



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

5:00 p.m., April 16, 2018

Commissioners present: Chairman Robert Woodard, Vice Chairman Wally Overman
Steve House, Rob Ross, Jim Tobin, Danny Couch

Commissioners absent: Jack Shea

Others present: County Manager/Attorney, Robert Outten
Deputy County Manager/Finance Director, David Clawson
Public Information Officer, Dorothy Hester
Clerk to the Board, Gary Lee 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 5:00 p.m. He invited 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. It was announced that Commissioner Shea had an excused absence from the meeting.

ITEM 1 – OPENING REMARKS – CHAIRMAN’S UPDATE

Following is a brief outline of the items mentioned by Chairman Woodard during his opening remarks, which can be viewed in their entirety in a video on the Dare County website –

- Chairman Woodard reported on Governor Cooper’s recent appearance in Dare County where the Governor expressed a desire to improve education in North Carolina, addressed the opioid crisis, and helped raise awareness about dementia.
- A summary of the Board’s Budget Workshop was given and the Chairman announced that one more Budget Workshop will be held in order for the Board to give budget direction to the County Manager.
- The Chairman asked everyone to keep the Bush family in their prayers regarding the medical condition of former First Lady Barbara Bush.

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. Following is a brief summary of citizen remarks, which can be viewed in their entirety in a video on the Dare County website –

The following comments were made in Manteo –

1. Jack Huh explained his background working with dogs and described the benefits of canine agility training. He said he is willing to build the equipment and donate it to the Roanoke Island Dog Park noting that liability issues related to the use of agility equipment need to be addressed. Mr. Huh provided handout material showing how agility equipment is used along with a sample liability waiver and proposed rules for the Roanoke Island Dog Park.
2. Judy Williams thanked Commissioners for the Roanoke Island Dog Park, which she described as a huge success. She pointed out that there are unfinished issues related to the fencing of the Dog Park. Mrs. Williams asked when the site will have its official opening day and whether the users would be able to express their concerns about the park's rules and regulations. She also noted that handicapped parking signs are needed at the Roanoke Island Dog Park.

There were no comments made in Buxton –

Following Public Comments, Commissioners and the County Manager addressed items that were raised about the Dog Park including fencing, liability issues, and where to locate the canine agility equipment. It was noted that the agility equipment needs to be movable in order to accommodate mowing and special event parking. The Manager gave an update on fencing work that remains to be done and efforts to provide shade and water. Mr. Outten explained that the rules for the Roanoke Island Dog Park will be the same as those at the Kitty Hawk Dog Park and noted that the County's Parks and Recreation Director is willing to talk about the rules and listen to community input. The Manager clarified that decisions about the operation of the Dog Park will be handled at the level of the Parks and Recreation Department and not at the Board of Commissioners level. He added that the County will give ample notice about the official opening day of the Dog Park so that people will have time to get their dogs registered and complete the release forms. Chairman Woodard asked that Parks and Recreation staff be onsite when the fencing contractor is at the Dog Park so that the fencing issues can be properly addressed and completed in a timely fashion.

ITEM 3 – TOURISM BOARD REQUEST CONSENT FOR FIREWORKS GRANT AWARDS

Lee Nettles, Executive Director of the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau, requested \$46,000 in expenditures from the Short Term Restricted Fund for fireworks awards to the following –

Avon Property Owners Assoc. \$10,750

Town of Kill Devil Hills \$11,750

Town of Manteo \$11,750

Town of Nags Head \$11,750

MOTION

Vice Chairman Overman motioned to approve the awards in the amount of \$46,000.

Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 4 – HEALTH INSURANCE FOR FY 2018-2019

The County Manager provided background information about the health insurance plan for Dare County employees for the upcoming fiscal year. He noted that there are two plans available that will have an increase of 7% for FY 2018-2019.

MOTION

Commissioner Tobin motioned to approve health insurance plan for FY18-19 as presented. Commissioner House and Vice Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 5 – CONSENT AGENDA

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

MOTION

Commissioner Couch motioned to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes (04.03.18) **(Att. #1)**
- 2) Appointment of Firefighter's Relief Board Member – Hatteras Volunteer Fire Dept.
- 3) Tax Collector's Report

Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 6 – COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS & MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS

Commissioners and the County Manager frequently make extensive remarks, which can be viewed in their entirety in a video on the Dare County website. Following is a brief summary outline of the items mentioned by Commissioners during this segment –

Commissioner House

- Reported on a good Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) Workshop event. He provided information about a special program, known as ASEP, which stands for All Summer Enrichment Program. Commissioner House explained the merits of the ASEP program and how it provides excellent supervision in a proper environment and encouraged people to participate.
- Commissioner House presented the Pet of the Week video showcasing an animal available for adoption at the Dare County Animal Shelter.

Vice Chairman Overman – no additional comments

Commissioner Couch – no additional comments

Commissioner Tobin

- Reported on the latest meeting of the Oregon Inlet Task Force including dredging information from the Army Corps of Engineers. He briefed the Board on a suggestion he made to help the dredging effort increase its efficiency by utilizing a crew boat to shuttle staff to and from the site.

- An update was given on the Dare County Older Adult Services Board meeting, where appreciation was expressed for the new flooring that was installed. A reminder was given about the upcoming Dare County Senior Games.
- Commissioner Tobin informed the Board that he toured both Spring Arbor and Peak Resources on behalf of the Community Advisory Council and reported that he received one complaint, which was addressed to the Regional Ombudsman.
- Voiced excitement about young people getting involved with the Cooperative Extension 4-H program and noted that the program has a new 4-H Agent for Dare County.
- Commissioner Tobin reported on a meeting involving Senator Cook, Representative Boswell, and the Park Service Superintendent where stakeholders were able to discuss ideas for stabilizing Bodie Island including possible sand bypassing systems.

Commissioner Ross

- Reported that the Albemarle Commission is moving forward with plans for their new offices, which will be done as a leased facility.
- Commissioner Ross reported on the recent Nags Head Community Watch event where school safety was discussed. He said it was reassuring to hear that there are Resource Officers in every Dare County school who are familiar with the students and staff.
- Provided details about the upcoming graduation ceremony for Manteo High School.

Chairman Woodard – no additional comments

MANAGER’S/ATTORNEY’S BUSINESS

1. The County Manager reported that there have been multiple problems with the firm that currently provides billing services for the Emergency Medical Services Department. He recommended addressing this problem by contracting with a different vendor and reported on talks that have been held with a firm known as Colleton. Mr. Outten presented a 3-year agreement with Colleton and noted that although the new firm charges more for their services, they have a higher rate of recovery, which should offset it. He said in order to terminate the agreement with the existing vendor, the County needs to give notice before the end of the month.

MOTION

Vice Chairman Overman motioned to terminate the agreement with the current vendor and enter into a 3-year agreement with Colleton as outlined by the County Manager. Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

2. Mr. Outten informed the Board of discounts that are available on the purchase of ambulances, cots, and cot fasteners if the County provides a Letter of Intent to the vendor regarding purchases that are already planned for the next fiscal year. He asked the Board for authority to send Letters of Intent.

MOTION

Commissioner House motioned to authorize Letters of Intent as outlined by the Manager. Commissioner Ross seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Public Information Officer Dorothy Hester noted that Dare County is one of four school systems in the State of North Carolina that has Resource Officers in every school. Ms. Hester also outlined upcoming meetings that the Planning Department has organized to gather public input on the Dare County Land Use Plan. Details were also provided about the upcoming grand opening of the Skate Park in Rodanthe.

Prior to adjournment, Chairman Woodard thanked David Clawson and Sally DeFosse for the information that was presented at today's Budget Workshop.

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

MOTION

Commissioner Couch motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

At 5:52 p.m., the Board of Commissioners adjourned until 9:00 a.m., May 7, 2018.



Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Gary Lee Gross, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

By: 
Robert Woodard, Chairman
Dare County Board of Commissioners