



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., February 2, 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 Reverend Spottswood Graves to share a prayer, and then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ITEM 1 – PRESENTATION OF COUNTY SERVICE PINS

- 1) Tami Willis, Deputy Sheriff, received a 15-year pin.
- 2) Gary Meeks, Detention Officer, received a 15-year pin.
- 3) Pamela Hay, Public Health Nurse, received a 15-year pin.
- 4) Jonna Midgett, Social Worker, received a 15-year pin.
- 5) Eugene Grissom, Detention Officer, received a 20-year pin.
- 6) Willer Spencer, Income Maintenance Supervisor, received a 20-year pin.
- 7) David Daniels, Airport Director, received a 25-year pin.

ITEM 2 – EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – FEBRUARY 2015

Toni Midgett received the Employee of the Month certificate for February 2015 from Vanzolla McMurrin-Smith who described the crucial role that Ms. Midgett has in the operation of the Register of Deeds office. Ms. Midgett was praised for her outstanding performance, skills, training ability, and positive attitude.

ITEM 3 – PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

1. Rev. Spottswood Graves commented on a program of the North Dare Ministerial Association honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He outlined an essay contest that has been launched throughout all grade levels of Dare County schools giving students the opportunity to write about the life, words, and actions of Dr. King. He said the essay contest is part of an effort to keep alive Dr. King's legacy.

ITEM 4 – ALBEMARLE COMMISSION – STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Cathy Davison, Executive Director of the Albemarle Commission, presented a stewardship outlining the group's mission and the many ways it serves the citizens and businesses of the region. She gave a detailed description of direct services offered by the Commission, such as senior nutrition and programs for the aging. Ms. Davison also explained the role of the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization and how the Albemarle Commission helps the region with economic development and administration.

ITEM 5 – RESOLUTION – SUPPORTING FUTURE INTERSTATE DESIGNATION

(Att. #1) Albemarle Commission Executive Director, Cathy Davison presented a Resolution supporting the designation of the US64/US17 corridor between Raleigh and Hampton Roads as a future interstate. She said an interstate designation would be developed with federal funds and help spur economic development within our region. The Resolution was read by Chairman Woodard.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to adopt a Resolution in support of a future interstate designation for the US64/US17 corridor between Raleigh and Hampton Roads. Vice-Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 6 – REPORT ON THE MANNS HARBOR MARINA PROJECT

Ladd Bayliss from the NC Coastal Federation and Troy Outland, Chairman of the Manns Harbor Commission, showed photographs of how the waterfront has been transformed into a first class facility that will serve both recreational and commercial needs. Mr. Outten explained the vital role that the Manns Harbor Commission has had in the project. Everyone was invited to a ribbon cutting ceremony on Feb. 13, 2015.

ITEM 7 – REPORT ON JENNETTE'S PIER

Michael Remige, Director, gave an annual review with visitation statistics and the economic impact of the pier. He described the pier's operation, projects and exhibits, educational outreach, research endeavors, and community events and activities. Mr. Remige thanked Dare County for its partnership in the Jennette's Pier project and Commissioner Judge noted that it provides excellent public access to the oceanfront.

**ITEM 8 – ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT REQUEST – SECTION 22-56
PARKING**

Planning Director, Donna Creef, outlined a zoning text amendment application filed by Mark Bissell on behalf of David Peres. The request seeks a change in the parking standards for indoor and outdoor entertainment facilities. Ms. Creef described language that was added as part of the Planning Board's review of the request. She noted that a Public Hearing is required by the Dare County Zoning Ordinance before the Board of Commissioners can take action on the request.

MOTION

Commissioner Judge motioned to schedule a Public Hearing on the draft amendments to Section 22-56 for indoor and outdoor recreation uses on Feb. 16, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. Commissioners Overman, Shea, and Boswell seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 9 – CONSENT AGENDA

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

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes (01.14.15 & 01.20.15) **(Att. #2)**
- 2) Tax Collector Report – February 2015
- 3) Advertise 2014 Tax Year Liens

Commissioners Burrus and Judge seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 10 – BOARD APPOINTMENTS

1) Aging Advisory Council for the Albemarle Commission

Commissioner Shea motioned to reappoint Brandi Rheubottom and Kaye White. Commissioner Judge seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

2) Dare County Youth Council

Commissioners Judge and Overman motioned to appoint Catisha Bryant to fill the At-Large, Adult Member vacancy.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

3) NC Senior Tar Heel Legislative Delegates

Commissioner Judge motioned to reappoint Delegate Kaye White and Alternate Mary Ellen Hawthorne.

Commissioner Umphlett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

4) Planning Board

District 3 seat –

Commissioner Shea motioned to reappoint John Finelli.

Commissioner Judge seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

At-Large seat –

a. Commissioner Shea motioned to nominate Charles Read.

Commissioners Boswell and Umphlett seconded the motion.

b. Commissioner Judge motioned to nominate Dan Oden.

VOTE: 5 votes were cast for Charles Read

by Commissioners Woodard, Overman, Shea, Boswell, and Umphlett.

Upon receiving 5 votes, the Chairman announced Charles Read as the appointee to the At-Large seat.

5) Upcoming Board Appointments

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

ITEM 11 – 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 for viewing on the Dare County website www.darenc.com.

Commissioner Boswell

- She congratulated the county employees that were honored at the meeting.
- Commissioner Boswell reported on attending a UNC School of Govt. conference.
- She described a meeting she attended as liaison to the Board of Education.
- Commissioner Boswell said she met with the Colington Harbour Homeowners Association and listened to their concerns.
- She remarked that determined efforts are being made to get Oregon Inlet open and sustain it with a proactive plan.

Commissioner Judge

- He reported on two recent public scoping meetings regarding plans for beach nourishment in Buxton to protect NC Highway 12. He noted that a letter was sent to the Governor seeking his assistance to help speed up the project's start date.
- Commissioner Judge said property owners are now being hit with consent to rate requests by their insurance carriers. He described it as a hardship that could force some to drop coverage. He voiced willingness to monitor this important issue.

Commissioner Umphlett

- She congratulated the service pin recipients and Employee of the Month.
- Commissioner Umphlett described funding needs that the Dare County Library Board will be presenting during the budget preparation process.
- She reported on the Nursing Home Community Advisory Board and their work advocating for the aging in Dare County.
- As a member of the Dare County Center Advisory Board, she gave a report on the Center's recent toy drive and outlined resources needed for the wellness trail.
- Commissioner Umphlett said illness prevented her participation in last month's meeting of the Older Adult Services Advisory Council. She outlined a variety of activities and programs that are being offered throughout Dare County.

Vice-Chairman Overman

- He acknowledged service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month.
- Cathy Davison and the Albemarle Commission were thanked for their good work.
- He commented on his participation with other Commissioners at the UNC School of Government conference, which provided excellent interaction with other counties.

Commissioner Shea

- He thanked the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month for all that they do to make Dare County such a great place.
- Commissioner Shea gave a report on the recent Rural Planning Organization (RPO) meeting and outlined transportation issues that were discussed including interstate designation, program scoring, ferries, and the Comprehensive Transportation Plan for unincorporated Dare County. He said the RPO will ask NCDOT to take money allocated for snow removal, and use it instead for sand removal from Highway 12. He announced that the next RPO meeting will be held in Dare County.

Commissioner Burrus

- He congratulated the service pin recipients and Employee of the Month.
- Commissioner Burrus thanked NCDOT for their recent work on Hatteras Island.
- He commented on the recent meeting in Buxton with the National Park Service and said he wants to give the new Superintendent the benefit of the doubt, although he is somewhat jaded based on what he has seen in the past.
- A report was given on a meeting the Oregon Inlet Waterways Commission had with the Oregon Inlet Task Force, the Corps of Engineers, and the Coast Guard. He said there are no easy solutions and expressed hope that funding will be found.
- Commissioner Burrus said he wanted to support the upcoming meeting of the Rural Planning Organization (RPO). He noted that NCDOT is a big asset for Dare County and that the bridges they maintain represent the lifeline of our community.
- He thanked Dan Oden for serving on the Planning Board and expressed hope that the Board's removal of Mr. Oden from the At-Large seat is not indicative of something that the Board of Commissioners will be doing a lot of in the future.

Chairman Woodard

- He thanked Commissioners for their reports on board and committee activities.
- The Chairman recognized the service pin recipients and Employee of the Month.
- He said a letter was sent to the NC Attorney General about high gas prices in Dare County and reported that the Attorney General's office has launched an investigation as requested by the Board of Commissioners.
- He said the Colington Harbour Homeowners Association is looking to amend restrictive covenants in their community.
- Chairman Woodard said a letter was sent to Governor McCrory asking for help to accelerate the start of the beach nourishment project for Buxton.
- He noted that there is a vacancy on the Jennette's Pier Advisory Committee that he would like to fill at the next meeting and asked for applications to be submitted.
- A Board of Commissioners retreat was announced for February 20, 2015.
- The Chairman cited a schedule conflict related to the Board's March 16 meeting that would prevent Dare County from participating in the NC Beach Inlet and Waterway Association conference.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to cancel the March 16, 2015 meeting of the Dare County Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS

1. The County Manager said the Board previously authorized putting out for bid the farm lease at the landfill. He said he has since learned that this would create problems for the existing farmer, who has leased the property since 1994. He called on Public Works Director, Edward Lee Mann, who explained that the farmer has already bought \$40,000 worth of seed for the next planting, which will cause financial harm if the farmer is unable to renew his lease. The farmer has asked that he be allowed to plant the seed he has already purchased.

MOTION

Commissioner Judge motioned to approve a 1-year lease with the existing farmer and direct the Manager to solicit lease bids in August or September for the future.

Commissioners Shea and Umphlett seconded the motion.

During discussion of the motion, the County Manager recommended that the Board consider doing a lease that gets the existing farmer through this planting season with renewal to come on the next crop cycle.

AMENDED MOTION

Commissioner Judge amended his original motion to authorize the Manager to negotiate a lease based on the crop planting cycle as discussed by the Board.

Commissioners Shea and Umphlett amended their seconding of the original motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

2. Mr. Outten reported that the Planning Department has sent 1822 letters to property owners in Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo to gauge community support for zoning. He said 266 responses were received, of which only 2 were negative. The Manager said the next step would be to begin holding community meetings over the next year or so as the community goes through the zoning process.

MOTION

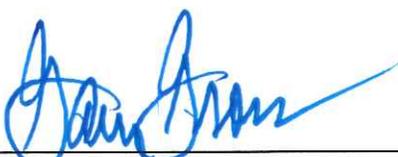
Vice-Chairman Overman and the entire Board motioned to move forward with the zoning process for Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo as outlined by the County Manager. Commissioner Shea and the entire Board seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

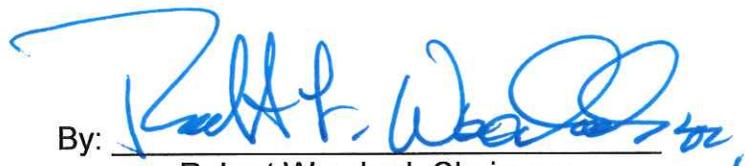
At 11:05 a.m., the Board adjourned until 5:00 p.m., February 16, 2015.



Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Gary Gross, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

By: 
Robert Woodard, Chairman
Dare County Board of Commissioners