



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., August 17, 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 5:01 p.m. He invited George Lurie from the Jewish Community 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 gave a follow-up report on what has transpired since the last meeting. He gave an update on the investigation by the office of the North Carolina Attorney General into Dare County’s high gasoline prices. A report was given on efforts to address the shoaling problems at Hatteras Inlet. He summarized the latest on the tax redistribution plan and the countywide efforts to combat it. Chairman Woodard noted that the Board is now able to address the two remaining issues that were identified during the Town Hall Meeting held earlier this year – economic development and possible consolidation of services. He explained that later in the meeting Commissioner Shea would be commenting on economic development. The Chairman said he would like to form a committee to discuss possible areas of consolidation between the County and its Municipalities. He directed the Clerk to formally ask the Towns to designate their Mayor, Town Manager, and one other Town Commissioner as their representatives on the Consolidation Committee. He said Commissioner Shea and County Manager Outten would be representing Dare County along with him. A complete video account of the Chairman’s update can be seen on the Dare County website www.darenc.com.

ITEM 2 – PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Manager outlined the public comments procedure. No one responded to the invitation to make Public Comments

ITEM 3 – PROPOSED SED-1 TEXT AMENDMENT FOR EQUESTRIAN TRAIL RIDES

The County Manager reported that this item is being postponed at the request of the applicant. Chairman Woodard explained that the postponement was requested because the applicant has not yet received approval for the applications he has filed with the State of North Carolina and the National Park Service.

ITEM 4 – CRS UPDATE – REPETITIVE LOSS AREA ANALYSIS (RLAA)

Donna Creef, Planning Director, explained the purpose of the Repetitive Loss Area Analysis and described the five-step process that will be utilized to prepare a draft report that will later be presented to the Board of Commissioners. The County Manager added that the Repetitive Loss Area Analysis is part of the CRS process to earn points in an effort to help lower flood insurance rates for Dare County property owners.

ITEM 5 – TIME ALLOTTED FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS (Att. #1)

Chairman Woodard noted that Commissioner Boswell has raised the issue before of expanding the time for public comment speakers. He presented a spreadsheet showing the number of public comment speakers during the last few years. Commissioner Boswell explained that people often address the Board with issues they feel emotional about and get flustered with the existing three-minute time limit. The Board discussed expanding the time allotted to speakers. Commissioner Burrus noted that sometimes there are large numbers of speakers and allowing more time could result in a very late meeting that might not be productive. Vice-Chairman Overman said one possible solution might be to reduce the time limit whenever there is a roomful of people wanting to speak. Commissioner Umphlett pointed out that people often prepare their remarks in advance and cutting back on the time they had anticipated could cause difficulty. She said people need the opportunity to express themselves. Commissioner Judge noted that one of the local towns does not set any time limit and maybe the Board should consider doing the same. The group also discussed the merits of allowing the Chairman to use discretion in setting a time limit based on the number of speakers.

MOTION

Commissioner Boswell motioned to extend the public comment time limit to 5 minutes. Commissioner Umphlett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: 6 (Commissioners: Woodard, Overman, Judge, Shea, Umphlett, Boswell)

NOES: 1 (Commissioner: Burrus)

Motion carried in a 6 to 1 vote

ITEM 6 – REQUEST TO EXPAND THE SIZE OF THE A.B.C. BOARD (Att. #2)

Vice-Chairman Overman provided a breakdown of A.B.C. revenues and profits and noted that the three members A.B.C. Board are responsible for a substantial amount of

money. He said the statute allows five members and recommended that the A.B.C. Board be expanded to allow a wider range of ideas.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Overman motioned to increase the size of the A.B.C. Board from three members to five members.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 7 – 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 (08.03.15) **(Att. #3)**
- 2) Budget Amendment EMS Helicopter Supplies – Remainder of Airbus Helicopter Credit
- 3) Southern Shores & Frisco Insurance District Resolutions & Updated GIS Maps **(Att. #4)**
- 4) FY 2016 Lease for Computer Equipment
- 5) Tax Collector's Report

Commissioner Umphlett 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.

Commissioner Burrus – said it might be helpful if Visitor's Bureau tourism statistics were tracked by geographical area. Commissioner Burrus commented on the shoaling problem at Hatteras Inlet and described the impact it is having on the Coast Guard. He asked the Board to authorize the Chairman to prepare a resolution concerning this issue in the event one is needed.

MOTION

Commissioner Burrus motioned to authorize the Chairman to prepare a Resolution pertaining to Hatteras Inlet in the event one is needed.

Vice-Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Commissioner Shea – outlined efforts that have been underway to attract non-seasonal businesses to Dare County. He reported on economic development meetings that the County has held with the North Carolina Secretary of Commerce and the UNC School of Government. He noted that a meeting will be held in September with the Global Services Economic Development Partnership for North Carolina and the Northeast Prosperity Zone. Commissioner Shea promised to keep the Board informed of developments as this important project moves forward.

Vice-Chairman Overman – described recent sailing regatta activities held in Dare County by SailNC and the large number of visitors it attracted from all over the United States and Canada. A video was displayed and the Vice-Chairman reported that SailNC is putting Dare County on the map with the worldwide sailing community. He gave details about a September 10 event when Fred Brason, the CEO of Project Lazarus, will speak to the Substance Abuse Prevention and Education Task Force at Jennette’s Pier. He also reported on a Trillium Health Resources awards ceremony for the service area encompassing Dare County. Vice-Chairman Overman gave an update on the National Park Service meetings to receive public input on the ORV rule modifications for the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area and noted that people can submit comments online.

Commissioner Boswell – reported on the Chamber of Commerce breakfast she attended with other Commissioners along with local and state officials. She mentioned the Wicked Tuna television program being aired on the National Geographic Channel. On behalf of the Oregon Inlet Task Force, she said the State and the Army Corps of Engineers needs a letter of intent for second quarter dredging funding pertaining to the State’s Shallow Draft Inlet Fund. She said the Coast Guard has realigned navigational buoys and noted that a meeting and inlet tour is scheduled with Senator Tillis. Commissioner Boswell said the success of the recent Pirates Cove Fishing Tournament indicates that we are on the right track. She asked that thank you letters be sent in appreciation of the work being done by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Coast Guard at Oregon Inlet. Chairman Woodard mentioned a letter he had just received from General Turner at the Corps in follow-up to his recent visit to Dare County. Commissioner Boswell expressed gratitude for the work that is being done to address the shoaling problem at Hatteras Inlet. She described the special meeting recently held by the Waterways Commission and outlined issues that need to be resolved including a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). She expressed hope that something will happen quickly to help Hatteras Inlet.

Commissioner Judge – outlined key issues related to ORV access in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area and encouraged people to make comments on it. He identified the need for citizen input on logistics pertaining to the issuance of permits, increasing morning access to the seashore, and modifying the places that have been designated as vehicle free areas. He described how to make online comments.

Commissioner Umphlett – reported on a productive meeting that was held by the Chamber of Commerce involving local elected leaders. Commissioner Umphlett noted that she has seen a large amount of trash on the sides of county roads. She encouraged law enforcement to give citations to those who throw trash from car windows and asked residents to be good citizens by picking up trash during their walks.

MANAGER’S/ATTORNEY’S BUSINESS

1. Mr. Outten explained that the County has had easements in place for beach nourishment projects. He said when Nags Head did their nourishment project;

easements were assigned to them that were within their project scope. Mr. Outten reported that Kill Devil Hills and Kitty Hawk have asked the County to assign easements for their areas. He added that assigning the easements does not give away the County's rights, however it helps the Towns with their beach nourishment projects.

MOTION

Commissioner Judge motioned to assign the easements as requested by the County Manager

Commissioners Boswell, Burrus, and Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

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

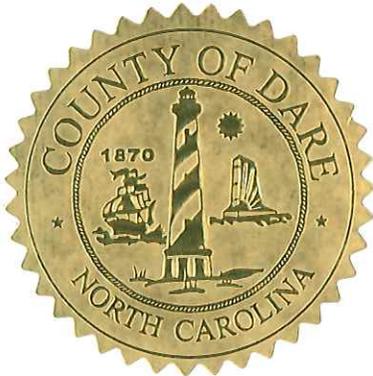
MOTION

Vice-Chairman Overman motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

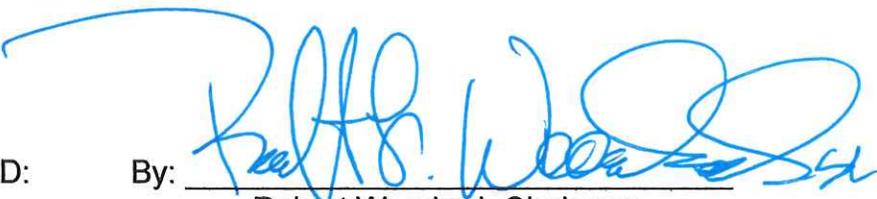
VOTE: AYES unanimous

At 6:14 p.m., the Board of Commissioners adjourned until 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 8, 2015.



Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Gary Gross, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED: By: 
Robert Woodard, Chairman
Dare County Board of Commissioners