



# 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](http://www.darenc.com)

## MINUTES

### DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Dare County Administration Building, Manteo, NC

**9:00 a.m., October 5, 2015**

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

Commissioners absent: Allen Burrus

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](http://www.darenc.com).

Chairman Woodard called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. He invited the Rev. Philip Glick from St. Andrews by the Sea Episcopal Church to share a prayer, and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

#### **ITEM 1 – PRESENTATION OF COUNTY SERVICE PINS**

- 1) Karen Patton, Social Services, received a 15-year pin.
- 2) Sissy Campbell, Parks and Recreation, received a 20-year pin.

#### **ITEM 2 – EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – OCTOBER 2015**

Matt Hester, Information Technology, received the Employee of the Month certificate for October 2015 from Lee Wise who described the way Mr. Hester works tirelessly to handle a heavy workload of complicated projects and researches new technologies.

#### **ITEM 3 – OPENING REMARKS – CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE**

Chairman Woodard gave a follow-up report on what has transpired since the last meeting. He explained that the Consolidation Committee, consisting of representatives of Dare County and the Municipalities, had a productive initial meeting to identify possible areas of consolidation. He said the group will meet again on November 20, 2015. The Chairman reported on continued problems that exist for Oregon Inlet in view of the dredging vessels being unable to work during the recent batch of bad weather. He noted that Vice-Chairman Overman will be addressing Hatteras Inlet later in the

meeting during Commissioners' Business. Chairman Woodard acknowledged the storm preparations that were made by the County and the Towns and asked Emergency Management Director, Drew Pearson to give an update. Mr. Pearson gave a report and thanked the Weather Service and NCDOT for providing good information to the Control Group. Chairman Woodard added that NCDOT Board Member, Malcolm Fearing, would be arriving shortly to give a post-storm analysis. The Chairman displayed a photograph of the renovated Miles of Smiles mobile dental clinic and described the way the dedicated and talented staff uses the mobile clinic to serve the community. A complete video account of the Chairman's update can be seen on the county website [www.darenc.com](http://www.darenc.com).

#### **ITEM 4 – PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The Manager outlined the public comments procedure. Citizen remarks can be seen in their entirety on the county website [www.darenc.com](http://www.darenc.com). Following is a brief summary –

1. Ross Riley, Manns Harbor, spoke about red wolves. He questioned the viability of the Red Wolf Project in attracting eco-tourism dollars and outlined alternative activities. Mr. Riley said hybridization with coyotes and heartworms pose a bleak future for the red wolf. He also described the harm that red wolves have on deer and wild turkeys. He called on regulatory agencies to remove red wolves from Dare County and halt the Red Wolf Project, which he said is a government boondoggle.

#### **ITEM 5 – DARE COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL – VETERANS WEEKEND**

Chris Sawin outlined activities planned by the Dare County Arts Council for the Outer Banks Veterans Weekend. He explained that the event features multiple cultural and artistic activities representing a celebration of Veterans and their families as expressed through the arts. He said the arts give Veterans an opportunity to express themselves in unique ways. Mr. Sawin noted that other counties envy the Veterans Advisory Council that was created by the Board of Commissioners. He also thanked Veterans Service Officer Rhonda Creef, Commissioner Judge, and the event's sponsors.

#### **ITEM 6 – MARCH OF DIMES – PREMATURETY AWARENESS MONTH**

Stephanie Baker, March of Dimes Community Director, presented a proclamation setting November as Prematurity Awareness Month. She provided information about this year's walk to increase awareness about the seriousness of premature births. Ms. Baker showed a video highlighting the work of the March of Dimes.

#### **MOTION**

Commissioner Judge motioned to issue the prematurity awareness proclamation. Commissioner Boswell seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

#### **ITEM 7 – REQUEST TO AMEND AARON HILL HARBOR CUP 8-2004**

This agenda item was handled as a quasi-judicial proceeding. The Planning Director, Donna Creef, and Project Engineer, Carlos Gomez, were duly sworn by the Clerk to the

Board prior to offering any testimony. Planning Director, Donna Creef, outlined a request from the owners of Aaron Hill Harbor to amend the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) that was approved for their development in 2005. She described the requested changes and added that the owners also wish to rename the project as Black Dog Harbor. Ms. Creef said improvements to the emergency turnarounds have been added to the CUP. It was noted that the Planning Board recommended approval.

**MOTION**

Vice-Chairman Overman and Commissioner Judge motioned to approve the CUP amendment as recommended by the Planning Board.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 8 – R-28 ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT REQUEST**

The Planning Director presented a zoning text amendment request from Steve Brock to add wind turbines to the list of uses in the R-2B Zoning District. She said the applicant would like to construct wind turbine to provide electrical power to his home. Ms. Creef reported that the Planning Board voted to recommend approval of the text amendment. She added that a public hearing is required if the Board wants to consider the request.

**MOTION**

Vice-Chairman Overman motioned to schedule a public hearing for 5:30 p.m. on October 19, 2015.

Commissioner Judge and Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**RECESS: 10:05 a.m. – 10:18 a.m.**

Following the recess, Chairman Woodard asked NCDOT Board Member Malcolm Fearing to give an update on the impact of the storm. Mr. Fearing introduced NCDOT staff members Sterling Baker and Jed Dixon. Mr. Baker described the storms effect on roads in Kitty Hawk, on Hatteras Island, and on Ocracoke Island. He outlined NCDOT's timeline and plans to address the problem areas. Mr. Dixon explained the suspension of ferry service from Hatteras to Ocracoke and said it would resume when conditions were safe. He noted that emergency ferry service to Hatteras Island is ready if needed.

**ITEM 9 – EXCHANGE OF PROPERTY WITH AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

County Manager, Robert Outten, presented a request to swap parcels of land between Dare County and the Airport Authority related to the RECC/EOC building project near the airport. He explained why the exchange would be beneficial to both entities. Mr. Outten asked for permission to move forward in determining values for an even exchange and getting the necessary clearance from the Federal Aviation Administration before bringing the matter back to the Board for approval. Vice-Chairman Overman said this exchange would be a long-term benefit for the Airport Authority and make the RECC/EOC building site more usable. Commissioner Shea called it a win-win situation.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Judge motioned to authorize the County Manager to move forward with the necessary arrangements to exchange the parcels of land he described between Dare County and the Airport Authority.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 10 – AGREEMENT WITH NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FOR BUXTON BEACH NOURISHMENT PROJECT**

The County Manager presented a project management agreement for the Buxton beach nourishment project to facilitate the permitting process. He noted that the date for the anticipated finish of the FONSI or Notice of Intent for Environmental Impact Statement outlined in the agreement's project schedule will be changed to reflect the correct date of December 2015.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Umphlett motioned to approve the agreement with the change of date as outlined by the County Manager.

Vice-Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 11 – PUBLIC HEARING – TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT'S NCDOT CTP GRANT APPLICATION FY2017 (Att. #1)**

At 10:38 a.m., the Dare County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing to receive input concerning this agenda item. The County Manager conducted the hearing and explained the procedure for making comments. There were approximately 12 people present in the audience. No one responded to the invitation to address the Board. Chairman Woodard closed the Public Hearing at 10:39 a.m.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Judge motioned to approve the grant program resolution and authorize the County Manager to sign the Local Share Certification.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 12 – 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 (09.21.15) **(Att. #2)**
- 2) Health and Human Services, Public Health Division – Infusion Therapy Contracts
- 3) Public Health Division – Bright Ideas Grant

Commissioner Judge and Vice-Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

### **ITEM 13 – BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

1) Parks and Recreation Advisory Council

Commissioners Umphlett, Overman, and Shea motioned to reappoint Tim Cafferty. Commissioner Boswell seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

2) Upcoming Board Appointments

Upcoming appointments for November, December, and January were announced.

### **ITEM 14 – 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](http://www.darenc.com).

Commissioner Umphlett – said it was a pleasure serving on the Board along with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. She thanked the Manager and staff for doing a great job preparing for the storm. Commissioner Umphlett recalled her childhood involvement with the March of Dimes and thanked them for their service to the community.

Vice-Chairman Overman – congratulated the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month. He provided an update on meetings that have been held regarding Hatteras Inlet and explained that work is underway to complete a Memorandum of Agreement. He described a possible cut through that may be possible in part of the old ferry channel. The Vice-Chairman noted that NCDOT will be doing shoaling surveys, which will be funded by \$5,000 from Dare County along with a \$10,000 match from the State of North Carolina. Vice-Chairman Overman expressed compassion for those who were hurt in the recent storm, but acknowledged that damages could have been a lot worse. He also thanked everyone for their hard work related to the storm.

Commissioner Shea – acknowledged those who were affected by the storm and thanked those who served during the storm and the many that helped the community prepare for it. Commissioner Shea commended the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month and said it is people like these who make Dare County great.

Commissioner Boswell – congratulated the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month. She said although the inlets are a mess, the County is moving forward with a plan, and good people are working on it. Commissioner Boswell called on the School Superintendent and the Board of Education to give more notice when announcing weather related delays and cancellations. She said this would help parents make better arrangements. She also thanked God that Dare County did not receive the full brunt of Hurricane Joaquin and asked everyone to pray for those who were hit by the storm.

Commissioner Judge – thanked the Waterways Commission for the attention they have given to Hatteras Inlet. He said hopefully the survey will be done soon and fishermen will be able to get some much-needed relief. Commissioner Judge thanked everyone who served the community during the recent storm. He noted that during the bad

weather the beach nourishment project at the S-curves in Rodanthe did not fail. He said the over wash that occurred was due to excessive water volume. Commissioner Judge thanked the staff of the Miles of Smiles mobile dental clinic for the wonderful services that they provide. He commented on the Red Wolf Program by describing it as off course, which has resulted in property owners suffering losses. Commissioner Judge commended the Dare County Arts Council for their work on behalf of Veterans.

Chairman Woodard – expressed his appreciation for all the storm preparation efforts that were made by the County and the Towns. He thanked NCDOT Board Member Malcolm Fearing for being able to have Sterling Baker and Jed Dixon attend today's meeting in spite of all the post-storm activities they are handling. The Chairman commended Emergency Management Director Drew Pearson for doing a great job and thanked Public Information Officer Dorothy Hester for making timely announcements to keep the public well informed. He also thanked the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month for their high level of commitment to Dare County.

### MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS

1. Mr. Outten thanked County staff for doing a great job preparing for the storm. He said the storm preparation effort was a comprehensive one that involved a variety of County Departments including EMS, Health & Human Services, Libraries, Public Relations, Public Works, Water Department, and many others. The Manager explained that NCDOT was a great partner that responded in a timely way and worked well with other agencies throughout Dare County.

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

#### MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Boswell and Vice-Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

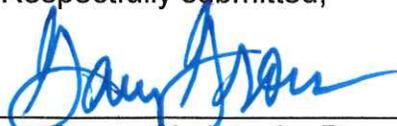
VOTE: AYES unanimous

At 11:07 a.m., the Board of Commissioners adjourned until 5:00 p.m., October 19, 2015.



APPROVED:

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Gary Gross, Clerk to the Board

By:   
Robert Woodard, Chairman  
Dare County Board of Commissioners