

**RECORD OF MINUTES
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026
9:00 A.M.
OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
MANTEO, NC 27954**

ATTENDING: Dennis Robinson, Chair; John Head, Vice Chair; Tess Judge, Assistant Treasurer; Tonia Cohen, Secretary; Brenda Chasen, Richard Hess, Jeff Pruitt, and Rob Ross.

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Tod Clissold, Treasurer; Mark Batenic, Summer Copeland, Megan Vaughan, Town of Kill Devil Hills Representative, and Jay Wheless, Legal Counsel.

STAFF:

Lee Nettles, Executive Director
Diane Bognich, Director of Administration
Amy Wood, Clerk to the Board/Administrative Specialist
Lorrie Love, Tourism Sales and Events Manager

OTHERS ATTENDING: None.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Judge arrived at 9:03 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ms. Chasen moved to approve the agenda. Second by Mr. Hess. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Lee Nettles began the meeting reviewing the Town of Nags Head permit denial letter to Garage Band Charities for the OBX Rod & Custom Show. The Town cited noise and safety violations [burnouts and speeding for instance] as the reasons for the denial.

He then reviewed the response from Garage Band Charities and from the Board's Legal Counsel as well as the potential implications on future events at The Soundside Event site.

The Board discussed:

- the instances of violations noted by Nags Head Police, noting that the incidents went down as the event grew and that there was that evidence was circumstantial-it could have been attendees in violation but there was no concrete evidence that it was event participants
- Law enforcement's role at the Soundside Event site (traffic control, crosswalk establishment and control, etc.)
- monies the event brought in via tax collections and how much was given to local charity
- how the Town's new ordinance and crowd gathering permit could impact all events held at the Soundside Event Site
- the Quasi -Judicial hearing process
- if Garage Band Charities needed additional witnesses or legal counsel to speak about the event or on their behalf, or to advise them on the appeal process

Following discussion, Ms. Chasen moved to authorize Lee Nettles to be sworn in and act as a witness for Garage Band Charities. Second by Ms. Cohen. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

The Chair asked if there was any further business before the Board. Hearing none, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:56 a.m.

ATTESTED:

Amy S. Wood
Clerk, Dare County Tourism Board