARRANT

The Commission endorsed Warrant no. 2021-14.

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. Mrs. Thulin 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. She further announced that the Commission would not reconvene in regular session after the conclusion of the executive session. The Commission entered executive session at 3:44 pm.

certification: Wesley T. Mott
Wesley Mott, Secretary