



# COUNTY OF DARE, NORTH CAROLINA

District 1: Roanoke Island & Mainland; District 2: Nags Head, Colington, Kill Devil Hills; District 3: Kitty Hawk, Southern Shores, Duck; District 4: Chicamacomico, Avon, Buxton, Frisco, Hatteras; District 5: At Large

Regularly scheduled Board meetings are videotaped and can be viewed at [www.darenc.com](http://www.darenc.com)

## MINUTES

### DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Dare County Administration Building, Manteo, NC

**5:00 p.m., January 17, 2017**

Commissioners present: Chairman Robert Woodard,  
Vice-Chairman Wally Overman  
Jack Shea, Margarett Umphlett, Danny Couch

Commissioners absent: Steve House

Note: Beverly Boswell resigned on 1/3/17 to serve in the NC Legislature. Her replacement has not yet been named.

Others present: County Manager/Attorney, Robert Outten  
Public Information Officer, Dorothy Hester  
Clerk to the Board, Gary Gross

A full and complete account of the entire Board of Commissioners meeting is archived on a video that is available for viewing on the Dare County website [www.darenc.com](http://www.darenc.com).

Chairman Woodard called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. He invited the Rev. David Morris from the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Outer Banks to share a prayer, and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

#### **ITEM 1 – OPENING REMARKS – CHAIRMAN’S UPDATE**

Chairman Woodard mentioned the following items during his opening remarks –

- He reported on the recent swearing in ceremony in Raleigh for former Commissioner Beverly Boswell as she took the oath of office as a new member of the NC House of Representatives.
- He explained that Commissioner House was absent due to representing the Board at an important fisheries meeting today in New Bern. He also noted that Finance Director David Clawson was absent because he was not feeling well.
- Chairman Woodard commented on the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. that was held at Manteo High School.
- He informed everyone that a video will be released soon reviewing 2016 and highlighting the year’s accomplishments.

A video of the Chairman’s update can be seen on the County website [www.darenc.com](http://www.darenc.com).

#### **ITEM 2 – PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The Manager outlined the procedure for making public comments in Manteo and via the video link to the Fessenden Center in Buxton. Nobody responded to the invitation to make public comments.

**ITEM 3 – ANNUAL REPORT FROM TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES**

Dave Peterson, Central Regional Director for Trillium, provided an annual report on the services that are provided for mental health, substance use disorders, and intellectual and developmental disabilities in a 24 county area. He outlined the programs that are available in Dare County and the number of people served. He noted that Trillium has funded 30 accessible playgrounds including one in Dare County. Mr. Peterson also explained how State funding cuts negatively impact North Carolina citizens.

**ITEM 4 – PRESENTATION ON PRELIMINARY FLOOD MAPS FOR DARE COUNTY**

Planning Director Donna Creef presented the preliminary flood maps for Dare County and its municipalities that were released on June 30, 2016. She reported on the public meetings that were held and outlined the timetable for adoption of the maps. She explained that the preliminary maps have significant changes with a large number of properties being removed from Special Flood Hazard Areas. Ms. Creef emphasized that low risk does not mean no risk and cautioned that the preliminary maps may not accurately reflect soundside flooding hazards or extreme rainfall events such as occurred during Hurricane Matthew. She noted that upon adoption of the new maps, the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance will need to be updated along with revisions to zoning districts and increased community outreach focusing on the importance of flood insurance. Ms. Creef outlined six suggested actions including – inviting a Sea Grant representative to a future Board meeting, soliciting input from the Dare County PPI Committee, applying for additional FEMA mitigation funds for home elevations, engaging with the towns to determine what they may be considering, devising a countywide outreach campaign on the importance of flood insurance, and advocating for higher ICC (Increased Cost of Compliance) funding.

**MOTION**

Vice-Chairman Overman motioned to approve the staff recommendations for obtaining additional input as outlined by the Planning Director.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 5 – CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION STUDY PRESENTATION**

John Anzivino, Senior Vice President of Springsted, Inc. presented the findings of the Classification and Compensation Study for county employees. A comprehensive report was given that outlined the objectives of the salary study and its methodology. In summarizing the findings, Mr. Anzivino said the County's salary levels are lower than the average rates paid in comparable regional organizations and that internal pay inequities exist within the County. He said the analysis shows that the County falls 7.13% below the recommended minimum average salaries, 6.02% below the midpoint, and 5.44% below the maximum average salaries. Mr. Anzivino outlined four implementation options for the Board to consider. Vice-Chairman Overman thanked Springsted for a thorough report. Chairman Woodard added that the Board will be looking at how to best address the findings of the comprehensive study.

**ITEM 6 – AUDIT CONTRACT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR TO END JUNE 30, 2017**

The County Manager presented a contract with Potter & Company for audit services for fiscal year 2017 in the amount of \$63,900.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Shea motioned to authorize Chairman Woodard and Commissioner Shea, as Chair of the Audit Committee, to execute the contract and engagement letter. Commissioner Umphlett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 7 – CONSENT AGENDA**

The Manager announced the items as they were visually displayed in the meeting room.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes (01.03.17) **(Att. #1)**
- 2) Tax Collector's Report

Commissioner Couch seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 8 – COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS & MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS**

Following is a brief outline of items raised during this segment. Commissioners and the County Manager frequently make extensive remarks, which can be viewed in their entirety on a video archived on the Dare County website [www.darenc.com](http://www.darenc.com).

Commissioner Shea – had no additional comments.

Commissioner Couch – talked about the Final ORV (off road vehicle) plan that the National Park Service will soon present to the community. He commended Park Superintendent Hallac for being proactive and gave details about an upcoming public meeting in Buxton. He noted that comments are coming in on the Rodanthe area bridge. Commissioner Couch expressed gratitude for the nonprofit groups that are hard at work in the community.

Commissioner Umphlett – thanked Commissioner House for representing the Board of Commissioners at today's fisheries public meeting in New Bern. She added that the Board is doing all that it can for watermen. Commissioner Umphlett provided a comprehensive year in review for two boards on which she serves by outlining the many services and programs offered by the Dare County Center and providing statistics about usage of Dare County libraries.

Vice-Chairman Overman – urged everyone to submit comments in opposition of the petition for rulemaking that was the subject of today's fisheries meeting in New Bern that was attended by Commissioner House. He said defeat of this petition is important for watermen and seafood consumers.

Chairman Woodard – had no additional comments.

## **MANAGER’S/ATTORNEY’S BUSINESS**

1. The County Manager outlined technology that is available to provide emergency notifications by telephone. He explained how this could be used to advise citizens of last minute schedule changes or warn of emergencies. He said the system has the ability to ring every cell phone similar to an Amber Alert for dire emergencies that meet certain criteria. Mr. Outten said the total price would be \$17,920 which would be prorated with the municipalities who have expressed willingness to participate; resulting in a Dare County portion of \$8,900. He added that this would be a one-year agreement paid out of the Contingency Fund.

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve a one-year agreement as outlined by the County Manager for a total not to exceed \$18,000 with a Dare County portion of \$8,900.

Commissioner Umphlett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

2. Mr. Outten informed Commissioners about a \$4,280 Budget Transfer needed for the Public Works Turf Management Department related to a vehicle purchase.
3. The Manager updated the Board on NCDOT’s plans for a two-week closure of the Alligator River Bridge for repairs and maintenance in the early part of 2018.

## **ITEM 9 – CLOSED SESSION**

The County Manager asked for a Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the County to preserve the attorney-client privilege concerning matters involving Dare County including Sink v. Dare County, Brooks v. Dare County, Lowe's v. Dare County (tax appeal) and Dare County and others v. NC Department of Environment Quality and others, and to approve previous Closed Session minutes.

### **MOTION**

Vice-Chairman Overman motioned to go into Closed Session pursuant to the provisions of the North Carolina General Statutes cited by the County Manager.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

At 7:40 p.m., Commissioners exited the room to meet in Closed Session in their Conference Room. They reconvened at 8:10 p.m. and Mr. Outten reported that during the Closed Session the Board consulted with the County Attorney, approved previous Closed Session Minutes, and took no other action.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Chairman Woodard asked for a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Shea motioned to adjourn the meeting.

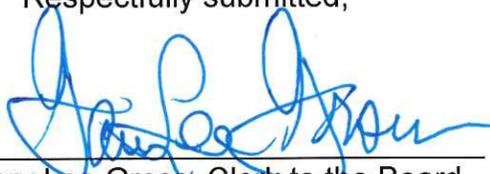
Vice-Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

At 8:11 p.m., the Board adjourned until 9:00 a.m., February 6, 2017.



Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Gary Lee Gross, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

By:   
Robert Woodard, Chairman  
Dare County Board of Commissioners