



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., January 5, 2015

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 the Rev. Tom Wilson from All Saints Episcopal Church to share a prayer, and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

At the onset of the session, Chairman Woodard encouraged the public to attend an upcoming Town Hall meeting that the Dare County Board of Commissioners will conduct on January 14. He said there would not be a time limit so that everyone will have an opportunity to share their thoughts, concerns, and ideas with the Board.

ITEM 1 – PRESENTATION OF COUNTY SERVICE PINS

- 1) Ashia Norman, Income Maintenance Caseworker, received a 10-year pin.
- 2) Lucy Berry, Senior Real Property Appraiser, received a 15-year pin.

ITEM 2 – EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR – 2014 (Att. #)

Randolph Murray, 2013 Employee of the Year, introduced all the 2014 Employees of the Month before announcing Larry Grubbs, EMS as the 2014 Employee of the Year.

ITEM 3 – EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – JANUARY 2015

The Employee of the Month for January 2015 will be presented at a future meeting.

ITEM 4 – PUBLIC COMMENTS

The County Manager outlined the public comments procedure. The following spoke –

1. Andrew Darling expressed concern about the Comprehensive Transportation Plan on behalf of the Alliance to Preserve Southern Shores. He said the Alliance is a group of citizens concerned about the environmental impact and urged people to visit their website www.preservesouthernshores.org.
2. Micah Daniels described the severe shoaling conditions she observed during a recent boat trip through Oregon Inlet. She cited the economic impact of shoaling, which she said hurts both commercial and recreational fishing. She thanked the Tourism Board for the funding they are providing for dredging.
3. Bob Peele, Director of the Wanchese Marine Industrial Park, explained how shoaling at Oregon Inlet impacts the Park's 23 businesses and 320 people who work there. He thanked the Tourism Board for their support and said the horrible situation at Oregon Inlet affects the entire community.
4. Willo Kelly on behalf of the Outer Banks Association of Realtors commented on the rate decrease announced by the North Carolina Department of Insurance. She cautioned people to shop around if their insurance carrier asks them to sign a Consent to Rate form and to also be aware of their policy's dwelling value.
5. Harry Schiffman, Vice President of the Oregon Inlet Task Force thanked the Tourism Board for stepping forward to help. He read from a statement outlining the need for a long-term sand management system, which he said should have been included in the State's transportation plan.

ITEM 5 – DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD REQUEST CONSENT FOR SPENDING FROM RESTRICTED FUNDS

Tim Cafferty, Vice Chair of the Dare County Tourism Board, addressed the emergency situation at Oregon Inlet and expressed their willingness to assist by providing \$300,000 to help secure matching funds for dredging. Lee Nettles, Executive Director of the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau then outlined three Short Term Restricted Fund awards for projects in Kill Devil Hills, Kitty Hawk, and Nags Head totaling \$217,897.

MOTION

Commissioner Judge motioned to approve the \$300,000 Long Term Restricted Fund spending request to help secure matching funds for Oregon Inlet dredging, and to approve \$217,897 in Short Term Restricted Fund requests to fund projects in Kill Devil Hills, Kitty Hawk, and Nags Head as presented.

Commissioners Burrus, Shea, and Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 6 – DARE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (CTP)
(Att. #1)**

Planning Director, Donna Creef, summarized what has happened up until now on the Dare County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). She explained that the resolution now before the Board applies only to the unincorporated Dare County. She presented a letter to accompany the resolution addressing the concern expressed by residents of Southern Shores. Commissioner Shea read aloud the resolution and letter. Vice-Chairman Overman noted that language needs to be added about Oregon Inlet being a critical transportation corridor in need of a long-term sand management system. NCDOT Board Member, Malcolm Fearing, noted that the role of waterways is part of the Governor's transportation infrastructure Plan and said he would like to have the Governor's representative make a future presentation about it to the Board of Commissioners.

MOTION

Commissioner Judge motioned to approve a Resolution adopting the Dare County Comprehensive Transportation Plan for the unincorporated portions of Dare County with language to be added by the Planning Director documenting the role of waterways in Dare County, and to approve a letter to RPO Chairman Lloyd Griffin.

Commissioner Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 7 – MODIFICATION TO 2010 INSTALLMENT FINANCING CONTRACT FOR
RECOVERY ZONE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BONDS (Att. #2)**

Finance Director, David Clawson, presented a modification for the debt agreement in order to eliminate the risk of further reductions to the interest expense rebate payments by the federal government. He explained what has occurred since the debt issuance and outlined how the modification will save money resulting in an interest rate decrease.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to adopt the Approving Resolution as presented and its related Budget Amendment.

Commissioners Judge and Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 8 – OLD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING REPORT

County Manager, Robert Outten, summarized a report from Oakley Collier Architects describing the architectural and engineering assessment of the Old Administration Building in downtown Manteo. He outlined the following options: a) Do nothing, which will result in further deterioration. b) Repair the building to a level that just meets current code at a cost of \$1,062,643. c) Make it suitable to use or rent the property, which would cost \$2,474,106. d) Demolish the building at a cost estimated by Oakley Collier at \$386,100. The Board discussed the options and the merits of selling the property. Safety concerns were strongly expressed about whether anyone should now be using the building even for storage. The County Manager was given guidance about securing

the site and gathering information for the Board on issues related to the building including asbestos removal, mold, and demolition costs.

ITEM 9 – PUBLIC HEARING – DARE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES S-7 SUPPLEMENT (Att. #3)

At 10:08 a.m., a Public Hearing was held to receive input concerning the Dare County Code of Ordinances S-7 Supplement. The County Manager conducted the hearing and explained the procedure for making comments. No one responded to the invitation to address the Board. Chairman Woodard closed the hearing at 10:09 a.m.

MOTION

Commissioner Judge motioned to approve a Resolution enacting and adopting a supplement to the Dare County Code of Ordinances.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

RECESS: 10:10 a.m. – 10:27 a.m.

ITEM 10 – CONSENT AGENDA

The Manager presented the Consent Agenda. The items were visually displayed in the meeting room and read into the record.

MOTION

Commissioner Judge motioned to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes (12.15.14) **(Att. #4)**
- 2) Public Health – Received an Increase in TANF Funding
- 3) Budget Amendment – Tax Collections Foreclosure Fees
- 4) Tax Collector Report – December 2014

Commissioners Overman, Shea, and Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 11 – BOARD APPOINTMENTS

1) Boards & Committees – Commissioner Appointments

Chairman Woodard presented the following Commissioner appointments –

- Nursing Home Community Advisory Board –
 - Margarett Umphlett to replace Wally Overman
- Health and Human Services Board –
 - Beverly Boswell to replace Allen Burrus
- Airport Authority –
 - Wally Overman to switch with Beverly Boswell who replaced Max Dutton

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to make the appointments presented by the Chairman.

Commissioner Boswell seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

2) Albemarle Commission – Board of Directors

Commissioner Shea motioned to reappoint Chairman Woodard.

Vice-Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

3) Salvo Volunteer Fire Department – Firemen’s Relief Fund

Commissioner Burrus motioned to reappoint Todd Phillips to a two-year term.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

4) Upcoming Board Appointments

The upcoming Board appointments for February and March 2015 were announced.

ITEM 12 – COMMISSIONERS’ BUSINESS & MANAGER’S/ATTORNEY’S BUSINESS

Commissioner Shea

- He said he hoped that everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
- Commissioner Shea congratulated the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Year and thanked them for making Dare County great.

Vice-Chairman Overman

- He acknowledged the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Year.
- Vice-Chairman Overman gave special recognition to Veterans Service Officer Rhonda Creef and thanked her for the assistance she gave a Dare County Veteran in obtaining a service disability award from the Veterans Administration.
- He congratulated Gunboat in Wanchese on receiving an industry award.
- Vice-Chairman Overman said it is important to get information out to the public about the critical nature of Oregon Inlet. He asked that an overlay be prepared showing the progression of shoaling as documented by the Corps of Engineers.
- He said environmentalists need to understand that keeping Oregon Inlet open is the only way to assure proper movement of fish larva.

Commissioner Umphlett

- She thanked the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Year.
- Commissioner Umphlett commended Chairman Woodard for what he has done to provide cohesion for the Board as it moves in a more conservative manner.

Commissioner Judge

- He acknowledged all the fine candidates for Employee of the Year and described Larry Grubbs as an outstanding choice to receive the award.
- Commissioner Judge thanked Micah Daniels for her passion about issues relating to Dare County’s fishing industry.
- He praised Willo Kelly for the work she has done on insurance issues for the coastal communities and noted that she was the subject of a recent Coastland Times editorial.

Commissioner Boswell

- She thanked the service pin recipients for a job well done and congratulated the Employee of the Year.
- Commissioner Boswell reported on a call she placed to Senator Bill Cook about the pressing need for help now with Oregon Inlet and for a long-term solution.

Commissioner Burrus

- He explained that our inlets need to be kept open because of their economic and social impact. He said we need to look at long-term solutions because of their environmental importance throughout a huge geographical area.
- While thanking NCDOT for their great work during recent storms, Commissioner Burrus expressed concern that future response times hopefully will not increase.
- He reminded that Hatteras Inlet is also a problem. He described efforts that are underway to work with Ocracoke on this issue and promised to keep the Board advised on progress.
- Commissioner Burrus wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked the people of Rodanthe for their Old Christmas celebration.

Chairman Woodard

- He echoed the comments made by Vice-Chairman Overman about the excellent work done by Veterans Service Officer, Rhonda Creef.
- The Chairman voiced support for the remarks Commissioner Judge made about Willo Kelly.
- He thanked service pin recipients and congratulated the Employee of the Year.
- Chairman Woodard commended the Tourism Board for their support of Oregon Inlet and thanked Commissioner Boswell for moving forward so quickly with the State of North Carolina.
- He reminded everyone about the upcoming Town Hall meeting.
- Chairman Woodard thanked the Board of Commissioners for their work during the past year and said as the new Chairman he is looking forward to 2015.

MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS

1. The County Manager gave kudos to the Dare County Public Works Department for their efforts over the recent holiday period handling increased volumes of trash in a short window of time. He said he is proud of the work they do throughout the year.
2. Mr. Outten outlined the need for a \$940 budget amendment related to a grant the Dare County Center has received for a health promotion program.

MOTION

Commissioner Umphlett motioned to approve the budget amendment.

Commissioner Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

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

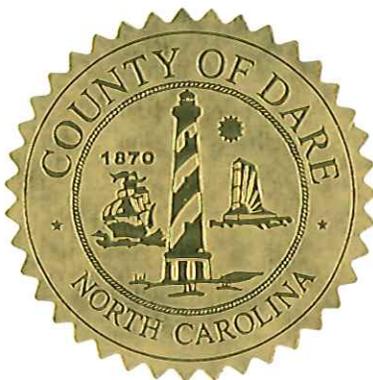
MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

At 11:16 a.m., the Board of Commissioners adjourned until 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 20, 2015.



Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Gary Gross, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

By: 
Robert Woodard, Chairman
Dare County Board of Commissioners