

**Cape Light Compact JPE  
Governing Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 11, 2026**

The Cape Light Compact JPE Board of Directors met on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 2:00PM at 261 Whites Path, Unit 4, South Yarmouth, MA. The meeting was held as a hybrid meeting (in-person and through remote participation) through a Zoom videoconference for members of the Board with audio call-in available for members of the public, pursuant to St. 2025, c. 2, which, among other things, extends the temporary provisions pertaining to remote meetings of public bodies under the Open Meeting Law to June 30, 2027.

**Participating In-Person Were:**

1. David Anthony, Chair/Executive Committee, Barnstable
2. Robert Schofield, Executive Committee, Bourne
3. Colin Odell, Vice Chair/Executive Committee, Brewster
4. Brian Miner, Chatham
5. Tom McNellis, Secretary/Executive Committee, Eastham
6. Valerie Bell, Executive Committee, Harwich
7. David Jacobson, Executive Committee, Orleans
8. Nathaniel Mayo, Provincetown
9. Chris Palmer, Truro
10. Joyce Flynn, Executive Committee, Yarmouth

**Participating Remotely Were:**

1. Bill Doherty, Bourne Alternate
2. Tim Carroll, Chilmark
3. Tristan Israel, Dukes County
4. Scott Mueller, Falmouth
5. Alan Strahler, Edgartown
6. Suzanne Ryan-Ishkanian, Wellfleet
7. Nicola Blake, Executive Committee, West Tisbury

**Absent Were:**

1. Forrest Filler, Aquinnah
2. Brad Crowell, Dennis
3. Wayne Taylor, Mashpee
4. Peter Meleney, Oak Bluffs
5. Leanne Drake, Sandwich
6. Russ Hartenstine, Tisbury

**Legal Counsel Participating Remotely:**

Audrey Eidelman Kiernan, Esq., KO Law, P.C.

**Staff Participation In-Person:**

Maggie Downey, Chief Administrative Officer

**Staff Participating Remotely:**

Angela Hurwitz, Senior IT Services & Data Management Analyst

Anneliese Haskell, Data Services Coordinator  
Briana Kane, Implementation Manager  
Dan Schell, Customer Service & Outreach Manager  
Jason Bertrand, Marketing & Communications Coordinator  
Kim Grant, Town Energy Coordinator  
Laura Selmer, Energy Efficiency Analyst  
Lindsay Henderson, Senior Analyst – Small Business  
Margaret Song, Evaluation, Strategy, & Policy Manager  
Melissa Allard, Senior Administrative Coordinator  
Miranda Skinner, Regulatory & Strategy Analyst  
Phil Moffitt, Chief Financial Officer  
Stephanie Spadoni, Energy Efficiency Analyst  
Stephen McCloskey, Senior Residential Energy Efficiency Analyst  
Tatsiana Nickinello, Energy Efficiency Analyst

**Public Participants:**

None.

David Anthony called the meeting to order at 2:06PM.

**Public Comment:**

No written comments were received in advance of the meeting and no members of the public were present for public comment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Board considered the Open Session Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2026.

Maggie Downey stated that David Jacobson brought to our attention a necessary correction on the meeting minutes description of the heat pump rebates presentation. She stated that she had asked staff to review and correct the wording. The Board postponed consideration of the meeting minutes while awaiting the corrected wording.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT, DAVID ANTHONY:**

David Anthony stated that he read an article from The Commonwealth Beacon that talked about Massachusetts' moving forward to form a climate bank. The article references funding the climate bank with \$100 million seed money over five years. He stated that he is excited about this and looks forward to seeing whether this could be another funding source to help encourage people to implement energy efficiency improvements. He stated that the climate bank would also include ways to help improve resiliency, which is important for the Cape and Islands. He stated that we saw the need for that in the most recent snowstorm.

**POTENTIAL VOTE TO SUNSET SCREENING COMMITTEE:**

Colin Odell stated that the Screening Committee met earlier today and voted to approve the remainder of the meeting minutes. He stated that in order to close out the Screening Committee, Tom McNellis was selected to approve today’s meeting minutes. David Anthony thanked the Screening Committee for the work they did.

Colin Odell moved that the Screening Committee for the Chief Administrative Officer position be disbanded as its work is presently complete. Seconded by Tom McNellis.

David	Anthony	Barnstable	Yes
Robert	Schofield	Bourne	Yes
Colin	Odell	Brewster	Yes
Brian	Miner	Chatham	Yes
Tim	Carroll	Chilmark	Yes
Tom	McNellis	Eastham	Yes
Alan	Strahler	Edgartown	Yes
Scott	Mueller	Falmouth	Yes
Valerie	Bell	Harwich	Yes
David	Jacobson	Orleans	Yes
Nate	Mayo	Provincetown	Yes
Chris	Palmer	Truro	Abstained
Susan	Ryan-Ishkanian	Wellfleet	Yes
Nicola	Blake	West Tisbury	Yes
Joyce	Flynn	Yarmouth	Yes

Motion carried in the affirmative (14-0-1)

**DISCUSSION ON ADMINISTRIAL CHANGES TO CAPE LIGHT COMPACT JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT, KO LAW:**

Audrey Kiernan reviewed the Potential Clarifying Changes to the Cape Light Compact JPE Joint Powers Agreement PowerPoint. She stated that she is going to give a quick run through on some non-substantive cleanup and clarifying changes that KO worked on with Maggie Downey and David Anthony for the Board’s consideration.

Audrey Kiernan stated that the potential changes are shown red-lined on the Joint Powers Agreement document in the Board Packet. She stated that they include the following: 1) add a table of contents for ease of review; 2) updates to the recitals and removal of some of the old explanatory language that was still there from the 2017-time frame; 3) removal of the transfer of operations section, as it's no longer a governing provision; 4) restating some language from elsewhere in the agreement to provide additional clarity on the voting process for County members; 5) reference to participation by video conference where it had only referenced phone in one instance; 6) updated language regarding the contents of the annual municipal aggregation reports to make that consistent with current practice; and 7) clarification that amendments to the Joint Powers Agreement that are to be approved by the Board may be approved by a vote (rather than execution of signature pages); and 7) addition of a provision to provide the Board flexibility to change the position title of the Compact Administrator by a vote of the Board rather than by the need for an amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement.

Tom McNellis asked if language needs to be added about remote participation when it comes to the Executive Committee quorum. Audrey Kiernan stated that she left that alone for right now because of the emergency legislation that temporarily authorizes remote participation. She stated that the temporary authorization is to end next year. She stated that if there were a point in time where the legislature adopted remote participation in perpetuity, the Compact might want to undertake that change. However, right now the Compact only has the ability through the authority in that emergency legislation.

David Anthony asked how often the Compact should be making changes to the Joint Powers Agreement. Audrey Kiernan stated that there is no defined timeline for how often you need to make changes. Maggie Downey noted that this would be the Fourth Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement. Audrey Kiernan stated that the proposed changes include a few needed changes plus clean-up of outdated clauses from the 2017-time frame.

Audrey Kiernan stated that the next step is to provide member towns with at least 30 days advance notice of the Governing Board vote and then for the Governing Board to vote to approve the changes.

Tom McNellis stated that the URL link on the bottom of page 13 is dead and therefore should be updated. He stated that he believes Exhibit B is meant to only serve as an example of weighted voting calculations, but that language on page 9 implies otherwise. The language states that Exhibit B “sets forth the population for each Municipal Member”, and he believes that the intended language should state that the latest federal census set forth the population. He also stated that at the bottom of page 10 the language seems to require an automatic ejection of a director who fails to attend at least half the meetings, which may not be appropriate. He stated that he thinks the wording should be changed from “shall be” to “may be”. David Anthony agreed and stated that there seems to be a handful more potential changes that we want to make. He asked if at the next meeting it should be presented again with the additional changes and then do the 30-day notice. The Board agreed. David Anthony stated that if the Board identifies any additional changes or has questions, to send them to Maggie Downey before the next Board Meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Board again considered the Open Session Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2026.

Maggie Downey stated that she had asked Stephanie Spadoni to correct the wording summarizing the heat pump rebates. She stated that on page three under 2026 Energy Efficiency Incentive Changes, the last sentence in the third paragraph should say “She stated that the whole home ground source heat pumps incentive is now \$13,500 per home. Income-based enhanced incentives for air source heat pumps and air to water heat pumps are still \$16,000 and for ground source heat pumps are up to \$25,000. If an income-based customer opts to be served through the turnkey program, air source heat pumps may be installed at no cost.”

*Robert Schofield moved the Board to accept the minutes as amended and to release them, seconded by Colin Odell.*

David	Anthony	Barnstable	Yes
Robert	Schofield	Bourne	Yes
Colin	Odell	Brewster	Yes
Brian	Miner	Chatham	Yes
Tim	Carroll	Chilmark	Yes
Tristan	Israel	Dukes County	Yes
Tom	McNellis	Eastham	Yes
Alan	Strahler	Edgartown	Yes
Scott	Mueller	Falmouth	Yes
Valerie	Bell	Harwich	Yes
David	Jacobson	Orleans	Yes
Nate	Mayo	Provincetown	Yes
Chris	Palmer	Truro	Yes

Susan	Ryan-Ishkanian	Wellfleet	Yes
Nicola	Blake	West Tisbury	Yes
Joyce	Flynn	Yarmouth	Yes

*Motion carried in the affirmative (16-0-0)*

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:**

**1. Potential Vote to Affirm Chief Administrative Officer as the Compact’s Chief Procurement Officer**

Maggie Downey stated that she is asking the Board to affirm that the Chief Administrator Officer (CAO) for the Compact serves as the Compact's Chief Procurement Officer (CPO). She stated Maragret Song has been taking the Chief Procurement Officer training, which is conducted through the Massachusetts Inspector General’s Office.

David Jacobson asked why the Board needs to vote on this when CAO is already considered a CPO. Maggie Downey stated that the Board has historically affirmed this through a vote. She stated that she is also correcting the title to CAO because before it was Compact Administrator. Audrey Kiernan also noted that the prior votes authorized different contracts and contract terms and this vote will have all such authorizations in one place.

*Robert Schofield moved the CLCJPE Board of Directors vote to affirm that the Compact's Chief Administrative Officer continue to serve as the Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) for the Compact, and to authorize the CPO to negotiate contracts of up to (i) 25 years for electric supply and related services and (ii) 10 years for energy efficiency programs and leases for office space that the CPO deems to be in the best interest of the Compact.*

*The Compact Administrator is authorized and directed to take all actions necessary or appropriate to implement this vote, and to execute and deliver all documents as may be necessary or appropriate to implement this vote. Seconded by Valerie Bell.*

David	Anthony	Barnstable	Yes
Robert	Schofield	Bourne	Yes
Colin	Odell	Brewster	Yes
Brian	Miner	Chatham	Yes
Tim	Carroll	Chilmark	Yes
Tom	McNellis	Eastham	Yes
Alan	Strahler	Edgartown	Yes
Scott	Mueller	Falmouth	Yes
Valerie	Bell	Harwich	Yes
David	Jacobson	Orleans	Yes
Nate	Mayo	Provincetown	Yes
Chris	Palmer	Truro	Yes
Susan	Ryan-Ishkanian	Wellfleet	Yes
Nicola	Blake	West Tisbury	Yes
Joyce	Flynn	Yarmouth	Yes

*Motion carried in the affirmative (15-0-0)*

## 2. Request and Potential Vote for CLC Meal Reimbursement to Mirror Federal Meal Reimbursements

Maggie Downey stated that she is requesting to change the Compact meal allowance rate to mirror the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rates. She stated that the request came from staff to have it brought to the Board for consideration. She stated it would be similar to the mileage reimbursement rate where the Compact updates it every January based on the IRS rate. She stated that the Compact right now is at \$66.00 per diem, but it is broken down for different meal allotments. She stated that the proposal is whether the Board would want to change it or not, and if they do want to change it do we want to stick to using one rate, which would be the Barnstable County rate, regardless of where the purchase takes place, or do we want it to be an IRS rate based on the location of the purchase.

David Jacobson asked where it is used primarily. Maggie Downey answered Boston mostly. Colin Odell proposed that the Compact use the IRS rate based on the location of the purchase as it is the fairest to both the Compact and the employee.

*Colin Odell moved the CLCJPE Board of Directors vote to set the Cape Light Compact meal allowance reimbursement rate to match the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) meal allowance for the location where the expense incurred for each calendar year.*

*The Compact's Chief Administrative Officer is authorized and directed to take all actions necessary or appropriate to implement this vote, and to execute and deliver all documents as may be necessary or appropriate to implement this vote. Seconded by Robert Schofield.*

David	Anthony	Barnstable	Yes
Robert	Schofield	Bourne	Yes
Colin	Odell	Brewster	Yes
Brian	Miner	Chatham	Yes
Tim	Carroll	Chilmark	Yes
Tom	McNellis	Eastham	Yes
Alan	Strahler	Edgartown	Yes
Scott	Mueller	Falmouth	Yes
Valerie	Bell	Harwich	Yes
David	Jacobson	Orleans	Yes
Nate	Mayo	Provincetown	Yes
Chris	Palmer	Truro	Yes
Susan	Ryan-Ishkanian	Wellfleet	Yes
Nicola	Blake	West Tisbury	Yes
Joyce	Flynn	Yarmouth	Yes

*Motion carried in the affirmative (15-0-0)*

## 3. Update on MA House Energy Affordability Legislation HB 5175

Maggie Downey stated that Massachusetts House has passed an energy affordability legislation, House Bill 5175. She stated within the Bill is a proposal to cut one billion dollars from the Mass Save<sup>®</sup> budget. She stated that it has a time frame where the Compact would have to file MTMs by July 2026 and the Department of

Public Utilities (DPU) would have a certain number of days to approve it. She stated that it will impact the last 12-15 months of the three-year plan. She stated that when you have a three-year budget and you're at the end, a billion-dollar cut out of our \$4.5 billion statewide plan is very significant. She stated that the Senate is currently discussing and they are not supportive of that large of a cut, but there will be a cut. She stated that the timing on this is unknown. The Compact is keeping an eye on it.

Valerie Bell asked if anyone had taken the time to determine the impact on an individual if the billion dollars were cut. Maggie Downey stated that she had an estimate of \$12 a month, but that has not been verified. Valerie Bell stated therefore they aren't really helping the citizens save money and are taking programs away that can help them.

Alan Strahler stated that Mass Save<sup>®</sup> has a bit of a bad reputation because the utilities are running it, but the Compact is different. He stated that it may be a good idea to have the Towns send a letter to the Representatives and Senators on all the good the Compact has done. David Anthony stated that he agrees and that over the past year the Board has discussed how to strengthen our ties with our elected officials. He stated that we would have a future discussion on this topic.

**4. Meshacket Commons Project**

Tatsiana Nickinello stated that the Meshacket Commons project in Edgartown is complete, and the project was a part of the Compact's enhanced incentives programming from the 2022-2024, which is no longer available. She stated that the Compact committed \$2.2 million for the project, which will be disbursed this month. She stated that the Meshacket Commons has 36 rental units and 4 ownership units for a total of 40 units. She stated that at least 50% of units are committed to residents with incomes of 60% AMI or less, which is what the Compact's program required.

**5. 2026 Cape Light Compact Industrial Rate**

Maggie Downey stated that the industrial electric supply rate changes every 3 months. The standard rate for April 2026 to July 2026 is 11.725 cents/kWh. The prior 3 months was 15.726 cents/kWh. The Compact continues to be below the Eversource basic service rate for industrial customers.

**6. MA Division of Energy Resources (DOER) Green Communities Award Announcement  
Energy Save Home Loan Customer Testimonial**

Laura Selmer reviewed the Green Communities Fall Competitive Awards PowerPoint. She stated that the Department of Energy Resource (DOER) has sent out the awards from the fall round of the Green Communities Competitive Grant. She stated that our first decarbonization grant is the \$500,000 for the Quashnet School HVAC. She stated that they were already doing a large HVAC electrification project, so the Compact was able to piggyback on that project and apply for a Geen Communities grant to support that. She stated that there is also \$147,688 for the Dennis Police Station BMS, \$250,000 for the Eastham Police Station HVAC, \$150,625 for the Orleans Council on Aging HVAC, and \$118,041 for the Nantucket weatherization and HVAC.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*Motion to adjourn was made at 3:27PM moved by Colin Odell, seconded by Nate Mayo.*

David	Anthony	Barnstable	Yes
Robert	Schofield	Bourne	Yes

Colin	Odell	Brewster	Yes
Brian	Miner	Chatham	Yes
Tim	Carroll	Chilmark	Yes
Tristan	Israel	Dukes County	Yes
Tom	McNellis	Eastham	Yes
Alan	Strahler	Edgartown	Yes
Scott	Mueller	Falmouth	Yes
Valerie	Bell	Harwich	Yes
David	Jacobson	Orleans	Yes
Nate	Mayo	Provincetown	Yes
Chris	Palmer	Truro	Yes
Susan	Ryan-Ishkanian	Wellfleet	Yes
Nicola	Blake	West Tisbury	Yes
Joyce	Flynn	Yarmouth	Yes

*Motion carried in the affirmative (16-0-0)*

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Allard

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS:**

- Meeting Notice/Agenda
- January 14, 2026, Open Session Meeting Minutes
- Potential Clarifying Changes to the Cape Light Compact JPE Joint Powers Agreement PowerPoint
- Draft Fourth Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement of the Cape Light Compact JPE
- Power Supply Rates PowerPoint Slide
- Green Communities Fall Competitive Awards PowerPoint