

MOTIONS PASSED AT THE COMBINED BOARD MEETING, TUESDAY May 12, 2026

Approve April 14, 2026, Minutes

Mr. Jarman Moved; Seconded by Mr. Register to approve

Discussion Item A

Mr. Jarman Moved; Seconded by Mr. Register to approve

COMBINED BOARD MEETING
Bay County Tourist Development Council
Panama City Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.
Panama City Beach

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

9:00 A.M.

Council Room, PCB City Hall

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Johns called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Board Members:

Jason Branks

Jeff DiBenedictis (Treasurer)

Will Fleming

Mike Jarman

Reggie Johns (Chairman)

Andy Phillips

Clair Pease

Ethan Register (Vice-Chair)

Josh Wakstein

Nine Members Present at the time of Roll Call.

- A. Invocation- Rabbi Mendy Hevlin
- B. Pledge of Allegiance-Chairman Johns
- C. Approve April 14, 2026, Minutes

Mr. Jarman Moved; Seconded by Mr. Register to approve

Motion passed unanimously.

III. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minutes)

NONE

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Discussion Future Redevelopment of Beach Access Signage; Use of Third Cent

Mr. Griffiths discussed the beach access sign replacement project. He stated that the third cent no longer has restrictions and can be used for the project. The project was already in the budget and asked the board for direction regarding the next phase of the project. The board discussed the project and determined that the current contractor, who already fabricated the next ten signs, would be used to install those ten signs. After those are installed, the rest of the project will be sent out for the bid process. Ms. Pease asked to work in conjunction with the county with which access points were slated for disability access widening so the signs can be properly installed.

Mr. Jarman made the motion to do all the signs at once and do the 10 on the existing contract and bid out for economy to scale the remainder.

Mr. Jarman Moved; Seconded by Mr. Register to approve

Motion passed unanimously.

V. SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. DiBenedictis stated:

You should receive in your board packet the monthly TDP analysis for March of 2026, monthly profit and loss statement from March of 2026 and the monthly check register and bill payments for March of 2026. I am happy to report as of March of 2026, the organization remains in a strong, stable financial position supported by consistent tourist activity and discipline financial management. The revenue for March was 4,367,000. Total cash investments are 3,785,000. Total expenditures were 1,640,000. Total TDT revenue year to date for the fiscal year of 2026 is reported at 9,265 million. I'm happy to report that the audit status is for the financial forensic audit and findings were received. I met with Griff this morning. There are still some irregularities in the reconciliation of the financials that they're still finding some ... They're cleaning it up, but they're still finding some irregularities in there and they're getting those addressed as quickly as possible.

The audit recommends substantial operational and government improvements to reduce risk, improve transparency, and ensure proper stewardship of public tourism tax revenue, which has already been in place and as time goes on, we're implementing more rigorous steps to ensure transparency and the accuracy of the financial reporting. The CDB is in compliance with state and local financial reporting requirements through March of 2026.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Johns stated that there are several events in the next few weeks including Bike Week, Gulf Coast Jam, and most importantly Memorial Day. He stated that everyone should honor all those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for the freedom that we have today.

VII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Griffiths stated: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate all y'all's time this morning. So, a couple of exciting things. We have a new hire, Shanta Brannon. Shanta is now our COO. She's my number two. She will be handling all things related to TDC/CVB if needed. So, reach out to me, her, or any of the staff if you want anything. Second exciting news is Helen Adami has been promoted to Vice President of Sales. She's been doing the job since the Grenade went off anyhow, so she's well deserved and we're excited for her and what she's bringing to the table. We're going to have to hire a few new positions to help, one, to fill out Helen's team. Marketing, we've already had the applications out to fill out a social media piece and the sports park. We lost one of our valuable employees over there. She got her dream job in Alaska. She drove eight days to get to Alaska for her dream job. So, it's clearly something very important to her, but she was a star and we're going to miss her. So, we'll be advertising for another position out of the sports park as well. Spoke at first Friday last week for tourism day. Very well attended. Had both chambers in house, and tons of people. It was a great, great event. Tried to educate the public a little more about what you folks do and how the TDT is related and what it can be spent on and what it can't be spent on. I think it was very well received. Had tourism appreciation day later last week. Thank Patrick and all his crew. Probably 100, 150 of our folks that are in the tourism industry come out and enjoy the day out at the public sports park. It was a great, great event.

A lot of kids came out. We had a lot of stuff to give away, and I think it was a great event to show that we really appreciate the industry and the people that work in it. While Mr. DiBenedictis has recognized it, March revenues were slightly down, but I think historically as an organization, we weigh March and April together because it's kind of a 60-day season for us. It sounds like April, the returns are very, very good for the month of April right now. And I think we're going to have overall a very good strong spring showing. We will be bringing next month a lot of things to the board personnel policies. We were almost done with them for this month, but we decided to take a break. We had a few things we had to question on. You'll see personnel policies and procedures as well as a public safety reimbursement policy.

We'll both be bringing those to the board next month for approval as well as a budget amendment. The budget amendment will be directly dealing with fireworks. We're going to be help supplementing, which we have in the past, but we're going to actually add to it this year because of America 250. We're going to help Grand Lagoon and we're going to help the Navy base. They both approached us with some help and while we've always helped in the past, we're going to help a little more this year. We'll be bringing that to you next month.

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3 Minutes)
NONE

IX. ADJOURNMENT
Chairman Johns Adjourned the meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Cook, Recording Secretary