

Inter-Island Public Health Excellence Collaborative Meeting Minutes



Date: Wednesday, July 1st, 2026

Time: 2-4PM

Location: Virtual

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82562814239?jst=2>

Meeting ID: 825 6281 4239

Voting members present:

- Alexa Arieta, Health Agent (Oak Bluffs) - Y
- Marina Lent, Health Agent (Aquinnah) - Y
- Jerico Mele, Human Services Director (Nantucket) - N
- Anna McCaffrey, Health Agent (Chilmark) - Y
- Alex Lam, Assistant Health Agent (West Tisbury) - Y
- Brice Boutot, Health Agent (Edgartown) - Y
- Drew Belsky, Health Agent (Tisbury) - Y
- Stewart Young, Selectboard & Board of Health Member (Gosnold) - Y

Non-voting members present:

- Betsy Vanlandingham, Case Investigation/Contact Tracing Coordinator, Dukes County
- Caitlyn Winders, Shared Services Coordinator, BME Strategies
- Carrie Welch, Health Inspector, IIPHEC
- Lea Hamner, Epidemiologist, Dukes County
- Patrick Roden-Reynolds, Wildlife Biologist & Vector-Borne Disease Epidemiologist, IIPHEC

Alexa Arieta called the meeting to order. Marina Lent seconded.

7/8 voting communities present, quorum met.

Attendance Roll Call

Aquinnah: Y

Chilmark: Y

Edgartown: Y

Gosnold: Y

Nantucket: N

Oak Bluffs: Y

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Tisbury: Y

West Tisbury: Y

The meeting was called to order at 2:03PM.

Administrative

Approval of 6/10/26 IIPHEC Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Report out from Martha

Brice Boutot motioned to postpone approval of the minutes and the report out from Martha, Alex seconded.

Aquinnah: Y

Chilmark: Y

Edgartown: Y

Gosnold: Y

Nantucket: Not present

Oak Bluffs: Y

Tisbury: Y

West Tisbury: Y

Comms Round Up

The group shared that the Comms training was great and that they should bring it back in the fall for those who could not attend. It was beneficial for everyone who interacts with the press and the public.

Lea Hamner shared that the island was visited by the governor last week at an event that was organized by TickFreeMV and focused on what their plans are to reduce the number of ticks on the island. The Commissioner of Public Health also attended and expressed serious commitment and interest in seeing instrumental progress.

Drew Belsky shared that he had a 45-minute one on one discussion about how public health can help with alpha-gal with the Commissioner. The discussion centered on a handful of topics, and included realistic things that DPH can help with is adding alpha-gal to state required allergen certification.

FY27 SSC Contractor Vote

FY27 Budget Review

Alexa motioned to approve the budget, Drew Belsky seconded.

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Aquinnah: Y
Chilmark: Y
Edgartown: Y
Gosnold: Y
Nantucket: Not present
Oak Bluffs: Y
Tisbury: Y
West Tisbury: Y

The SSC will submit the budget to OLRH this afternoon following the meeting.

Visit to Gosnold

Carrie Welch shared a brief report on the summer inspectional visit to Gosnold. She said that the visit went smoother than last year because they were able to anticipate what was going to happen. Carrie and Frederick Hehre will share a more thorough report at the next Advisory Board meeting.

Stewart Young shared that Gosnold has a SelectBoard meeting on Monday and will hear from John Laverty, the Gosnold Town Manager, about the visit.

Update from Summer Intern

Martha O'Donnell shared that she has released the community survey and had meetings with partners. She has begun to see some of the common gaps, including difficulties with the boat, lack of childcare and expenses.

Adjournment

Brice motioned to adjourn the meeting. Alexa seconded.

Aquinnah: Y
Chilmark: Y
Edgartown: Y
Gosnold: Y
Nantucket: Not present
Oak Bluffs: Y
Tisbury: Y
West Tisbury: Y

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04PM.