



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

MINUTES

DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Dare County Administration Building, Manteo, NC

9:00 a.m., October 3, 2016

Commissioners present: Chairman Robert Woodard
Vice-Chairman Wally Overman
Warren Judge, Jack Shea, Allen Burrus,
Beverly Boswell, Margarett Umphlett

Commissioners absent: None

Others present: County Manager/Attorney, Robert Outten
Finance Director, David Clawson
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.

Chairman Woodard called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. He invited Pastor Keith Dey from Emmanuel Lutheran Church to share a prayer, and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ITEM 1 – PRESENTATION OF COUNTY SERVICE PINS

- 1) Scott Rodriguez, Sheriff's Office, 15-year pin.
- 2) Neries Sullivan, E911, 15-year pin.
- 3) Amy Hill, Detention Center, 20-year pin.
- 4) Crystal Sidwell, Airport, 40-year pin.

ITEM 2 – EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – OCTOBER 2016

April Farence received the Employee of the Month award from Nettie Midgett who described the many ways that Ms. Farence is an asset to the Tax Appraisal Dept.

ITEM 3 – OPENING REMARKS – CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Chairman Woodard mentioned the following items during his opening remarks –

- He recognized Edward Lee Mann and the Dare County Public Works Department for the exemplary work they did clearing debris in the wake of tropical storm Hermine. Mr. Mann thanked County residents for their cooperative attitude during the project.
- He reported on the Rachel's Challenge presentations made at Dare County schools.
- Chairman Woodard urged everyone to prepare for Hurricane Matthew. He asked Emergency Management Director Drew Pearson to give an update on the storm. A video of the Chairman's update can be seen on the County website www.darenc.com.

ITEM 4 – 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 5 – HATTERAS ISLAND ANGEL GIFT PROGRAM

Linda O'Neal described the Hatteras Island Angel Gift program that is conducted by the Hatteras Island Methodist Charge. She outlined the history of the program, acknowledged the community partners that support the effort, and provided contact information for people to participate.

ITEM 6 – FIRE PREVENTION WEEK PROCLAMATION

Dare County Fire Marshal Steve Kovacs presented a proclamation for Fire Prevention Week highlighting the theme of "Don't Wait – Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years." He encouraged people to participate in Fire Prevention Week events that are planned by fire departments throughout Dare County.

MOTION

Commissioner Judge motioned to adopt the Fire Prevention Week Proclamation. Commissioner Umphlett and Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 7 – TOURISM BOARD REQUEST CONSENT FOR SPENDING FROM LONG TERM RESTRICTED FUND

Lee Nettles, Executive Director of the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau and Susie Walters, Chair of the Dare County Tourism Board presented a request for spending from the Long Term Restricted Fund in the amount of \$40,000 for the Great Gate Restoration/Rebuild project at the Elizabethan Gardens. Ms. Walters described the request noting that it was approved by the Dare County Tourism Board.

MOTION

Commissioner Judge motioned to approve the Long Term Restricted Fund request. Commissioner Shea and Vice-Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 8 – REQUEST TO CLOSE A PORTION OF THE UNIMPROVED EXTENSION OF AMADAS STREET (Att. #1)

The County Manager explained that a request has been made for the Dare County Board of Commissioners to permanently close a portion of the unimproved extension of the road known as Amadas Street, formerly known as Virginia Avenue, between North George Howe Street and Francis Drake Street on Roanoke Island. Mr. Outten introduced Elizabeth Robbins, an attorney representing adjoining property owners who would like to see the road closed. One of the owners, Charles Wayne Kidd, provided details about the safety concerns and environmental issues associated with the dirt path portion of Amadas Street. Mr. Outten noted that a Public Hearing is required so people will have the chance to be heard if access to their property is cut off due to the closure.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Overman motioned to adopt the resolution declaring intent to close the road and set a Public Hearing for 5:30 p.m., November 21, 2016.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 9 – WATER FUND RECOMMENDED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (Att. #2)

Finance Director David Clawson presented the recommended Water System Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for fiscal years 2017 through 2023. He outlined the major projects listed in the plan and said they are cash funded and will not require any new debt. Mr. Clawson recommended that a Request for Qualification (RFQ) be done for a feasibility study to determine whether an automated meter system would be viable for Dare County. The County Manager explained the RFQ process and it was the consensus of the Board to move forward.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea and Commissioner Judge motioned to approve the Water CIP and authorize the County Manager to execute the necessary budget actions for FY 2017.

Vice-Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 10 – REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL ASSISTANCE (Att. #3)

Vice-Chairman Overman described the need for help from the North Carolina Highway Patrol to provide traffic control assistance during summer weekends at the intersection of Highway 158 and NC 12 in front of the Aycock Brown Welcome Center in Kitty Hawk. He presented a resolution outlining the reasons why traffic control assistance is needed.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Overman motioned to adopt the resolution requesting traffic control assistance from the North Carolina Highway Patrol and share the resolution with Dare County Municipalities and Currituck County before forwarding the request to the Commander of the North Carolina Highway Patrol.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 11 – CONSENT AGENDA

The Manager announced the Consent Agenda items as they were visually displayed.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes (09.21.16 & 09.26.16) **(Att. #4)**
- 2) Budget Actions Report for Approved FY2017 Capital Improvements Plan **(Att. #5)**
- 3) FY 2017 Lease for Computer Equipment – Sheriff’s Office Laptops
- 4) Internet Service Contract for New EOC-911 Center

Commissioner Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 12 – BOARD APPOINTMENTS

- 1) Upcoming Board Appointments

The upcoming appointments for November, December and January were announced.

ITEM 13 – 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.

Commissioner Boswell – congratulated the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month. She reported that Oregon Inlet is accessible and doing well. Contact information was given for people to add names to the medical needs registry list that is used in the event of emergencies such as hurricanes. Commissioner Boswell mentioned a request from Helen Wingfield to address the Board of Commissioners about plans to discontinue the metals and art program at the College of the Albemarle.

Commissioner Judge – reinforced the importance of preparedness in advance of Hurricane Matthew. He urged Dare County to stay diligent in voicing our concern that the College of the Albemarle needs to offer more programs and services at the Dare County campuses.

Commissioner Umphlett – thanked the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month. She provided details about vacancies that exist on various Dare County boards and committees and strongly urged people to submit applications.

Vice-Chairman Overman – commended the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month. He reported on a recent meeting of the Rural Planning Organization (RPO) where local points were assigned to various transportation projects and he explained the competitive nature of the points system for NCDOT funding. The Vice-Chairman thanked Trillium for the Rachel’s Challenge presentations that were made at county schools. He also presented information about the upcoming Community Forum on substance abuse and spoke about the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new home of the Children and Youth Partnership.

Commissioner Shea – acknowledged the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month. He reinforced storm preparedness remarks by reminding everyone to secure loose objects and prepare for power failures.

Commissioner Burrus – mentioned the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month. He described the many ways that Linda O’Neal serves the community in addition to coordinating the Hatteras Island Angel Gift program. Commissioner Burrus urged people to pray and get prepared for Hurricane Matthew. He thanked the Board of Commissioners for their efforts to keep Hatteras Inlet open. He noted that the navigable waters are not marked very well and called on the Coast Guard to better mark the area. Commissioner Burrus expressed gratitude for the many Dare County volunteers who serve their communities.

MANAGER’S/ATTORNEY’S BUSINESS

1. The Manager reported that Public Works gathered 581 tons of debris in the wake of the recent tropical storm. Commissioner Burrus thanked Public Works and NCDOT for their cleanup efforts. Mr. Outten said he will be sending a thank you letter to the City of Newport News for sharing their cleanup equipment as part of a Memorandum of Understanding that was done after Hurricane Arthur.
2. Mr. Outten said the latest information about Hurricane Matthew will be posted on the Dare County website. Vice-Chairman Overman asked that information be made available concerning power outages.
3. The Manager said he wanted the public to know that representatives from the College of the Albemarle (COA) are scheduled to address the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on November 7.

Before adjourning the meeting, the Board discussed the lawsuit that was filed concerning the Supplement Process for southern flounder and the County Manager explained how temporary restraining orders and injunctions are implemented.

Public Information Officer Dorothy Hester said her department will be ramping up this week to keep people informed about Hurricane Matthew.

Finance Director David Clawson informed the Board that the auditors are here this week working on the Dare County financial audit.

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

MOTION

Commissioner Shea and Commissioner Umphlett motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Chairman Overman and Commissioner Boswell seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

At 10:49 a.m., the Board of Commissioners adjourned until 5:00 p.m., October 17.



Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Gary Lee Gross, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

By: 
Robert Woodard, Chairman
Dare County Board of Commissioners